

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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C. C. ROSEWATER, Secretary. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 21st day of December, 1905.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN: Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have the Bee mailed to them.

The World-Herald is very much horrified over the prospects of an armory in Jefferson Square, but not a word about the jail feeding graft.

The anti-Rockefeller cult must be growing in Great Britain, as naval experts have decided against the use of oil as fuel in the navy.

Chairman Shonts adds his testimony to the great mass of evidence showing that the best paid American labor is always the cheapest that can be used.

Iowa law makers are considering the question of direct primary legislation. They can learn several things by consulting Nebraska statutes books and Nebraska supreme court reports.

Applicants for positions in the proposed federal court south of the Platte may yet defeat the measure by showing its sponsor what a stampede for office he will be compelled to face should the bill become a law.

Venezuela is wasting considerable valuable time and money in strengthening its army, as it will be inexpedient, not to say difficult, to use troops against that French fleet which may or may not arrive at any time.

Delegate Roddy complains that corporations and federal officeholders dominate politics in New Mexico, but if he will look closely he will find that this condition will not be changed by simply entering the sisterhood of states.

The Bee's illustrated jubilee year edition is doing more to advertise abroad the wonderful progress Omaha is making than all the publicity work of all the local business organizations put together. The Bee always stands up for Omaha.

Under the new treaty of peace the lid will be screwed down tight for the next twelve months in Omaha, but the street railway trains will continue to run regularly between Omaha and Council Bluffs from 6 a. m. Sunday morning until 1 a. m. Monday.

According to State Treasurer Kelly of Kansas that treasury shortage, like Topsy, just grew of itself, while the officials were busy with other things. Mr. Kelly speaks as an expert as this is the second time he has faced such a condition.

President Castro should learn that interference with the United States mails is one of the most serious offenses which can be committed in this country, and if Minister Russell is not permitted to receive all of his dispatches the government may be inclined to stretch the rule of extraterritoriality as far as Caracas.

It is announced that all the Nebraska members are going to vote with the administration for the joint statehood bill, which will inject four more corporation dummies into the United States senate. On the political railroad checkerboard, New Mexico, Arizona, Oklahoma and Indian Territory are only so many pawns.

Chapter xiv of the second story of the Deluge, as the supplement to the bear story serials published by our most enterprising local contemporary, is now on tap. The inside history of the deluge contains some very startling news that has been exclusively embalmed in the pyramids of Egypt before Pharaoh took his swim in the Red sea.

A QUESTION OF LABOR

In his address before the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce, Chairman Shonts of the Panama Canal commission said that the character of the labor employed on the isthmus is a chief factor as to the time and cost of building the canal. There is no insuperable difficulty, he stated, from the engineering point of view, but the matter of getting what will be considered in this country anything like an ordinary class of labor is a serious problem.

Chairman Shonts stated that arrangements are being made to experiment with labor from the north of Spain, but it is not probable that if this labor should prove to be satisfactorily efficient anywhere near enough of it can be secured to supply the demand. As to obtaining labor from the United States, very little can be had while the present prosperous conditions in this country continue.

When the work is in full progress there will be required between 30,000 and 40,000 laborers. Undoubtedly they will be secured, but in order to get them the government may have to offer higher wages than it is now paying, with other inducements.

THE PREVALENCE OF CRIME

Last year there were over 9,000 homicides committed in the United States, a considerable increase over the previous year. Undoubtedly there was also an increase in other crimes. The statement is made that with the single exception of the Italians the American people are the most homicidal nation in the civilized world.

The present year starts out with a record of crimes that threatens to exceed that of the previous year. The recent crimes in Chicago, especially the assaults upon and murders of women, have shocked the country. Some of these crimes have been committed in broad daylight, under circumstances of peculiar atrocity.

ing conditions is the laxity of the administration of the criminal law in this country. This has been frequently pointed out, but without effecting any reform or improvement. The criminal record of the United States gives it a bad eminence in the history of crime.

THAT ANNUAL TREATY OF PEACE

The settlement between the Civic Federation and the liquor dealers whereby it is mutually agreed that the complaints of law violation preferred against 170 saloons shall be pigeonholed in the archives of the district court involves some ethical questions as well as legal problems that might puzzle able lawyers than the Civic Federation has yet employed.

Under the ordinary version of the law agreements to compromise an indictable offense makes both parties liable to prosecution, and the same principle would naturally apply to misdemeanors punishable by fine or imprisonment in jail.

Looking Out for Number One. The United States is not butting into Europe's affairs, but it is a trifle hard to keep Europe's affairs from butting into the United States.

Good Opinion Affirmed. With the exception of Mr. Brackett, Senator Dewey is probably willing to reiterate his assertion that the "present legislature is the best New York ever had."

Have You Got It? According to the eminent gentleman who ran for mayor of New York in November, W. M. Ives, "we are suffering from the contagion of luxury."

Huge Bundle of Sentiment. Boston has sent to Washington a petition so huge that it takes four men to carry it to save Old Ironsides. The petition is 170 feet in length, and it is not announced whether any of them are poetic feet.

Nearly Three Billions. Thomas B. Reed, some ten or fifteen years ago, called this "a billion-dollar country." This will have to be amended to read "a three-billion-dollar country."

Greatest Irrigation Scheme. The Canadian Pacific railway has in hand the greatest irrigation scheme in the world. By the end of the next three years 1,500,000 acres of land in the vicinity of Calgary, Alberta, hitherto arid, will be divided into 50,000 farms, watered from Bow river.

Libel on American Womanhood. A minister in New York declares that alcoholism among women is alarmingly on the increase, and that the future of the republic is thereby in danger.

PERSONAL NOTES. The new president of France is the son of a clerk and the grandson of a blacksmith.

Common Wish of Crooks. "I Almost Wish the Art of Printing Had Never Been Invented."

remains to be seen whether volunteers will be more gentle than those who have heretofore supplied the brute strength for a consideration.

Millard Filmore Funkhouser is announced as the latest democratic candidate for mayor. Mr. Funkhouser has just as much right to aspire to a democratic nomination as Erastus Benson, the man whom he supported for mayor in 1903.

Before taking too radical a stand against the parcels post retail merchants should investigate the subject. So far as unbiased statistics show similar laws have not destroyed retail trade in Great Britain or continental Europe where the "department store" is considered as a distinctly "Yankee" institution.

Representative Kennedy has succeeded in persuading the Department of Agriculture to reinforce its South Omaha meat inspection bureau, and it is to be hoped that the secretary will also at the same time infuse greater vigilance and efficiency among the inspectors.

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Common Wish of Crooks. "I Almost Wish the Art of Printing Had Never Been Invented."

On the 23rd anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin, who was a great printer, as well as a great philosopher and diplomatist, State Senator Hamm, one of the leaders of the republican party in New York, takes occasion to say: "I almost wish the art of printing had never been invented."

The same wish has been expressed by every rascal who has lived within the sphere of an independent press since the art of printing was invented. There has never been anybody who was doing wrong, who was oppressing others, who was misusing trust funds, who was manipulating the markets, who was corrupting legislators, who was getting rich by graft in politics or in business, and who was seeking wealth and power, or both, by ways that are dark and tricks that are vain, who did not hate and fear the influence of types.

The newspapers are guilty of a good many offenses against truth, good taste and good morals, but when we are most provoked by them, let us stop for a moment and consider these questions: What kind of a world would this be without the newspapers? Would good government be possible in the United States without the newspapers?

One Item Overlooked. One statistician figures that the cost of living has increased in this country 27.7 per cent in eight years. And this statistician has doubtless forgotten to figure in the coal bill.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot.

An amusing feature of official red tape is brightening the solemn round of administrative duties in Washington. Some time over half a year has passed since Charles J. Bonaparte became secretary of the navy. The fact was widely published in the newspapers. It is even known that Mr. Bonaparte is now performing the duties devolving upon the secretary of the navy.

The number of medicine concerns engaged in the manufacture and sale of alleged illegal nostrums which have been put out of business by the Postoffice department in the last year or so would fill a good sized book. Indeed, indeed, do the men who promise to sell their nostrums for the purpose of checking the workings of nature dare to make good their pledges. They know too well that the penitentiary awaits them if they do, but they frequently reap a rich harvest for a time by pretending to cater to the avidities of the medical men by the Postoffice department.

Colonel Clarence A. Edwards, chief of the bureau of insular affairs of the War department, tells an interesting story illustrating how the canteen operators reduce the sale of whisky in the vicinity of army posts. Several years ago, before the canteen was abolished by act of congress, he was in charge of an army post in the northwest. When he took hold of it there were upward of forty low season dives skirting the edge of the military reservation along the main road leading into it.

Since the announcement of his coming marriage to Miss Roosevelt Congressman Longworth's mail has increased fourfold. Nearly half of his letters contain recipes for promoting the growth of hair and he is offered any quantity of infallible tonics if he will use them and send testimonials in return. He gets statistics to prove that no bald-headed man has ever been cured of his hair loss; that lack of hair is a preservative against all manner of pulmonary diseases; that criminals of all classes are noted for their growth of shaggy hair, usually straight and black, and that bald-headedness, intellectual ripeness and law-abiding qualities.

The feeling between Senators Spooner and La Follette of Wisconsin is not without precedent. Senator Gallinger and Senator Tamm of New Hampshire, and Senator McLaughlin and Senator McLean of Michigan, the former of whom changed greetings. The feud between Senator Tillman and his colleague, Senator McLaughlin, became so intense that they came to blows several years ago on the senate floor. An intense personal feeling arose between Senator Tillman and Senator McLaughlin during the time they served in the senate together from Maryland. Senator Berry and Senator Clarke of Arkansas meet and pass each other as total strangers. In their race the ceremony of walking down together was abandoned and Senator Clarke played the part alone. Senator Berry volunteered to act as his colleague's escort upon that occasion, but the offer was spurned.

Senator Perkins of California is the only whaler in congress; Representative Washington Gardner of Michigan; the only clergyman; Representative Anthony Michalek of Chicago, the only grocer; Delegate Kallanale of Hawaii, the only prince; Representative John Thomas Hunt of Missouri, the only stonemason; Representative Edward J. Minor of Wisconsin, the only licensed master of steam vessels, and Representative S. W. Robertson of Louisiana, the only college professor.

COMMON WISH OF CROOKS

"I Almost Wish the Art of Printing Had Never Been Invented."

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Ask Your Own Doctor. If he tells you to take Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for your severe cough or bronchial trouble, then take it. We have no secrets! We publish the formulas of all our medicines.

STATE PRESS COMMENT. Rushville Recorder: The Recorder ventures a guess that Peter Mortensen will be the next republican of Nebraska.

St. Paul Republican: Peter Mortensen for governor and Norris Brown for United States senator would be a mighty good way to start a "square deal" republican ticket for 1906.

York Republican: Norris Brown is being complimentarily spoken of in connection with the next senatorship. There are no strings on him, and his candidacy would be a strong one.

Bloomington Advocate: If Senator Millard is to be the choice of the railroads for re-election, he should not be the choice of the people. His action on the coming railroad legislation will very materially determine what show he will stand for securing the support of the next legislature.

Aurora Republican: Mr. Matthews, the lately deposed United States marshal, is out with a statement that he is not a candidate for governor. Mr. Matthews was "spoken of" by some who have a bona fide pick with the president, but any candidate who would win favor on an anti-Teddy platform will find that he should have run in some other state than Nebraska.

Papillon Times: The Times hopes that when Senator Millard's term as senator expires that some real representative of Nebraska will take his place. It would be a great satisfaction to the Times to see a man in place who will be able to represent the state, instead of an old fossil who had no better recommendations than the fact that he has some money and is a money changer.

Papillon Times: All talk of dividing Nebraska into two senatorial districts is nonsense. One district is bad enough for Nebraska. One federal court can hand out injunctions as fast as the corporations need them, or at least has been able to do so in the past; but perhaps there will be a greater demand in the near future for this commodity. There is no demand for two federal judicial districts in Nebraska and the proposed division is the result of the efforts of the chronic office seekers who have not been able heretofore to get a place at the federal pie counter.

St. Paul Republican: Governor Mickey announces that he will retire to private life at the end of the present year. This is a factually setting at rest the stories concerning his senatorial and third term ambitions. Contrary to the fears of many who were unreasonably prejudiced against the man, John H. Mickey was made a first-class governor. A few mistakes which any man might have committed in the discharge of his duties, but he soon struck his gait, and the record of the past two years shows a clean business administration with no foolishness, red tape or gold braid about it. His determination to retire next winter assures for him a creditable place in history, something of which no man in any public life is absolutely certain.

Silver Creek Band: Sand has an idea on the Nebraska senatorial question. Senator Millard is a candidate to succeed himself, and apparently has the railroads unitedly assisting him. Millard is a corporation man and is not the choice of the people for senator. The backing of the railroads is strong, and it is being worked in every county in the state in Millard's interest, which is also the corporation interest. We even suspect that Merrick county is practically pledged to his candidacy at the present time by the men of influence. It is a pity that the men of influence, Merrick, Polk and Boone counties, which elect the state senators and representatives, are not in favor of corporation domination, but the railroad politicians may pull the wool over their eyes "if they don't watch out."

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LAUGHING GAS. Rich Father—Young man, in making this request for my daughter's hand, tell me first how you propose to support her. "I will support her," said the young man, "with dignity." "I refuse to answer," said the father.

"Yes, indeed, he has one trait that makes him an ideal witness." "What's that?" "He is very hard of hearing."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Hain't the poor fellow any friends who will see that he has a fair trial?" "No, he has no friends," said the reporter. "Don't waste any sympathy on him. He was caught in the act of stealing a ham."—Chicago Tribune.

"Why are you here?" asked the constituent. "Oh, let me lead you to the office," explained the congressman wearily.—Philadelphia Ledger.

"That congressman insists that he doesn't know the meaning of the phrase 'stand pat.'" "Yes," answered the other, "but I refuse to be beguiled. Never engage in any game of chance which will with a person who affects great ignorance concerning it."—Washington Star.

"I must confess," he said in a sudden burst of confidence, "that I'm an old man. I'm going to be different." "Oh! this is so sudden," exclaimed Miss Dunsay, "the old man's change of heart for me, too, was odd and longed to be even."—Philadelphia Press.

Youth—What do I have to pay for a marriage license? Clerk—One dollar down and your entire salary each month for the rest of your life. —Cleveland Leader.

LURE OF OLD SONGS

W. D. Nesbit in Chicago Tribune. You were playing, sweet and low. The old songs of long ago. And the high lamp's steady glow. Poured a softened light that made Myrtle shadows in your hair. Shadows which were laughing there. As the shadows of the dawn Leaped and laughed in days ago. So you played—and so I dreamed While the prancing freight gleamed In its race along the wall. And I heard the boy days call. When the flute of honey bees, With their subtle mimic art— As when practiced hands are swept Over a harp that long has slept. Winding paths through meadow lands Broke that sang on silver sands. Pounding branches on the trees. Where the flute of honey bees, Drifting Indian summer haze, Pelted snows of wintry days. (Wonder what the birds above— All this you knew nothing of.) Yet you played, and playing, wrought All the glories unforsoot; And the high lamp's steady glow Pelted snows of wintry days. Led me backward, mile on mile, To each golden olden while.

Coal. Wood. Coke. Kindling. We sell the best Ohio and Colorado Coals—clean, hot, lasting. Also the Illinois, Hanna, Sheridan, Walnut Block, Steam Coal, etc. For general purposes, use Cherokee Lump, \$5.50; Nut, \$5.00 per ton. Missouri Lump, \$4.75; Large Nut, \$4.50—makes a hot, quick fire. Our hard coal is the SCRANTON, the best Pennsylvania anthracite. We also sell Spadra, the hardest and cleanest Arkansas hard coal. All our coal hand screened and weighed over any city scales desired. COUTANT & SQUIRES 1406 FARNAM Phone 930.