

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 21st day of December, 1905. M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN: Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. It is better than a daily letter from home.

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 ineffectual, 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. Chairman Shonts thinks that the best that can be done is to let out the work by contract, advertise and secure the lowest bidder, who will be nothing more or less than an agent.

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.

There are periodical epidemics of crime and the country appears to have such a visitation now, calling for extraordinary vigilance and activity on the part of police officials everywhere. Undoubtedly one reason for these alarm-

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. The compact is, moreover, a violation of the plain provisions of the statute against blackmail, which makes all parties who seek to secure money, properties or concessions of any description by threats of personal injury or damage to business liable to criminal prosecution.

From the ethical point of view the compromise is based on the doctrine, taught in some schools of theology, that the end justifies the means. From the legal point of view the breaking of one law to stop the violation of another law is indefensible. If the complaints filed against the liquor dealers for breaking the law are true, nobody can condone the offense by an agreement of future good behavior. If the agreement was made under threats of prosecution it is void in morals as well as in law.

Such treaties of peace, amity and good will may satisfy lawyers who have no scruples about prosecuting or defending for pay anybody who is willing to hire them, but it is doubtful whether the glorification over the treaty would satisfy the consciences of people who desire scrupulously to observe the law. In the meantime, under the new treaty, the tough joints in the lower end of town will continue to do business at the old stand unmolested six days and up to midnight and a little after midnight in each week to the end of the year.

This is what the New York Independent says in discussing the succession to Dr. Harper as president of the University of Chicago:

The logical candidate is President E. Benjamin Andrews of the University of Nebraska. He is a Baptist, and it is unfortunately a requisite that the president shall always be a member of that denomination. He has proved himself an able administrator, both in the universities of Brown and Nebraska, and in the still more difficult position of superintendent of the public schools of Chicago, which he did much to rescue from graft and corruption. He has no repugnance against taking money from Rockefeller, as is shown by the building which he obtained from him, in spite of the opposition of the Nebraska populists. He is democratic in his educational principles, radical in his sociology, and has shown himself so fearless and frank in his public speeches that he will never be suspected of trucking to capitalism.

It is time now for another outbreak from the local organ infected with the virus of Rockefelleritis. By adding \$480,000,000 to the taxable valuation of real estate in New York City the debt limit of the municipality has been increased by 10 per cent of that amount, or \$48,000,000. The advantage of an elastic debt limit for municipalities is plain enough and this is a good example of it, but what would happen if there should be a collapse and a fall in values after the debt limit had been exhausted? For a practical working scheme the ratio of a city's debt should be upon the available assets in the way of public property that serves as security rather than upon the private property owned by its citizens subject to it only by taxation.

And now it is announced that the well known industrial evangelist who has converted thousands of men with his soulful talks at the shops and factories of the east has come to South Omaha to take snap shots at the work-people employed in the packing houses. South Omaha ministers who are capable of doing some snap shooting on their own account and who pride themselves on being able to handle the evangelical kodak with some degree of skill will doubtless feel pleased at the reinforcement, but may have some doubts as to the lasting effect after the illustrious visitor has departed.

Congressman Curtis of Kansas is pushing his bill for the sale to the highest bidder of the segregated coal asphalt lands of the Chickasaw and Choctaw lands under the plea that this is the most speedy and equitable way of disposing of those lands and opening them to agricultural as well as mineral development. Manifestly the asphalt and coal deposits in Indian Territory promise to become a rich field for promoters and speculators, and so long as the Indian can be exploited he will always find somebody in congress and out of congress to "help him develop his possessions."

The cry against carpet baggers is again raised in the land, this time against Americans who have located in Porto Rico and other possessions under the United States government. The question naturally suggests itself, How is Porto Rico to be Americanized, unless American officials and teachers are colonized there to teach the natives how to govern themselves under the American system instead of continuing the old Spanish regime?

The Big Nine has discovered that there has been some "professionalism" in college football, but before reaching the verge of abolishing the game its existence was never admitted. It now 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, has to aspire for a republican nomination. But the question is, Would Mr. Funkhouser and Mr. Benson recognize each other as they pass, in case they are both nominated on opposite tickets?

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.

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. Ivins, "we are suffering from the contagion of luxury. This will be news to a few of you who have no means of knowing where it can be caught."

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. Possibly it was thought that any suspicion to that effect might have a deterrent effect on congress, which just now is having troubles of its own.

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." Everything has expanded immensely. Fifteen years ago, for instance, our foreign commerce aggregated only about \$1,500,000,000. The figures given out yesterday from Washington show that the total commerce in 1905 was \$2,992,000,000.

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. This irrigation plan when completed will be 50 per cent larger than the next largest on the American continent, which is in the Pecos valley, Arizona. The water utilized in this vast scheme will take two-thirds of the supply of Bow river at low water. The superintendent of the work states that when it is first started there were practically no settlers in that particular section, but since then the flow of immigration, which has included many Americans, has been rapid.

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. This sensational lament is getting to be as regular as it is unfounded in fact. It is getting to be the fashion to accuse women of social corruption which everyday experience shows is both hasty and exaggerated. The cause of temperance generally is making good headway in these times; all statistics show a commendable improvement in the spirit of the age in its attitude toward drinking.

PERSONAL NOTES: The new president of France is the son of a clerk and the grandson of a blacksmith. President Garcia of Ecuador sends the glad tidings that the revolution in his burg is over. Thanks, general; we had forgotten there was one just now. Representatives Huff of Pennsylvania, Haskins of Vermont and Connor of New York so closely resemble one another that their most intimate friends distinguish them apart. If, as Representative Longworth declares, there is no way to translate into Filipino the sentiment, "Public office is a public trust," the same disheartening truth must prevail as to "innocuous desuetude."

Although the Kaiser's automobile is the only one without a number in Prussia and consequently is not taxed, nevertheless his majesty is taxed for carrying a gun. He has just paid for his annual license. Commander William F. McCann, who has just died near New Rochelle, N. Y., was known to the navy as the "Father of the White Squadron." He originated the idea of painting the white ensign on the hull of tropical countries, so that they would throw off the intense heat. Colonel Jack Chinn, famous in "the dark and bloody ground" of the Blue Grass state, now says that he never carried a pistol or took a human life. It was his name, it seems, that inspired terror and respect. Now that the colonel has confessed he is not a fire eater he may be compelled to "vote" a pistol to insure a continuation of the consideration which he has always received.

Friends of David B. Hill in Albany were shocked at his appearance when he visited that city to attend the Patrick hearing. He is still suffering from the cold which he contracted some time ago, coughs frequently and is quite short of breath. The ex-senator's face shows deep lines and his mustache is almost white. Wrapped carefully in heavy fur robes he hurried from him closely as a nurse. Mr. Hill is expending trouble with his eyes and he intends to stop all work until his present condition has been improved greatly.

One Item Overlooked: One statistician figures that the cost of living has increased in this country 27 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 sound of administrative duties in Washington. Some-thing 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. But common report or newspaper publication cuts no figure with the men in charge of the mailing lists of executive departments. For their ordinary information lacking the official stamp isn't worth a continental. The man in charge of the continental list, of the Interstate Commerce commission has not learned from official sources that Mr. Bonaparte is secretary of the navy. There is no telling when he will become aware of the fact. Documents intended for the eyes of the secretary of the navy, coming from the commission, are still addressed to "Mr. Patton, Secretary of the Navy." Last week, however, several cases deliver the mail to the official regardless of the names upon them. The men in charge of the mailing lists of correspondents still send documents to newspaper men who have been dead for a decade or more.

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 these nostrums for the purpose of checkmating 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 pocket medicine by the Postoffice department. When examined by the Postoffice department the nostrums as a rule are found to contain nothing but harmless coloring and flavoring extracts, which, by their taste and smell, will serve for a time to fool the purchasers. The department keeps a close watch of the swindlers and lawless fraud orders against them as fast as they make their appearance. Frequently the operators of the schemes go from town to town, changing their names as well as the names of their nostrums with each removal. Generally the department is able to keep so closely upon their heels that they are fabled soon discover they are traveling at a loss and seek other channels of endeavor.

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. Colonel Edwards at once established a canteen, where, under the regulations, he arranged for the sale of beer and light wines to the enlisted men. At once the business of the grogshops outside began to decline and in less than six months every one of them had gone out of business. This withdrawal from the field cut a large hole in the trade of the wholesale whisky dealers and increased the trade of the brewers, and while this was the case the department of the enlisted men was greatly improved. There were fewer breaches of discipline, fewer arrests, and the men, as a whole, began to save money to send home or put in bank.

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 loss of hair, and he is a proponent of a hair cream which he claims to be a preventive 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 Sherman of New Hampshire, and Senator Shreve of New York, were once together in the senate and never exchanged greetings. The feud between Senator Tillman and his colleague, Senator Mc Laurin, became so intense that they came to blows several years ago on the senate floor. An intense personal feeling arose between Senator Washington and Senator McCann during the time that 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 the aisle together when Senator Clarke was sworn in, 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 Kallanahole 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."

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 Haines, 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 per cent in eight years. And this statistician has doubtless forgotten to figure in the coal bill.

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. We want a real live man, who can do something more than preside at the pie counter.

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 means nothing to say that the people of 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." Sand will try and do his part in the fight against the corporations.

Wayne Herald: If reports are true, Ross Hammond is getting the pledges of a good many of the newspaper boys of the state to support him in his candidacy for the United States senatorship. Has anybody found out yet just how Ross is tickled up with the railroads? This question may be of importance, but it is not intended to be; it is asked simply because we are desirous of being enlightened on a very important point in the candidacy of any man who desires to represent Nebraska in the senate. The state has had plenty of the corporation kind of senators, and really desires to try the other kind. But unless extreme care is used in our selection we are likely liable to get another just like several we have had in the not very distant past. Come, Ross, you mean nothing unless you are taken on as an usually pretty frank and outspoken on public matters. Tell us where you stand.

Reid County: With all but one of the state papers, The Omaha Bee, World-Herald and News and the Lincoln Journal, all in sympathy with President's Roosevelt's railroad rate regulating policy and in favor of redeeming this state from railroad rule, things look very hopeful that railroad rule will be accomplished at the next session. The Lincoln Star, being D. E. Thompson's personal organ and consequently the organ of the Burlington, little could be expected of it along this line. A

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.

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