

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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A DASTARDLY CONSPIRACY THROTTLED

Our local demo-pop contemporary has a peculiar habit of putting up a straw man and then knocking him down and stamping on him with both feet like a goat.

For some inexorable reason no ordinary mind reader can discern, the double-edger "has it in" for Brown, and for a long time has been butting its horns against the attorney general until it has worked itself into a snoutage.

Under the pretext that Brown was usurping its functions of playing hot and cold on the railroad issue and the square deal, he has been lampooned, cartooned and run through a hot mangle.

To cap the climax, a story was concocted that Brown had held a secret conference at Fremont with Ross Hammond, R. B. Schneider and General Manager Bidwell of the Northwestern railway, who are charged with them and there, unlawfully and feloniously conspiring against the peace and dignity of the republic.

And now come the accusers and impleachers of the aforesaid Brown and his accomplices and ask the high court of public opinion to pass sentence upon them, without mercy or other evidence.

That while George F. Bidwell admits that he is general manager of the Northwestern railway at this time and may be some other time, he denies being within fifty miles of Fremont at the time he is accused of being assembled in starchamber with the other persons named in the indictment.

It is known to all men in these parts that the court of public opinion is not to be trifled with and will take no substitutes for its victims any more than the federal court, which declined to incarcerate Rev. Beecher in place of Rev. Ware, and that supreme tribunal has adjudged the various and sundry defendants guilty in advance.

One week from tomorrow the United States senate will take final action on the joint statehood bill, provided that the existing agreement is adhered to.

It is stated that an informal poll of the senate on the bill warrants the opinion that the Foraker amendment providing for a referendum vote in relation to New Mexico and Arizona would be adopted.

In regard to admitting Oklahoma and the Indian Territory as one state there is no controversy. Their people with practical unanimity desire it and the territories are in every respect fitted for statehood.

The development of Oklahoma has been without a parallel in the wonderful growth of this country. The first settlement there was made only seventeen years ago, when 3,000,000 acres of land were thrown open to public settlement.

China is not only willing to make amends for the dead missionaries, but would probably gladly pay a premium if troops should be sent to Peking before the revolutionists turn their attention to the palace.

population of 750,000. The Indian tribes who occupy the territory have erected and maintained governments of their own. The territory has no government except the government of the courts and the government provided by act of congress for cities and towns.

There is now favorable promise that the statehood question will be disposed of at the present session.

The conferences which the Commercial club has been holding with representatives of the warring Bell and independent telephone companies have accomplished one good thing, namely, in demonstrating that all talk about compulsory connection of the Omaha exchange with the outside independent exchanges is mere froth and buncombe.

The independent telephone people in noncompetitive territory openly declare that they would not connect up with the Bell system if they could and that they are bound by moral, if not legal obligations, to stand together with the competitive independents and fight it out.

There is doubtless something to be said on both sides of this proposition, but whether the demand for another telephone franchise in Omaha comes to a head or not, it is idle to delude ourselves that any half-way measure will satisfy anyone.

Secretary Tilly's larger army. Secretary Bonaparte pleads for a larger army. In order to be in fashion Secretary Hitchcock should insist on having a more extensive interior.

It is believed in the anthracite region that the coal railroads are eliminating the independent producers by buying them out.

It is said the Japanese prove that lean men on a spare diet make the best soldiers. That depends on the enemy and the cause represented. The American volunteer has never been bested nor his generous ration equalled.

Undoubtedly things are happening in China of which the outside world gets little if any information. The probability is that the state of unrest there and the extent of the hostile feeling against foreigners are much greater than is indicated in the reports that come from the capital and some of the commercial cities of the empire.

There is no question received by the Sun on the question of army officers pay, the publication of which has now caused a "lull" of "intelligent interest" has been illustrated frequently.

or influence in the country at large, or very far beyond Peking. It is itself, according to reports, not free from apprehension regarding its own security.

An attempt is to be made to test by injunction the clause in the constitution making executive state officers ineligible for other state offices during the term for which they are elected.

It is announced that the socialist party is badly divided up as between the machine and anti-machine. The people who do not know the inner workings of social democracy in Omaha are wondering what they are fighting about.

A burnt child shuns the fire. When the court asked if the district attorney had anything to say before passing sentence upon the latest convicted land fencer, the new district attorney passed it on to his special assistant, who took particular pains to impress the court with this time that the offense was not committed in good faith.

One of the coal operators at Kansas City declares President Roosevelt's letter an "unwarranted interference," which would indicate that the coal operators are not so sure of the justice of their position as might have been expected.

Parents are being appealed to from the pulpit to protect their children against defilement by the yellow play, but the local yellow journals are deluging more homes every day right here in Omaha than the yellow theaters in a year.

It is interesting to note that ice men consider the local crop a failure, but as more and more of the ice supply every year is being manufactured by artificial processes, the usual excuse for raising prices will have to be tempered.

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A 12-year-old Indian had leased some oil land to the Standard company for \$10,000 in cash and \$100 a week royalty. The untutored mind of the Indian is evidently becoming a fiction of the past.

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SMPLICITY AT FUNERALS.

Unusual Spectacle at Priest's Funeral in Chicago. A strange spectacle has just been witnessed in Chicago, where the body of a clergyman was conveyed in a street car from church to cemetery, and twenty other cars instead of carriages were used for the sad journey by friends of the deceased.

Nearly 2,000 parishioners paid 5 cents each to ride on the street conveyances to give final honors by their presence to the departed humanitarian, and thereby they fulfilled his last expressed wish, that the obsequies over his body should be as simple as possible and should reduce expense on the part of the mourners to as small an amount as conditions would allow.

The result was the first funeral of its kind in Chicago, as Father Van de Laar hoped, a vivid protest against the custom of spending large sums of money, in fancied necessity, for the last rites for the dead.

"Clang! Clang! Clang!" That was the way this moving protest got under way. It was the sound of the gong of the car that led the procession, "Clang! Clang! Clang!" echoed the gongs of twenty other cars in the wake of the leader.

Services have been held in the church under the direction of Archbishop Quigley and the body had been borne by the pallbearers to the tracks of the trolley line. With uncovered heads 3,000 mourners—men, women and children—had followed the coffin and had crossed into the conveyances.

Such thoughtfulness for the self-respecting poor that have become wedded to a barrenness of extravagance, the Chicago News, "must arouse the admiration of all for the kindly priest, who even in death teaches a useful lesson to those he loved and for whom he labored. They should profit by the lesson. Simplicity in funerals, with the avoidance of needless expense, would be a very desirable reform for hard-working families of small means who have been led by custom to associate grief with ostentation."

Steel Cars for Mail Service. Slow Progress in Protecting Railway Postal Clerks. New York Sun.

Since 1902 seventy postal clerks, substitutes and weighers have been killed in railroad wrecks while on duty, 44 have been injured seriously and 1,968 have been hurt slightly.

Expansion of Fashion. Chicago Tribune. Secretary Tilly's larger army. Secretary Bonaparte pleads for a larger army.

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Buy Hair at Auction? At any rate, you seem to be getting rid of it on auction-sale principles: "going, going, g-o-n-e!" Stop the auction with Ayer's Hair Vigor. It checks falling hair, and always restores color to gray hair. A splendid dressing, keeps the scalp clean. Sold for over 60 years.

The best kind of a testimonial—"Sold for over sixty years."

Rate Bill Tactics. Kansas City Star: Aldrich of Rhode Island is doing nothing in the senate to conceal the fact that he is related to the Rockefeller interests by marriage.

Pitkin's Dispute. Tillman in charge of the bill may prove very different from Tillman the free lance, and Dooliver, though the slight cannot really injure him.

Whiskers. From the Haversack. Wal, stranger, nothin' personal, but speakin' of dogs, you see.

Handsome? Wal, no, not poety, but the bluest of little girls. That ever went into a mixup—was always in a miss.

When the regiment went to Cuba our Whiskers went along. This was against the orders, but that didn't make no difference.

Old Whiskers came and went again, when we pursued All. He died at Reina Regente, away from home and me.

The Gordon Hat is full of Life and Spring. No pun intended—a fact is a fact. Gordon Hats \$3.00.

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