

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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WORK OF THE CONVENTION.

The Republicans of Nebraska enter the campaign of 1906 on a much higher plane than in any preceding contest in recent years. While disappointing in some respects, the ticket as a whole will commend itself not only to republicans but to citizens of all parties who desire to work out the regeneration of the state and its liberation from corporate misrule.

Like Saul of old, George L. Sheldon for governor stands head and shoulders above all the men who have occupied the executive chair of Nebraska within late years. Mentally and morally, as well as physically, he has the elements of strength and force to withstand pressure from whatever source. He will be broad enough to do justice to all interests without injury to any. In the nomination of Sheldon, republicans of the state for the first time have a native son of its soil, reared on its prairies and educated in its public schools and university. To his credit, it may be truthfully said also that he will come to his office without any entangling alliances with corporations or scheming ringsters.

Judge M. R. Hopewell, who has been named for lieutenant governor, is a pioneer with an enviable reputation as a citizen and public officer who, too, can be trusted implicitly to hew to the line whenever and wherever duty may call him. Lawson G. Brian, the candidate for treasurer, comes recommended by the people of his own county as a man of high standing and as an excellent choice to succeed Treasurer Mortensen in the responsible task of managing the state's most sacred trust funds and the still more responsible duty of protecting the great mass of the taxpayers from railroad tax evasion.

For secretary of state, George C. Junkin has a record in the legislature of independence of the corporation lobby and conscientious discharge of official obligations. It was natural for the convention to promote to the attorney generalship the present efficient chief deputy, W. T. Thompson, whose familiarity with the litigation in hand should enable him to protect the state's interests and enforce the rights of the people.

The weak spots in the make-up of the ticket are the renominated candidates for auditor and land commissioner and one of the candidates for railroad commissioner. Auditor Searle and Land Commissioner Eaton have failed to stand up straight as members of the State Board of Railway Assessment and are known for their subservience to the railroad bosses. Candidate Williams for railroad commissioner got his place solely as a reward for treachery to the republicans of his county, and a man who would thus seek personal profit cannot be regarded as trustworthy.

The other two nominees for railroad commissioners, Messrs. Cowell and Winnett, are ideal men for the positions and may be depended on to perform faithfully the functions which the legislature will devolve upon them. State Superintendent McBrien is renominated as a recognition of satisfactory service in his first term. It was a foregone conclusion that one of the two leading candidates for United States senator would be endorsed by the convention. The choice fell to Attorney General Norris Brown, whose persistent campaign was ably managed to benefit by the resentment of the great mass of taxpayers against the railroad tax shippers, and the incidental popular feeling against trusts in general and the grain trust in particular. Though entirely new to the field of national politics, Mr. Brown will measure up well with the men who have recently represented Nebraska there. He will doubtless wage a vigorous campaign to carry a republican legislature that will ratify the convention's choice.

The platform as originally drawn has been materially changed for the better and its main features will be further discussed by The Bee as the campaign progresses.

BANKING LAW AMENDMENTS.

Recent bad bank failures occurring almost under the very eyes of the bank examiners are commanding the attention of government officers to the necessity of action at the earliest possible opportunity with reference to the present system of bank examination. Emphasis is put on the defects of the national law, which falls in many cases of improper management to give the comptroller authority to require correction under penalty of closing the bank, and in other cases, perhaps not requiring so extreme a penalty, provides no other. In the case of the Chelsea National bank which failed recently the federal authorities knew from the examiner's report nearly two months before that there were excessive loans to officers and directors, and had promptly but unavailingly brought pressure to bear to have them reduced.

In addition to a more adequate system of penalties, the comptroller, it is announced, will urge both a large increase in the number of examiners and that they shall be paid sufficient salaries, instead of fees, to secure the services of competent men. The examination safeguards against illegal bank methods is in this respect incomparably less efficient than those which are provided in the postoffice department for inspection of postoffices, and the suggestion is that effort is to be made to assimilate the former to the latter.

While it is admitted that it is not practical to require examiners to perform the proper functions of bank directors, it is believed that they can be brought into more direct responsibility to and co-operation with the comptroller's department, and a measure will be submitted to congress at the next session, with earnest recommendation of the president, under which it can be more certainly known to the authorities whether directors are actually doing their duty in keeping an oversight upon their banks.

REFERRED TO THE HAGUE TRIBUNAL.

The action of the Panamerican conference, unanimously referring to the Hague tribunal for consideration the Drago doctrine against the employment of foreign armies and navies for the collection of debts owed by American republics or their citizens, shows that wisdom and conservatism rule the deliberations of the conference and will impress the world's opinion more deeply than any practical affirmation of that doctrine at this time would be likely to do. For the European governments that have been most aggressive and arbitrary in dealing with weak American republics will not fail to note, not only that the nations of the new world are rapidly drawing more closely together in sympathy and interest, but also that sentiment is being consolidated in favor of setting up the Drago doctrine as an application of the Monroe principle.

The submission of it to the Hague tribunal affords an opportunity to European nations to accept the coming rule gracefully and to adjust themselves to it, but their failure to do so will probably in no wise prevent the substance of that rule from being established in one form or another at no very distant day. The exclusion from the new world of force in international debt collections will come the instant the United States proclaims as to its sister republics the rule which it has always enforced as to itself, and its rapidly increasing material interests among them will strengthen sentiment in favor of such proclamation. Improvement of order and financial credit, which are even yet none too good in some of them, will also smooth the way.

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

Ripples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis.

The summer temperature of New York just now is altogether too high and pertaining to comfort for many of the natives are unwilling to let the mercury climb down naturally. To them it looks better at the top notch. And they are doing the trick handsily by lighting political pitch fires under the bulb.

As soon as District Attorney Jerome announced his readiness to run for governor on the democratic ticket a flock of reporters pounced upon Charley Murphy, leader of Tammany hall, to measure his affection for Jerome. It didn't take more than a minute to discover that Charley loved William Travers as enthusiastically as an Omaha housewife loves her ice cream. Charley acknowledged that his heart beat for Hearst and intimated that Jerome was a political parasite supported by his own wind. These remarks were carried to Jerome and there was something doing right off. In five minutes the boys received this bunch of hot stuff from the district attorney.

"It is no surprise to me to find Murphy practically declaring for Hearst," said Mr. Jerome. "The only reason for my taking an active part in politics this year is to carry on the fight of last year, which was a fight to free the people and parties from the manipulations of just such political panderers.

"Birds of a feather flock together," and when a person intellectually sterile, socially vulgar and morally obtuse insults the deplorable people of the state, irrespective of party, by seeking the nomination of a political party by endorsing tickets and candidates by methods similar to those of the blackmailer, no thinking man could doubt where Murphy would be found.

"I should fear I had lost all my ideals if I found men of this type supporting me except under absolute compulsion. If I ever come to have any influence in the democracy, I will be used to drive out of it those bosses of this type. Both the democratic and republican parties have long enough been disgraced and dominated by men of this type controlling party organizations."

The New York Sun would give more for Jerome's oath of office than for all the platforms that could be erected from now till doomsday. The Times says that "if the Buffalo convention is not absolutely devoted to the destruction of the democratic party in New York, it will nominate Mr. Jerome for governor." The World says that "his failure thus far effectually to prosecute the greater criminals, who in wealth was arrogant, and in power feel themselves immune from the dock, the prison bar and the felon's stripes, has lessened somewhat his great strength among the people of the metropolis."

One effect of the hot spell has been to raise up an unusually large number of false weather prophets. Some of these have not been a thousand miles away from the weather bureau.

The officials there would like to predict the weather, but they would like to have the weather bureau predict the business. The couple instantly departed to charge Jerome run for governor, and he seems to be listening to the call of the wild.

An actor has been arrested as Stensland, but he proved that he was not so bad an actor as the Chicago banker, and they let him go.

Prof. Calvin Fried, an associate of Edison, has completed an invention which he claims will startle the world as to aerial navigation.

Prof. L. O. Emerson, whose hymns are famous the world over, recently celebrated his eighty-sixth birthday at Hyde Park, Mass. "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah," is one of his hymns most sung.

Solomon Gomper, father of Samuel Gomper, the president of the American Federation of Labor, lives at Roxbury, Mass. He is 78 years old and has been totally blind for nine years. He was born in London, where he joined a trade union in 1848.

The equestrian statue of George Washington, the gift of New York of former Congressman James R. Howe of Brooklyn, is to be paid for by Mr. Howe from some of the fees he collected while he was register of Kings county. It will be unveiled on Saturday, September 23.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes of the United States supreme court tells the following story of a certain prolific author, whose novels were anything but popular, who once consulted the elder Holmes. "I am not in the best of health," said the author. "I have thought, Dr. Holmes, that perhaps I write too much for my constitution." "Not for your constitution, my dear man," replied the genial doctor, "but for your reputation!"

Too Anxious to Unload. Buffalo Express. The city of Omaha voted \$5,000,000 to buy the plant of the water supply company. The appraisers fixed the value of the plant at \$2,500,000 and the city concluded it did not want the property at that figure. The company has, therefore, brought suit in the United States court to compel the city to buy. So it appears there are certain conditions under which even a corporation favors municipal ownership.

Refuse to Let Go. Philadelphia Press. When Bryan arrives home he will still find Roger Sullivan making faces at him and refusing to resign as a member of the national committee for my country. Democracy should resign anything will have to be made clear before either Sullivan or Tom Taggart will get out.

While the average man cannot survive more than 1,000 intoxications, steady drinkers of a certain powerful, massive type can get drunk as much as 3,000 times before giving away. In an alcoholic career of ten to fifteen years they can put away about 2,000 gallons of whiskey, or thirty-two barrels of pure spirits. But this is really the human limit. All records to date are held by a man of fifty, who admitted, under treatment at Bellevue hospital, New York, that he had been drunk daily for six months in the year since he was seventeen, a total of over 6,000 intoxications.

Under the terms of the new law, St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Last year the trade of the United States with its outlying possessions reached \$19,000,000, the growth in our exports amounting to 30 per cent. Porto Rico shows up especially well, which proves that the island is getting its share in American prosperity.

THE ROOT OF THE QUESTION.

Success of Roosevelt Policy Requires a Republican House.

Philadelphia Press. President Roosevelt, in his letter on the election of the next house, goes to the root of the whole matter in the present campaign—the regulation of trusts, railroads and great corporations.

This work has begun. It was commenced in the legislation of the last session regulating rates, providing for the investigation of the relation between coal, oil and iron corporations and railroads, and for the inspection and purity of the people's food in the meat and pure food acts and making investigation more drastic by limiting the immunity of witnesses.

This legislation, with what had gone before, has already done much, though its work has but just begun. It is part of President Roosevelt's campaign against trusts and railroads through the courts. Exposure, indictment, trial and conviction have accompanied legislation.

This work in all its parts is in full progress. President Roosevelt, in terms to the nation, will let the country know what he has been doing. He points out the present congress and its predecessors have addressed themselves to laws which would regulate corporations without destroying prosperity, neither listening to the "trust-buster" nor the "trust magnate," but legislating for the sober advance and prosperity of the nation under the reign of impartial law. The president appeals now for the election next November of a house and senate favorable to this policy—the regulation of trusts and railroads by new legislation where old laws are inadequate and the unparing prosecution of these corporations by methods similar to those of the blackmailer, no thinking man could doubt where Murphy would be found.

A vote for a republican congressman is a vote against a republican congressman. A vote against a republican congressman is a vote against his party. By this great issue all other issues are insignificant. The tariff, as President Roosevelt succinctly points out, will be revised in a way which will do more good than any other issue—the Panama canal, our foreign policy or internal affairs—the republican party now and always is for enlightenment, education, equality and the rights of man.

But the one paramount issue this year is the Roosevelt plan and policy of regulating corporations and railroads under the law when needed and by enforcing old law when that is violated. This fundamental vital issue faces every voter as he casts his ballot for congressman.

If he is for this Roosevelt plan and policy, now in triumphant progress, let him vote for a republican representative of the party and the policy of Roosevelt. Every vote for a democratic representative will weaken President Roosevelt's hands. Every vote for a republican representative will strengthen them.

PERSONAL NOTES.

A Philadelphia policeman arrested a man and his wife for kissing on the street. The couple instantly departed to charge Jerome run for governor, and he seems to be listening to the call of the wild.

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CRIMES IN THE UNITED STATES.

Comparative Showing Calculated to Humbly National Pride.

Philadelphia Record. Official statistics are exhibited to show the great increase of crimes in the United States—especially crimes of violence—that are anything but favorable to the country when compared with the records of other civilized nations. Thus it is seen that while the average number of murders and slaughters in Canada is 18 per cent, or three for a million inhabitants, the number in the United States is 8.25, or 12 to the million inhabitants. In Germany the average annual number of these crimes is 23, or nearly five to a million inhabitants; in England 82, or ten per million; in France, 53, or fourteen per million, and in Belgium 94, or sixteen per million inhabitants.

These data, if correct, reveal a stark disparity as to the class of crimes among the nations having the highest claims to civilization. But, assuming the correctness of the data in regard to these crimes in the United States, they would lead to erroneous conclusions as to the law-abiding character of the American without a careful analysis. What the average annual number of murders and slaughters is in 24 in New England, or 4.5 to 100,000 inhabitants, in the middle states 8.60 to 100,000, and in the central west 10 to 100,000, it rises to 22.30 to 100,000 in the southern states and to 28.42 in the Pacific coast states. To the Pacific coast rock desperate adventures from every and in search of its gold and to many of the best of a human creature is as cheap as that of a robin. The country has little responsibility for this class of misdeeds. Statistics of Mississippi and Louisiana indicate at the same time that most of the crimes of violence in the south are committed by the blacks on each other, or are the processes of lynch law for shameless assaults upon women.

A review of the statistics of the lower orders of crime in the United States would take us too far afield, but they unquestionably indicate an increase in spite of the spread of popular education. As to the increase of the crimes of manslaughter and murder, the chief explanation lies in the uncertainties and delays in the execution of the laws. This condition is due to the most part to the legislative extensions of the power of carrying appeals and writs of error to the higher courts for almost all offenses. Whoever has the means of employing skillful counsel can postpone his punishment for years or finally defeat the ends of justice.

LIGHT AND BRIGHT.

Miss Quilpen (posture of passion)—Have you seen my "Lines on August who?—Chicago Tribune.

"Gracious!" she exclaimed, after reading the account of a shipwreck, "only one man, he told the tale. 'I'm that awful!'"

"I should say it was awful," her husband replied, "what an insufferable bore he'll become."—Philadelphia Press.

"Could you give me an appropriate motto for a wedding invitation?" "Yes, 'I'm not to be taken in!'"—Baltimore American.

"I never met a man so happy as he is when he's looking for work." "You surprise me. I always considered him lazy." "That's what I mean. When he's looking for work, of course, he hasn't any."—Philadelphia Ledger.

"Do you believe the railroads could make money by charging passengers 1 cent a mile for their baggage?" "What would it matter whether they did or not so long as most of the railroads make their money in Wall street, anyhow?"—Chicago Record-Herald.

Customer—Anything that is warranted pure is always cheap, isn't it? "Conscientious Dealer—Certainly not, sir. I know the difference between a warranted and a cheap article."—Chicago Tribune.

"You are fortunate in bringing your constituents to your way of thinking," said the friend. "That isn't it," answered Senator Berghum. "I have merely been successful in convincing them that I think the same way they do."—Washington Star.

"Let me see," said she, "what is it you call the man who is unacquainted with his own mind?" "Parson me," replied the gallant man. "I'm too much of a gentleman to tell you what I call them."—Philadelphia Ledger.

PICTURES OF MEMORY.

Among the beautiful pictures That hang on Memory's wall Is one of a dim old forest That seemeth best of all; Not for its gnarled oak olden, Dark with the mistletoe, Nor for the violet golden, That sprinkle the vale below; Nor for the milk-white lilies, That nod their heads in the dew, Coquetting all day with sunbeams, And stealing their golden gleam, Not for the vines on the vineyard, Where the bright red berries rest, Nor the pink and the pale sweet cowslip, It seemeth to me best.

I once had a little brother, With eyes that were dark and deep; In the lap of that old dim forest He held in peace his slumber. Light as the down of the thistle, Free as the wind that blows, We roved there in the beautiful summers, The summers of long ago; But when the autumn came, I made for my little brother, As the light of immortal beauty, sweetly his pale arms folded, My neck in meek embrace, As the light of immortal beauty, silently covered his