

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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

Whistles of Missouri river steamboats will beat all other arguments in favor of a federal appropriation for the stream.

A Nebraska postoffice looking for a postmaster is certainly a curiosity, and yet such an anomalous condition exists within a few miles of Omaha.

The duchess of Marlborough has ceased to use the Marlborough crest, but the duke refuses to follow her example to the extent of renouncing the Vanderbilt millions.

Omaha's showing in the clearing house record for the week indicates the business activity of the city. The merchants and manufacturers are at present doing about all the business they can care for.

If Jim Hill were half as active in giving Nebraska counties good service as he is in preventing them from collecting taxes on his Burlington lines he would be the most popular man known to the state.

The decision of the pure food commission that "Tennessee whisky" shall be recognized as a separate variety will be received as a just tribute to merit in quarters where variety in "snakes" is recognized.

The holiday season in Omaha is beginning most auspiciously. The continued employment of all who are willing to work at the best wages paid in years insures a Christmas that will be merry beyond precedent.

The report of Attorney General Moody, showing the average cost of subsistence of United States prisoners to be 11.3 cents per day, may throw a little light on a live matter of consideration in Douglas county.

"Marso Henry" Watterson is to spend the winter in Spain, and if Alfonso is wise he will take advantage of the opportunity to secure sound advice on a few matters of statecraft. Bourbons should stand together.

While there should be no partisan politics in supreme court decisions, it is interesting to note that a democratic supreme court in Virginia has nullified a 5-cent fare law while a republican court in Ohio sustains it.

With receipts of about \$5,400 and a cash balance of nearly \$600 at the close of the campaign, it will be difficult for the opposition to show where newly elected Nebraska state officers were "assisted by special interests."

Judge Munger reminded one of the attorneys in his court of a fact that is too often overlooked by lawyers in the heat of a trial, that is, that the law is intended for both sides to a suit and not for the exclusive use and behoof of either.

With New York banks holding nearly \$7,000,000 less than the reserve required by law, it is "up to" the United States to change the law or enforce it, for there is no reason why even New York bankers should be permitted to violate the statutes.

Reports from western Nebraska land offices are a cheerful indication of the development that has been going on in that part of the state during recent years. The conquest of the semi-arid region is almost complete and as far as Nebraska is concerned the desert verily blossoms as a rose.

THE COAL LAND CONSPIRACY.

The facts on which the indictments are now being found in Utah for violation of the national land and anti-discrimination laws bring out in gross and clear form a gigantic and ruthless conspiracy against public interest. Its purpose and accomplished result was to rob the public, first of coal lands and then by monopoly in the coal taken therefrom by collusion between the mining and railroad companies. It has been demonstrated beyond a peradventure that this double robbery has been consummated by an elaborate system of perjury, forgery and fraud, whereby the title to the coal in the ground was alienated from the people and by rebates and discriminatory railroad practices to extort excessive prices from the people for the coal.

The fact that the conspirators are great transportation and mining corporations, in many cases the latter representing or being identical in interest with the former and their influential responsible agents, only enhances the turpitude and dangerous character of the crime. It means that the tremendous power of these corporations, by reason of their wealth and their influence over the business community, and in politics, has been systematically exerted, not in serving, but in exploiting the public. The onerous fact, too, is clearly established that public administration, either ignorantly or corruptly, has largely failed over a period of years to afford protection against the conspiracy, whose widely ramified operations have been carried on right under the noses of the authorities.

While the indictments already found include some important offenders and cover acts by which immense frauds have been perpetrated, it is at the same time obvious that only the fringe of the conspiracy has as yet been exposed. Beyond question the same system of perversion of the national laws has been carried on throughout the mountain states wherever coal exists and could be made the means of extortion by the collusion of mining and transportation corporations. Nothing more signally demonstrates the necessity of drastic national legislation for destroying the transportation discriminations by which coal monopoly has thrived after the coal lands had been stolen from the national domain, or the timeliness of the popular agitation and demand that the laws for their conservation shall be vindicated, no matter how high and powerful the conspirators may be.

APPEAL FOR THE PEOPLE.

Attorney General Moody in his annual report properly gives first place to the recommendation, so emphatically urged by the president in his message, that the law be amended to give to the United States the right of appeal upon questions of law. Such amendment as a general facility for justice is of great and growing importance, but it is practically almost vital to prompt and substantial progress under those laws which bear especially upon the illegal acts of corporations and their officers, agents and confederates.

The importance of judicial practice in all these questions can hardly be overestimated, and a very large part of the success in subordinating corporations to public authority in the last two years has been achieved by decisions applying old principles of the law to existing industrial and social conditions. But among the still uncorrected anachronisms of criminal practice few are more irrational and mischievous than the rule that blocks review by the higher court of the trial judge's rulings on legal questions in criminal trials. The least of the mischief is the effect of blunder in favor of the defendant so far as he alone is concerned, but as a precedent in extensive jurisdictions incalculable harm may be and in fact often is inflicted against public interests.

It is not proposed in the slightest to put a defendant twice in jeopardy for the same offense, but simply to protect the public in its right to have the law certainly and promptly ascertained and settled, to the end that erroneous and pernicious rulings of the trial courts may not taint and obstruct the whole administration of the law. Notwithstanding the conservative tendency in criminal practice, this much needed amendment has already been made in a number of the states, with salutary results. It is incomparably more necessary to the efficiency of the national criminal code.

PRESIDENT FISH'S DISTINCTION.

Stuyvesant Fish, late president of the Illinois Central, dealing with the subject of combination abuses, makes the pregnant statement that "The contest is no longer between those who have and those who have not, but between those on the one hand who have moderately, sufficiently, and even abundantly, and those on the other hand who through the use of trust funds and the power incident thereto seek by questionable practices to have exclusively." The distinction goes to the root of the universal disquietude over prevalent corporation methods, and comprehends the issue that is every day being more distinctly drawn between the mass of actual property owners and the comparatively few who under existing industrial conditions of concentration and organization are entrusted with the custody and management of the combined wealth of others.

The question is really more ethical than economical, although in final analysis good ethics is good economics. It is natural and indeed inevitable that the champions of existing corporation abuses should stigmatize all effort for reform as anathematized and inspired by the envy and jealousy of those who through their own fault have nothing and whose aim is merely to loot wealth. The fact, on the contrary, is, and cannot now be obscured, that common sense and the impulse of self-preservation have forced the people to assert themselves to hold their own against the overreaching and machinations of trustees whose agency and powers cannot in this day be avoided. It is absolutely not a crusade against wealth, but one of the owners of wealth against despoilers and traitors.

MUNICIPAL CIVIL SERVICE.

Whatever changes may or may not be made in the city charter for Omaha by the coming legislature, some provision should be enacted that will inaugurate a substantial form of municipal civil service for us.

There are more square pegs in round holes in the city hall today than there ever were before in recent years, and more money is being paid out in salaries to employes who are utterly unable or unfit to render adequate service in return. The award of places on the municipal pay roll now, more than ever before, seems to be determined by political claims and personal need rather than by any qualification to perform the duties.

The mere fact that a man happens to be a democrat or a republican and active in the party propaganda does not necessarily make him competent to serve the city in capacities requiring special skill or unusual intelligence. Other cities have grappled with this condition by creating municipal civil service boards, modeled more or less upon the national civil service boards and requiring applicants for appointive places to undergo reasonable tests of their qualifications for the places they desire. Such a board could make up an eligible list from which the appointing power might be left free to select and in this way the utterly incompetent would, at least, be weeded out.

Of course care should be taken to safeguard membership in the civil service board against debasement into a political machine, but this should not be difficult. The jurisdiction of the board should be made to extend over all branches of the municipal service whether under the mayor and council, the police board, the water board, the library board or the park board. In this way employment by the municipality would be brought closer to the basis of employment by private corporations and the employes would likewise be reasonably protected in their tenure of office, except for incompetency or misbehavior. Better still, it would reduce the element of political interference to the minimum and hold out assurance to the taxpayers that they would get something tangible for the money contributed to the city government.

LETTER CARRIERS' HOME.

Institution for the Care of Broken Down Members. Philadelphia, Pa. A project that is attracting the attention of the letter carriers of the country is the establishment of a home for those members of the National Letter Carriers' association who may be attacked by consumption or other pulmonary troubles. A site has already been secured in Colonial Springs, and the initial steps taken toward its establishment.

It is gratifying to know that the letter carriers themselves are laying the financial foundation for this most praiseworthy institution. The Brooklyn, N. Y., carriers have announced that they will raise \$10,000 and that when this sum in cash is in their treasury a wealthy citizen of Brooklyn has promised to add an additional \$5,000 to it. The New York association, which numbers 7,000 members, also announces that it will subscribe \$25,000 to the building fund. The Philadelphia carriers are working earnestly to make a substantial showing for this city, while in other great business centers the men are laboring zealously for the cause.

There is no doubt that after a substantial showing has been made by the carriers of the country themselves, the great corporations and leading business men will give it a very substantial increase. There is no class of public servants who come into such intimate daily touch with the business interests of the country as the letter carriers, a rule they are men of intelligence, integrity and uprightness. Their calling is one which in many cases predisposes the physically weaker among them to pulmonary attacks through exposure to the elements.

A better place in the country than Colorado Springs could be chosen for a letter carriers' home. It is located in a high, dry atmosphere. The International Printers' home is already located there, and through its means scores of lives have been prolonged which otherwise would have yielded quickly to the white plague.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Senator George E. Nixon, the new bonanza senator from Nevada, has made \$20,000,000 out of his Goldfield mines. Before acquiring his vast fortune he was a modest banker at Winnemucca, and also edited a paper in a small mining town.

A petition has been filed for letters testamentary in the estate of the late General William R. Shafter. The petition states that no will of General Shafter has been found and property valued at \$15,000 is enumerated as follows: Real property in Kern county, California, valued at \$10,000; personal property consisting of bank stock, live stock and articles necessary for the cultivation of a farm, valued at \$5,000.

Henry Clinton Goodrich of Chicago, 74 years old, has invented more successful articles than any other man living in the world. He invented practically every attachment—and there are more than fifty—used on the sewing machine today, and most of his inventions are for the convenience of women. He bears a striking resemblance to Henry W. Longfellow, comes of good old Puritan stock and is a descendant of Ethan Allen, the revolutionary hero.

Prof. F. H. Oldidge of Columbia university, who recently spoke in this city, gave the following solution as to the way to kill trusts in a lecture before the Columbia students: "It is impossible to successfully fight corporations with legal means. Instead of trying to do this, allow corporations to consolidate and expand until one huge interest has been formed. Then chop off its head by substituting public for private ownership."

MINOR SCENES AND INCIDENTS SKETCHED ON THE SPOT.

Without mental reservation or fear of the future, the Washington Herald pronounces Congressman Smith of Council Bluffs as smooth a story teller as ever came across the Iowa plains. The other day he tried one on his fellow members from Missouri. A democratic convention was held in Missouri, just over the Iowa line. The Iowa congressman happened to be there. The movement for supplanting 'old man' Smith in the administration of Missouri affairs had reached high tide in that part of the state, where was held the convention, attended by Judge Smith. It so fell out, however, that a local patriarch of great renown was a candidate for one of the offices for which nomination were to be voted by the democrats in convention assembled. An eloquent Missourian presented the name and extolled the merits of the patriarch. "Gentlemen of the convention, representative of the untamed democracy of the 'tenth district of Missouri,' he shouted in a great burst of oratory, "it is my honor and my pleasure to present to you the name of a man old in years, but young in spirit; one who, though approaching the span of life allotted by the psalmist, has never taken a dose of medicine one who has been cut short by a shrill voice from the audience, exclaiming: "We'll give him a dose today, all right." "And they did," declared Judge Smith.

SYMPATHY WITH CALIFORNIA.

It is significant that in the long series of interviews collected by the Herald concerning the California dispute, interviews with men of all political creeds, with men representing every branch of American activity, business, law, the educational profession, diplomacy; interviews with men from widely scattered sections of the country, congressmen and members of the parliamentary committee, a decided tendency is displayed to uphold California individually and collectively.

These men realize that in its final form the contest could be one between Japan and America, and sympathies go unanimously to the latter.

MORE CHANCE FOR LIFE.

General Prosperity Takes a Fall Out of the Grim Reaper. Cleveland Leader. Rising prosperity keeps step with falling death rates. This is not a condition peculiar to the United States. There are proofs in the civilized world. There are proofs which cannot be questioned that the average period of life is being lengthened. Death comes later and is more successfully beaten off in the years when life has had no fair opportunity to attest its productiveness and its value.

Broadly speaking, this is the most stupendous change of the times. Life may be so misused that it is not worth while. It may be worse than the void which is its alternative. But obviously nothing human is possible without life and the waste of it is a maddening and a degrading. What protects life and prolongs it guards the vital capital of the world.

It is beyond question that this immensely important lengthening of life is due, in the main, to the prevention of disease rather than to its cure. Sanitary science has accomplished more in the way of preventing disease than surgery and sick room wisdom. The falling mortality rates are the result of drainage, cleanliness, the isolation of infectious diseases, the better knowledge of epidemics and their causes, the more careful use of food. The change means a step toward a more healthful and wholesome air and wholesome conditions in houses.

Civilized man is returning to nature, but with wisdom and resources which the natural man—the savage—always lacked. He is coming back to first principles, in large degree, as far as open air and wholesome food and rest are concerned, and he is doing so with a greater power of guarding his own body against disease and keeping children and the aged, the feeble and the infirm, out of peril of death.

This one fact ought to be sufficient to insure vast gains for the welfare of mankind. Time and effort and thought should be directed against death and disease can be given to enriching and bettering life. When mere existence is more secure all that adorns and elevates it will be more easily and abundantly gained.

ALTHOUGH SENATOR PIATT OF NEW YORK IS FEEBLE IN THE EXTREME AND MOVES ABOUT ONLY WITH GREAT DIFFICULTY, HE HAS SAVAGE REVENGES ON ANYONE WHOSE HANDS HE GETS.

He uttered out of the senate while the president's message was being read and made for a waiting carriage. A stiff breeze blew his coat tails wildly about his thin frame and his thin frame shook like a reed. A capitol policeman made bold to hold the senator's arm as he tried to mount the steps of the carriage and assist him to enter. Fiercely the New Yorker turned on the cop. "What are you doing, sir?" snarled the senator. "Only trying to help you in your carriage, sir," politely replied the policeman. "I mean in this respect," "Get away from me," snapped Senator Piatt, imperiously. "I don't need the help of you nor anybody else to get into my carriage." The policeman scooted back to his post.

John Sharp Williams, minority leader of the national house of representatives, was holding forth to some friends upon what he calls the insanity of republicans who talk of tariff reform. The Mississippi said this kind of talk reminded him of a storkkeeper in his district who received a sharp letter from his wholesale dealer demanding immediate payment of a long standing account. In reply he wrote, saying: "Inclosed please find my check for the full amount with interest. Kindly close my account on your books, as I shall do no more business with you." The man who received the letter looked for the check. It was not there. It was not in the envelope. There was no check. Then he noticed, in very small letters at the bottom of the letter, this line: "Gentlemen: This is the kind of letter I would have written you if I had had any money."

Rumor has it in Washington that both Herbert W. Bowen and Francis B. Loomis soon are to re-enter the diplomatic service. The quarrel between these two diplomats stirred the country about a year ago. Mr. Bowen succeeded Mr. Loomis as minister to that hotbed of intrigue, Venezuela, and filed rather grave charges against him after Mr. Loomis had been called by the president from his post as minister to Portugal to the first assistant secretaryship of state in Washington. Investigation of these charges resulted disastrously to Bowen, who lost his place in the diplomatic service. Now it is reported that Loomis will be appointed to an important post and in order to show that Mr. Bowen has been punished enough for his attacks on Mr. Loomis he will be given another trial in the diplomatic service, probably in South America.

NIGHTY HARD TO PLEASE.

People in one part of the country want certain immigrants excluded because they will not work for low wages. People in another part want certain still more offensive immigrants freely admitted because they will work for low wages. It's a hard job to please everybody and be consistent.

ST. PAUL REPUBLICAN.

Let it not be forgotten by our legislators that an amendment to the revenue law which will authorize assessors to inspect bank, building and loan and other books of deposit is necessary to a fair and equal distribution of the tax burden. So long as men of elastic consciences have their money concealed in places where the assessing officers are forbidden to search, the assumption that everyone must pay taxes upon a fair valuation of his earthly possessions is a howling farce.

Grand Island Independent: The locality from which a United States senator comes is not of so much importance. If he will honestly endeavor to secure good, wholesome laws for the benefit of all the people of the nation and act and vote conscientiously and honestly and courageously on measures of great public interest, he will most fully succeed in the important service for which he is chosen. Mr. Yeiser's apparent idea that something is not right unless one of the senators from this state is from Omaha has no good foundation. Omaha should have just as fair and good representation as any other city, no more and no less. And Senator-elect Brown will give her that.

Auburn Republican: Colonel W. S. Tilton, editor of the Beatrice Times, is a candidate for the secretaryship of the senate at the coming session. We know of no gentleman in the state who is more eminently qualified to fill that important place. Colonel Tilton is a man of scholarly attainments, of gentle bearing, courteous and broad-minded. He is alive to every responsibility that falls upon him and would be a most distinguished addition to the senate chamber. His is a practical and his attainments and knowledge of economics would be valuable to the workers of that body. Colonel Tilton is a modest man. He is not an office or place seeker and all his friends in this section should be anxious to see that he is elected. His efforts to procure for him an honor which would be a graceful reward for his lifetime of patriotic service.

Fremont Tribune: On his departure for Washington Senator Millard is quoted by the World Herald as having said that the law of gravitation may be suspended, that the Platte river will commence flowing toward its source, that Omaha may get the senatorship again, and that he may be it. "I believe," said the senator, "that the law of gravitation may be suspended, that the Platte river will commence flowing toward its source, that Omaha may get the senatorship again, and that he may be it. I believe, that the law of gravitation may be suspended, that the Platte river will commence flowing toward its source, that Omaha may get the senatorship again, and that he may be it."

Senator Millard also declared indignantly to a doorkeeper, "Maybe you don't know it, but they don't their wives ought to teach it to 'em."

Senator Platt of New York is feeble in the extreme and moves about only with great difficulty, he has savage reeves on anyone whose hands he gets. He uttered out of the senate while the president's message was being read and made for a waiting carriage. A stiff breeze blew his coat tails wildly about his thin frame and his thin frame shook like a reed. A capitol policeman made bold to hold the senator's arm as he tried to mount the steps of the carriage and assist him to enter. Fiercely the New Yorker turned on the cop. "What are you doing, sir?" snarled the senator. "Only trying to help you in your carriage, sir," politely replied the policeman. "I mean in this respect," "Get away from me," snapped Senator Piatt, imperiously. "I don't need the help of you nor anybody else to get into my carriage." The policeman scooted back to his post.

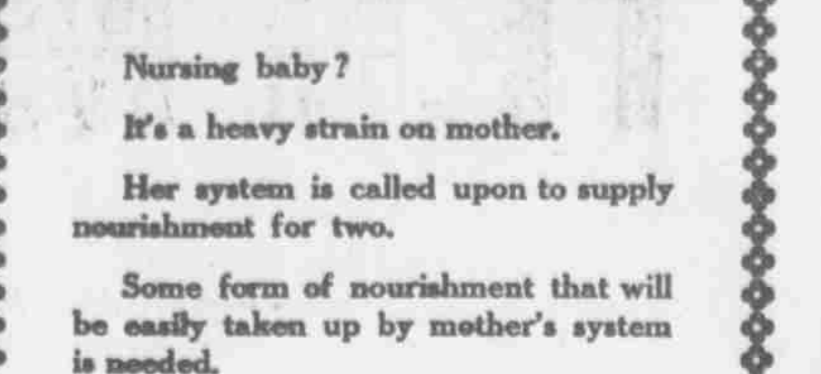
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Nursing baby? It's a heavy strain on mother. Her system is called upon to supply nourishment for two. Some form of nourishment that will be easily taken up by mother's system is needed. Scott's Emulsion contains the greatest possible amount of nourishment in easily digested form. Mother and baby are wonderfully helped by its use.



ALL DRUGGISTS; 50c. AND \$1.00.

STATE PRESS COMMENT.

SIDEGLIMPS AT THE MESSAGE.

Minneapolis Journal: The president's message easily takes first place among the six best sellers. In newspaper form it was sold to about 80,000,000 people, thus throwing Hall Caine into the shade.

Baltimore American: The president concedes to each individual the privilege of contributing to campaign funds as he desires. This is equivalent to saying that the dollar-contribution idea was not a brilliant one.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: "It is not wise," says the president in the message "that the nation should alienate its remaining coal lands." The trusts so eager to complete their monopoly have struck a snag in this new form of government reservation.

New York Sun: Those indolent citizens who content themselves with summaries in the belief that they know already the general tenor of Mr. Roosevelt's beliefs defraud themselves of instruction mingled with entertainment. The message has a keen interest and charm, political, economic, ethical and psychological.

Washington Herald: With the president's moral sentiments, as expressed in his remarks upon lynching and other social evils, and in his dissertations on righteousness, peace and international understandings, we cordially agree; and so also do we heartily endorse the inhibitions placed on human conduct by the ten commandments.

Portland Oregonian: The message as a whole illustrates the change which has taken place in politics and statesmanship within a few years. Politics is now sociology. Statesmanship is an effort toward international justice. What Mr. Roosevelt has to say about the moral obligations of nations is illuminating and prophetic. He speaks first of all peace and righteousness, but he does not forget that the best security for both is the power to compel the evilly disposed to respect them.

LINES TO A SMILE.

"Really," said Mrs. Ippishleigh, "I can't believe that Eve was a woman who ought to receive recognition from us who are in society."

"I suppose, if the truth were known, she was not what we consider the best society," "And then, of course, she had to trim her own hats,"—Chicago Record-Herald.

"Anything doing today?" asked the general reporter of the animal keeper.

"Oh, nothing much," was the reply, "except the rhinoceros is a sorry old bear, and the lion is a monkey of a monkey of a monkey."

Kiggins—Snooks, the astronomer, declares that Mars is a million years older than the earth.

Higgins—How does he prove it? Kiggins—By showing that the inter-ocular distance in Mars' eyes have been completed.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Sir!" exclaimed the pompous individual, "I am a self-made man."

"I accept your apology," murmured he of the patriarchal countenance.—Philadelphia Record.

Midas had just found that everything he touched turned to gold.

"How disgusting!" he sighed, "when cobalt is all the rage now."

WE KNEW HIM AS A FRIEND.

(Tribute to Judge Bartholomew.) His noble mind and kindly face will not be forgotten.

And still, in thought, we'll often meet Him walking with his book benign.

And oft, in memory, warmly greet With clasp of hand or halting sign.

Though mortal parts have reached the end, And outward vision is denied, We say: We knew him as a friend, And in our hearts he has not died.

EDITH F. COCHRAN. Omaha, Neb.

Tetley's INDIA AND CEYLON Tea. The most perfect tea grown. Nature provides the proper climate and soil, the planters prepare it in the most approved manner and Tetley blends and packs it. Enough said. McCORD-BRADY CO., Wholesale Agents, Omaha.