

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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CHARLES C. ROSEWATER, General Manager.

ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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

Good morning, Mr. Garrison. Is your shadow on straight?

A. Anvil, who has been appointed to an office in Philadelphia, seems to be already getting his share of hammering.

In putting his cabinet officers on the stump in a campaign, the kaiser only followed a distinguished American precedent.

As to the construction of interurban trolley lines, The Bee's advice is to get the lines built first and to regulate them afterward.

If the faith healers win their fight to escape subjection to medical supervision they will be confirmed in the faith stronger than ever.

"Dryden or Nobody" is the cry of the senator's supporters for re-election in New Jersey, and the opponents seem to prefer the substitute.

Peary might keep in practice for his north pole trips by making a dash, with a fuel supply, for some of those ice-cold towns in North Dakota and Montana.

The Department of Justice at Washington intimates that as soon as it can find a breathing spell from the rush of other business it is going to wind up the Water trust.

The Dahlgren Democracy is to start a newspaper, which is to serve as the official mouthpiece of "his honor" and his administration. Now will the World-Herald be good?

If the Thaws had been as particular about their associates as they are about juriesmen, Pittsburgh might have spared a lot of advertisement of the kind that does not pay.

If Governor Sheldon did not know that pending charges against the Omaha Board of Fire and Police Commissioners were bequeathed to him by his predecessor, he doubtless knows it now.

One good feature of the tariff agreement between the United States and Germany is that it can not be completed by the commission in time to be killed by the senate at the present session.

It might be well to show what harm, if any, the contributors to the democratic campaign fund last year did before asking Chairman Griggs of the congressional committee to publish their names.

The Arkansas legislature has passed a law fixing passenger fares on railroads in that state at 2 cents a mile. Patrons of Arkansas passenger trains will still think they ought to be paid instead of paying.

"Will anyone be interested in a two-year debate in the magazines between Colonel Bryan and Senator Beveridge?" asks the Philadelphia Press. Certainly, Colonel Bryan and Senator Beveridge will be.

This proposition of the Postal commission to exclude from second-class mail privileges newspapers "consisting wholly or substantially of fiction" would make it hard settling for some of the New York yellow, as well as for some similar publications nearer home.

THE NEW PROHIBITION.

Prohibition fanatics are again urging upon the legislature the enactment of their county option bill. Aside from the manifest unfairness of the bill as drawn, giving the temperance people, as one of its advocates declares, "two cracks at the liquor men instead of one," the measure is designed simply to bring about prohibition in a new form and to do away entirely with the present Stocumb law, which is the true embodiment of local option.

Members of the legislature can with profit review the history of Nebraska with respect to the regulation of the liquor traffic. The Stocumb law was enacted in 1881, making this state par excellence the high license state and the one in which the true embodiment of local option.

As might have been expected, the amendment was overwhelmingly snowed under at the polls, but in the landslide that buried prohibition the republican candidate for governor was carried down as well and enough voters of foreign extraction driven into the ranks of the democracy to make Nebraska a doubtful state for years. The stand taken by the republican party in favor of sound money and against repudiation laid the foundation for winning them back, and the courageous assaults of President Roosevelt upon gigantic trust evils and upon abuses by lawless railroad combinations formed the capstone of their conversion. The Bee does not hesitate to express the opinion that in the recent campaign enough foreign-born voters rallied to the standard of George L. Sheldon to give him the majority by which he was elected over his fusion opponent, while the prohibitionists cast their 5,100 votes, as usual, for their own prohibition nominee.

Before yielding to the new prohibition republican members of the legislature should ask themselves whether they want to drive all the foreign-born voters, who have broad views on personal liberty and sumptuary laws, back into the democratic fold—whether they want the republican party to be known as a prohibition party and assume all the risks which such a step would surely involve?

MR. BRYAN'S NEXT "OPENING."

The intimation that Mr. Bryan is about to "open the campaign of 1908" with a series of magazine articles excites lively reflections, though of a diverse character, among republicans and democrats. The reports are altogether credible that the Nebraska leader has been earnestly advised by some of the most astute men of his party by no means to do anything of the sort, while others in still greater numbers have expressed to him grave doubts of the policy of such deliverances at this time. It is not recorded, however, that political adversaries of light and leading share in such apprehensions. In that quarter, on the contrary, the forthcoming series seems only to arouse enthusiasm.

It has not been many months since Colonel Bryan, after circum-traveling the world, landed at New York, with no end of preliminary red fire and elaborate staging, to open the campaign of 1908, as the public was given to understand, and on that occasion the opener turned out to be a hybrid of national and state ownership of railroads, plans and specifications as usual being omitted. Possibly what followed the campaign opening last summer may account for the variant frames of mind in which democrats and republicans now await the colonel's campaign reopening.

EFFORT TO AVOID TARIFF LAW.

The official statement given out by the American and German tariff commissioners upon the completion of their work makes it clear that they have negotiated no commercial treaty. Abundant reasons existed, in addition to the lack of authority which they specify, why they should not draft a treaty. Congress is so exceedingly jealous of its prerogatives in such matters that conclusions reached through executive initiative, no matter how sound they may be, are apt to be received with prejudice, and in this case legislative action is necessary to carry them out. There is a general feeling that this in large part explains how the series of reciprocity treaties carefully wrought out under McKinley and Roosevelt came to be hung up in the senate and even denied consideration.

But it is also apparent that the commissioners have come to an understanding on a basis for a customs arrangement between the two countries and have acquired information regarding each other's positions that can hardly fail to be of vital importance to the legislatures of both for reaching a satisfactory adjustment. The commissioners on the part of both governments are experts and authorities in the subject matter, very much of which has not been well understood in either country by their legislators.

Nearly a year ago the German government adopted a widely variant maximum and minimum scheme of tariff rates, the latter, of course, to apply to imports from countries where German goods were admitted under satisfactory conditions. Important provisions of our customs laws, mainly administrative features, were obnoxious, so that we were wrenched with action of the maximum rates, which are enormously higher than those of

the old German tariff, itself one of the highest in the world. They especially bear disastrously on American meats and meat products. And this threatened maximum was only suspended for a period of months to allow an effort through a joint commission to pave the way for an accommodation.

The commissioners in their statement do not, of course, define the results of their conferences, but their statements are entitled in due course to serious consideration both by congress and by the country at large. National pride is always exceedingly sensitive. We are naturally irritated at what seems to us the perverse attitude in Germany. It is likely, too, that in the last resort we should be able to inflict more hurt than could be inflicted upon us. But a tariff war would inevitably injure both, and after grave industrial losses had been suffered mutual agreement would have to be reached. The administration has been wise to endeavor to solve the difficulty before rather than after a commercial war.

SOME HELP FOR WESTERN RIVERS.

The form in which the rivers and harbors bill has been turned over to congress from the committee, with items aggregating \$300,000 for improvement of the Missouri river, allows more for this purpose than it was at first disposed to allow, but far less than the Missouri valley states feel themselves justly entitled to. Left to itself the committee would not have broken in any degree the neglect in which the Missouri channel has fallen for many years.

The awakening of the business communities of the interior states generally to the importance of river transportation and their earnest efforts to secure from congress corresponding aid has thus at least made a beginning, small though it is. The clearing of snags from the channel should tend to encourage the movement here and at other points to get river freight lines started. The main difficulties probably will be encountered in the first steps of substantial restoration of navigation, but every boat and every ton of freight will broaden the basis for further national aid.

It is, indeed, along this line that Chairman Burton of the rivers and harbors committee has been induced to modify his hostile attitude, as he clearly indicates in his allusions to the preliminary efforts at Omaha and Kansas City to revive river traffic. He concedes that a fair trial should be given and that commercial conditions now seem ripe to develop and maintain navigation.

Moreover, there are unmistakable signs that the whole interior is lining up for its essential common interest in water freights. The communities that will be served by the main tributaries of the Mississippi have their several local interests, but they are realizing as never before that co-operation is absolutely essential to the interest of each. Some beginning having been made, which was probably all that could be expected at this session, a solid union of these mid-continent states in congress for their water transportation needs may in due time prove irresistible.

According to the railway regulation bill drafted by the joint committee, each member of the Nebraska Railroad commission "before entering upon the duties of his office" shall subscribe to the usual oath and in addition swear "that he is not directly or indirectly interested in any railroad, the bonds, stocks, mortgages, securities, contracts or earnings of any railway company or common carrier." In other words, if the law goes through as thus worded the commissioners elected last November will not be clothed with official powers until they take the new and revised oath of office. All the racket then raised over Commissioner Cowell's failure to line up with the other state officers at the time they were formally inducted into their places was nothing but a flash in the pan.

The number of inmates of the soldiers' homes maintained by our state is steadily increasing. This is quite natural, however, in view of the fact that the surviving veterans of the war are reaching the advanced age when they find themselves dependent as well as cut off from friends and relatives. The state, however, will have to look forward to the time not very far distant when these soldiers' homes will gradually lose their population, which probably has now about reached its maximum.

The decision of the county board to keep records of all county employes with a view to intelligent action on applications for promotions and salary increases is a step in the right direction. But when the records show that the employe is not earning his money the board should not hesitate to demote him into private life.

The license fee scheme of regulating the ice business may solve the difficulty which created such a large area of unpleasantness in Omaha during the heated months of last year. Whatever remedy is to be provided, however, should be provided at the beginning of the summer season rather than at its close.

Democrats and populists have been calling for direct primary legislation in their state platforms year after year, not only in Nebraska, but in many other states. It is a poor time for democratic and populist members of the legislature to begin backsliding on this proposition.

Washington correspondents are sending out the usual scare about the prospect of an extra session, due to the

failure of the congress to pass certain appropriation bills. One sure remedy for this oft-recurring situation would be the adoption of a rule requiring the legislative appropriation bill, carrying the money for salaries of members, to be considered only after the disposition of the other appropriation measures.

A semi-official organ at the City of Mexico declares that war between the United States and Japan is inevitable. Mexico and San Francisco may feel that way about it, but they will have to convert Tokio and Washington before they have a fulfillment of the prediction.

If it costs \$500 a year to take care of each pupil in the Nebraska Institute for the Blind, the state could without doubt save money by sending these unfortunate to the best private school for blind instruction and pay all their expenses.

A call for a house caucus of republicans to consider tariff revision failed because of inability to secure the necessary fifty signatures to the petition. Really but one signature to such a petition is necessary—that of Speaker Cannon.

Well, Hardy, Cleveland leader. Nebraska has an excitement about a "girl with" who casts spells over young men. Great Scott! Is this Nebraska's first experience?

Hand up the Hines. If the wags of compulsory goodness keeps on the railroad magnates may become so good that they will have difficulty in recognizing themselves.

Crawdshank. Chicago Record-Herald. Sweetnam has apologized and withdrawn his letter to Admiral Davis. He has not, however, gone so far as to recall the admiral's war ships and bluejackets.

Outing the Machinery. New York Evening Post. The senate committee has reported favorably the bill giving the government the right of appeal in criminal cases. It is well to have everything ready for the next squad of trust magnates.

A Hint from Berlin. Washington Herald. We respectfully call the attention of the anti-Roosevelt contingent to the fact that Emperor William discharged the entire Reichstag without honor, and just see what the people did about it!

A Melancholy Possibility. Springfield Republican. The most unfortunate consequence of the interstate commission's arraignment of the Standard Oil company is likely to be the resignation from Chancellor Day of Syracuse university. If the commission had only thought of that it might have decided to suppress its report.

Road to Postal Economy. Indianapolis News. The request of Post Assistant Postmaster-General Hitchcock for an additional appropriation of \$100,000 to meet increasing expenses for the current year naturally reminds one that there is still an excellent opportunity to add the department in its economies by abolishing the congressional frank.

Too Small for a Showdown. New York Tribune. Chairman Griggs of the democratic congressional committee declines to make public the accounts of the committee for the last campaign, but says the receipts were "astonishing." We trust that no subscriber has asked for reimbursement on the ground that the management didn't give him a run for his money.

Carry's Land Hoar. Chicago News. Senator Carter of Montana says that Secretary Hitchcock by his suspicious methods in connection with land patents is driving American settlers into Canada, to the great loss of this country. Still the secretary has caught some pretty fierce fellows in the act of transferring the specimens of land thieves in the west to a certain point.

Paradox in Military Discipline. Philadelphia Record. Military circles have been convulsed over a case of discipline which recalls the proverbial irrepressible foe meeting the immovable object. An officer ordered an enlisted man to go to church, and the man refused. The officer had no right to give the order, but the enlisted man had no right to refuse. This extraordinary situation has been solved by transferring the man to another post as a mark of disapproval, and sending the officer to another post on temporary duty.

GOVERNOR CUMMINS' IDEAS. Need of Revising the Federal Constitution. Chicago News. Governor Cummins of Iowa makes some striking comments on the federal constitution, recently made by Secretary Root. The latter declares that unless such of the states takes up the work of governing in the interests of the family of states at the point where the national government leaves off, amendments to the constitution enlarging the federal powers will surely follow. Governor Cummins has been in the van of state officers who have tried to do just what Secretary Root urges. Now he says: "Our forefathers made for us a government, national and state, putting into it a genius that dwarfs every other effort of its kind, but the country to be governed has escaped from the government established to manage it and is running wild."

It is significant of the present trend of events that Governor Cummins comes out unequivocally for amendments to the federal constitution. Among others, he wants an amendment "that will give the interstate commerce clause scope enough to enable congress to control and regulate things which the developments of commerce have nationalized." The governor of Iowa has had experience in regard to the difficulties of state control. The railroads crossing Iowa, for example, have exercised for years, by means of political attorneys strung along their routes, a notorious proprietorship over the public affairs of the state. Yet none of these roads has a terminus in Iowa, so that nearly every article of commerce handled by them crosses the state boundaries on its way to market and therefore is subject to national laws. Thus Governor Cummins has been led to see clearly the results of corporate nationalization of business enterprises.

While important amendments to the federal constitution are desirable, no state should be asked to do its duty by itself and the rest of the nation.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

Socialism, as a political force in the affairs of Europe, encountered emphatic rebuffs in Germany and Great Britain within ten days. Hitherto the social democratic party has been a growing power in Germany and was represented by seventy-nine deputies in the last Reichstag. In the elections held January 25 the party suffered a net loss of nineteen seats, while other party divisions of the German electorate held their strength or made substantial gains. The country sustained the ministry and practically endorsed the imperial colonial policy. Second balloting will be held in about 170 constituencies on the 15th inst., as none of the candidates received a majority on the first ballot. The second election eliminates all but the two candidates receiving the highest vote in the first ballot. The dispatches indicate that the custom of centering on one candidate all opposition to the socialists will be pursued with increased zeal next Tuesday, and it is calculated that the result will still further diminish social strength in the Reichstag. The losses are not due to decline of the party numerically. In that respect the socialists made a slight gain. But the opposition rallied a much larger percentage of the vote and thus swept the class constituencies. Equally significant and more emphatic was the rout of the democrats in their attempt to convert the trade union of Great Britain into a socialist propaganda. The proposition brought before the general conference of the unions was decisively defeated. Both events are of international interest. They indicate clearly that in the two most progressive nations of Europe socialism is not making serious headway and is mainly a political refuge for the discontented.

The chronic dissatisfaction with the way education, particularly primary education, is managed in Ireland has been growing more and more insistent every year for twenty years past, and a pretty general and formidable agitation is now going on all over Ireland at once demanding a radical reform in the whole system of education in Ireland without any interference with its religious quality. As Stephen Gwynn, who is a Gaelic leaguer and also a member of Parliament, said at a recent big meeting in Wicklow demanding more pay for teachers: "Why should the government pamper its (Catholic) policemen and starve its teachers? After a policeman is fifty years in the service he may get a pension for himself, his wife and family, while a schoolmaster's pension does not begin till he has given forty years of hard work, with no rest, rights and no emoluments of any kind."

The present division of the exchequer grants for schools (80 per cent to England, 10 to Scotland and 9 to Ireland) bears no proportion to the taxes collected, the population or the peculiar needs of the respective countries. The teachers of Ireland—the national school teachers—are the worst-paid of any civilized country in the world. What is wanted is a school board elected by the people and answerable to public opinion.

The imperial bureau of statistics of Japan has just issued its annual report for the year 1906, delayed because of the war with Russia. It states that the divorce and divorce are particularly interesting. There were 370,961 marriages in that year and 65,292 divorces, or about one divorce to six marriages, and it is reasonable that this proportion does not differ much from other countries. The returns show that the marriages may take place when the man is between the ages of 13 and 14 and the woman between 11 and 12 years, these exceedingly youthful alliances are very rare. With men marriage is most frequent between 24 and 25 and with women between 20 and 21. Three-fourths of the men are married between 20 and 25, and the same proportion of the women between 15 and 20 years. Divorces are in almost all instances the result of mutual consent. Out of the 65,292 divorces, only 198 were due to causes which come within the legal code. Divorces by mutual consent apparently begin quite soon after marriage. There were in 1906 378 of these in less than one month after marriage, and before six months were over the number had increased to 448. The total of divorces for the first year was 11,750, thence proceeding on a declining ratio so that the number of divorces of those who had lived together less than five years was 4,056, the remaining 15,000 representing a longer continuance of wedded life.

A letter in the London Spectator furnishes some very interesting information concerning the results of state-aided insurance in Germany. It appears that about one German in five is insured for sickness, one in three for accident and one in four for infirmity or old age. Every year nearly \$15,000,000 is paid to sick, injured, infirm or old persons. Of this amount \$2,600,000 is found by employers, \$11,200,000 by insured persons and \$1,200,000 by the state. Every insured working woman who is confined receives an allowance for six weeks. The system of state-aided insurance has had very remarkable results. It is, of course, much better for a person disabled by some cause other than old age, as well as for the community, that he or she should be enabled to resume work; and as the law permits the insurance associations either to treat infirm persons in sanatoria, or to give them pensions, a large number of sanatoria have been erected all over the land. A very large proportion of sufferers who apply for allowances have tuberculosis. Among men from 20 to 24 who are incapacitated, about 85 per cent suffer from it. No less than seventy-four open-air sanatoria have been built for the treatment of these patients. On an average each victim remains under treatment about three months. In 1902 18,818 persons suffering from tuberculosis, and 48,488 suffering from other diseases, were treated under the insurance law. The proportion of tuberculosis patients who regain power to work for a living is more than 75 per cent, but a good many relapse when they return to their crowded dwellings and to hard work. At the end of four years after treatment 31 per cent of the patients were able to work.

LAND GRABBERS BALKED.

President Standley by Prosecutor in Oregon. Springfield Republican. President Roosevelt is determined to have the services of W. C. Bristol as United States district attorney for Oregon, his committee of the senate, which has reported adversely on the confirmation of Mr. Bristol, that he will reappoint his man as soon as congress adjourns, with the view of keeping him in office for the land fraud cases in Oregon are disposed of. This will be disappointing news to the land grabbers, who have been determined that Bristol should not prosecute these cases. Popular sentiment will be emphatically upon the side of the president in this issue. By reappointing Bristol at the expiration of this session of congress the president can keep him in office another year without confirmation, and in spite of those western senators who have barked together after a fashion that does not command respect, it is safe to infer that Mr. Bristol is endorsed by Mr. Hines, and that he is the man for the job.

Governor of Tutuila Comes. SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 1.—The Oceanic liner Sierra, arriving yesterday from Sydney, had among its passengers Commander C. B. T. Moore, U. S. N., who is governor of the American island of Tutuila, Samoa, on a visit to San Francisco, Washington.

Advertisement for ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK. The Careful Housewife uses absolutely no other. Absolutely Pure. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

POLITICAL DRIFT.

Missourians are talking seriously of investing \$5,000,000 in a new capitol building. In the language of Rev. Jaeger, "de world do move." Senator John Dryden of New Jersey continues five votes short of an election, and all the rocks in his Gibraltar are of no avail so far. Carter Harrison continues naming himself in California and listening for a loud call to "come home, honey," and run for mayor of Chicago. Religious revivals are being held in many parts of the country, the churches deeming it necessary to put forth special exertions while the state legislatures are in session. Pennsylvania's magnificent capitol building, price \$13,000,000, promises to be a joy forever for those on the inside. The payroll of employes taking care of the building works up \$1,000 a year. Washington's Gridiron club tears aside the veil of secrecy thrown around executive sessions of the senate. Perhaps the senators at the last gridiron function improved the opportunity to reciprocate. Regulars and reform republicans are lined up again in Philadelphia in what promises to be a hot fight for mayor. The organization nominee is John E. Reburn. His opponent is William Potter, formerly superintendent of city police under Mayor Weaver. He is a republican, endorsed by the city and democratic parties. The election will be held February 19. Senator Platt's express company has left its old headquarters at 49 Broadway, New York, which used to be known to every politician in the state as the throne room of the boss. The express company is now at 2 Trinity place, and Senator Platt's political number is now 23. Senator Winthrop Murray Crane of Massachusetts, just re-elected, is known in select national republican circles as a smoother out of wrinkles for President Roosevelt. It was Senator Crane who brought the president and ex-Governor Frank S. Black of New York into accord in the spring of 1904 so that Mr. Black placed the president in nomination at the national convention in June of that year.

BREEZY TRIFLES.

"And what were the provisions of your uncle's will?" "That I should have all he left after the payment of his just debts." "Ah, very good of the old man, wasn't it? What did he leave?" "Just debts," says the judge. "I see," said the head bookkeeper, "that congress has raised its own wages." "Yes, congress is becoming just as powerful as the head of a life insurance company."—Chicago Record-Herald. "Squags—That so? What's his line?" "Squags—He's a swimming teacher. Gitt-up—Toledo Blade. "Scripps can tell the temperature by the sound of creaking wagons." "Ethel—Did he recommend any special course of study?"—Cincinnati Commercial. "Marks—Taking a wife is something like eating mushrooms." "Parke—How so?" "Marks—You've got to await results before you can be absolutely sure you've taken the right kind."—Boston Transcript. "Mrs. Crimmonbank—Intoxication is so common in Stockholm that a special car for toppers must be attached to all suburban trains going from that city." "Mr. Crimmonbank—Tank cars are not unknown in this country, my dear.—Yonkers Statesman. "Mistah Cahmack? " "What is it, Mistah Intehlocoutah?" "Squag would you do a lightning change act?" "Why, tap the Till, man; haw, haw!"—Atlanta Journal. ART IN OMAHA. Kent Packard in Boston Record. "Omaha has prohibited pictures of Van Dyke and Rubens as indecent."—New York Item. I. The painters banished from their store. No art is now allowed by law. Omaha, strange Omaha. Rubens and Van Dyke got the hook. At portraits you now cannot look. Your art is but a sealed book. Omaha, queer Omaha. II. But posters still adorn your town Omaha, my Omaha. Of Fairbanks twins and Buster Brown Omaha, there is meet indeed. Somehow the sight of poster's fare, Just suits your breezy western air. (Though artists rave and tear their hair) Omaha, pure Omaha. III. Perhaps you follow Springfield's lead Omaha, fine Omaha. Such conduct there is meet indeed, Omaha, rum Omaha. But Comstock's quiet, doesn't talk; At Rubens work there is no talk, Still Omaha is not New York, Omaha, wild Omaha.

Your Money's Worth. HE successful merchant now-a-days does not pretend to give impossible values for your money—but a full dollar's worth for a dollar is the basis of this business. Just now, with our Alteration Sale, it's a little better than a dollar's worth for a dollar in Suits and Overcoats. We are showing a beautiful line of new spring Shirts, in soft and pleated bosoms. Browning, King & Co. R. S. WILCOX, Manager.

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