

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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Table with 2 columns: Circulation counts and monetary values. Total net total: 1,150,103.

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

About the last call for the leap year privileges.

"The democratic party is very much alive," says Mr. Bryan. It is if it survives Bryanism.

It is not too early to inquire whether we have cable connections with the jungles of Africa.

Henry W. Poor, a New York broker, has made good on his name by failing for \$5,000,000. Poor Poor.

Despondent because he had ceased to be a novelty, Barnum's original "bearded lady" committed suicide the other day.

It is now President Gomez of Cuba and President Gomez of Venezuela. Gomez must be the Smith alias in Latin-America.

We have no doubt the city officials of Pittsburg agree with certain congressmen that secret service men should be eliminated.

It would be a severe shock to some congressmen if they should find that they did not stop the secret service activities soon enough.

Congressman Dalsell has formally withdrawn from the senatorial race in Pennsylvania, although he has made a record as a standpater.

"A dollar found is less valuable than a quarter earned," says the Chicago News. Perhaps, but the finder never feels that way about it.

We hope Mr. Castro will have a new photograph taken before he makes another break to bring him into international prominence.

A Washington dispatch says that the hands of the president are tied. Still, congress knows that the president can dictate with his hands tied.

Omaha has come through the year so far with a pretty good record of freedom from crime, and that record should not be spoiled during the last week.

Mr. Hearst says that the independence party is too far ahead of the times. The returns on November 2 indicated that it was too far behind the times.

For the year ending with September 724,212 foreigners came to this country and 712,823 returned. The steamship companies caught them coming and going.

The American troops will be withdrawn from Cuba on January 28, but most of them have an idea that they may soon have to play a return engagement.

The number of men being mentioned for secretary of the navy is still smaller than the number who have held that position within the last eight years.

Those warring Lincoln traction companies will eventually get together by reaching an agreement on the amount of water to be poured into the resulting combination.

The man accused of stealing \$173,000 from the treasury in Chicago has brought suit for damages for false imprisonment, thus recalling the fact that someone walked off with a fortune from the treasury about a year ago and has escaped capture.

THE FIGHT ON POSTAL SAVINGS.

The opposition to the postal savings banks system, now under discussion in the senate, is being confined practically to the argument set up in resolutions by the bankers' associations in several states that the plan would work hardship on the savings banks and other financial institutions already established.

Suppose a postal savings bank is established and every postoffice is made a depository. Timid folk will remove their deposits from the banks we now have, to the injury, if not the ruin, of thousands of worthy financiers, who do so much to advance the material prosperity of the people.

The record in all countries that have tried the postal bank system is against this contention. The British bankers fought the plan for years, but when the system was adopted it was discovered that, while as many as 50,000 persons appeared in the post-offices to open accounts on a single day, the business of the private banks also increased, instead of being diminished.

One strong argument in favor of the postal savings banks is made by Postmaster General Meyer when he points out that \$3,590,245,402 of the savings accounts of the country are in fourteen states, while only 1.6 per cent of the total savings deposits are held in the remaining thirty-two states and territories. He adds:

In the thirty-two states referred to there are many localities where there are no savings banks, and in some cases no banks of any kind. It is there that considerable money is held in hiding, which is neither absolutely safe nor in circulation for the benefit of the community.

It has been estimated that altogether fully \$500,000,000 not placed in any bank, due to want of opportunity or lack of confidence, might be brought back into circulation through the agency of postal savings banks.

As an evidence of the demand for postal savings banks, we have reports from postmasters that they have been compelled to refuse to accept deposits offered by foreigners for safe keeping, and also that our own people have bought postal money orders during the last year, payable to themselves, to the extent of \$1,044,717.

A postoffice inspector has reported that one family residing near a small post-office in Washington has \$11,000 on deposit in the postal banks of British Columbia.

About the only other serious objection offered is that found in the democratic national platform which "condemns the policy of the republican party in proposing a plan (postal savings banks) by which they will aggregate the deposits of rural communities and re-deposit the same while under government charge with the banks of Wall street."

The pending bill provides that the deposits received at the postoffice be deposited in national banks, "at the nearest practicable point," or invested in state, territorial or municipal bonds.

The republican party is pledged to give the country a postal savings banks system. Mr. Taft is committed to it, the representatives in congress are obligated to it and it is a step in the direction of national progress that the people demand shall be taken.

HOW FAR IS IT AFFAIRS.

In the public statement which he gave out shortly after election Mr. Bryan declared that he would expect his democratic legislature in Nebraska to enact into law all the pledges in the democratic platform that could be made applicable to state conditions.

He has not, however, as yet specified which of the platform pledges proclaimed at Denver are applicable for state legislation.

It goes without saying that Mr. Bryan considers his bank deposit guaranty scheme just as feasible for a single state as for the nation, and that he also regards the state as equally competent within its borders to make the physical valuation of railroad property, which he demanded for the whole country.

How much further he would have his democratic legislature go in his home state is a subject for speculation.

Would he have the legislature change the state law governing judicial procedure so as to make trial by jury necessary in all cases for contentment not committed within the presence of the court?

Would he abolish the power of the state courts to issue restraining orders for any purpose whatsoever without first giving notice to all parties concerned and granting a hearing on the issues?

Would he put into effect in Nebraska his proposal to license corporations controlling more than 25 per cent of the product consumed in this state and bar them out if the amount controlled should exceed 50 per cent of the product?

Would he make compulsory by law a limitation on the size of any campaign contribution and compel publication of receipts and expenditures before election?

Would he impose an income tax as a means of raising state revenue?

These are only a few of the questions that may be formulated with the Denver platform as its groundwork if that pronouncement is to be binding upon Nebraska's impending legislature.

BOTH BRIBERS AND BRIBED.

The cheering feature of the exposure of the graft scandal at Pittsburg, as a result of which a dozen members of the city council have been arrested, is the fact that bribe takers as well as the bribe givers have been caught.

In too many cases the corrupt official is hounded from office or sent to prison while the cause of his misconduct escapes punishment, but in the Pittsburg case the officials of a bank which has admitted to having paid \$17,500 to be selected as the depository of the city funds, have been caught along with the bribed councilmen.

An interesting sidelight is thrown on the deal by the fact that the bankers in question are financiers of the corporation that own the bridges between Pittsburg and Allegheny, recently consolidated, and have been successful in defeating all plans to have the city purchase the bridges and make them free highways.

Under the circumstances it appears that there was more in the bribery than the honor and profit of being made custodian of the city's funds. The taxpayers and citizens of Pittsburg have become aroused to the situation and propose to punish the municipal corruptors equally with those who fell before their temptations.

This is a blow at the real root of the bribery evil. There would be no bribe takers if there were no bribe givers.

NEW DEAL IN VENEZUELA.

All of the civilized powers will welcome the change that has been wrought in Venezuela in the complete overthrow of the Castro government.

Vice President Gomez, who has been officially and formally recognized as Castro's successor, has developed ability beyond all expectations and is apparently making an honest and intelligent effort to right many of the wrongs done by Castro in his nine years' domination of the country.

Gomez has already settled a long standing boundary dispute with Colombia, has restored the freedom of the press, abolished certain monopolies oppressive to the people and used by Castro to amass a gigantic fortune.

And he is showing a disposition to make Venezuela the real power in the Caribbean that it is entitled to be by reason of its resources.

Nearly every nation that has traded beyond its borders has had trouble with Castro in the last nine years and each will be disposed to concede much and forget more if Gomez carries out the program he has inaugurated.

In the meantime, Castro is sending cables from Berlin ordering an attack on the Dutch fleet and promising to straighten out all difficulties. It is recognized, however, that his sun has set and that he has been eliminated as a power for evil in the Andes.

TARIFF AND TEMPERATURE.

The Washington climate is the one thing against which the standpatters cannot prevail. The senate and house may get deadlocked over a measure and threaten to remain in session all summer, before either will yield a mooted point, but when the mercury mounts to the neighborhood of the century mark old General Humidity takes active command and the asphalt pavements of the capital city become quagmires from heat, the call of the mountains and lakes is irresistible and the clerks and servants get busy in packing the trunks and suitcases.

The record shows that one congress remained in session until the middle of August, wrangling over a tariff bill, which the country repudiated at the next election, but all other precedents argue in favor of about July 1 as get-away day for the summer session.

Some of the veteran members of congress are already urging Mr. Taft to call the special tariff session immediately after his inauguration. In order that the revision bill may be gotten out of the way before Washington surrenders to the heat. It is figured that if congress takes an early start, say by the middle of March, the tariff bill should become a law by July 1. Therein lies the opportunity and safety of the revisionists. If they will forget the temperature and stand out valiantly for their claims the standpatters will have to weaken by July 1.

The bank deposit guaranty law is expected to be the prime piece of workmanship turned out of the coming Nebraska legislature. Why there should be any need to go into the subject anew after the Oklahoma law was held up by all the democratic candidates and orators as the plank of perfection ready made for grafting on the statute book of every state is inexplicable. All that should be needed would seem to be to procure a certified copy of the Oklahoma deposit guaranty law properly attested over the autograph of Governor Haskell and the great seal of state and let it slide through by its own momentum.

The designation by Secretary Cortelyou of the bonds that will be acceptable as securities for deposits of public funds includes certain classes of state and municipal bonds, which ought to strengthen the market for such bond issues at least a shade. Nebraska has no state bonds outstanding, but Omaha is on the bond market occasionally and may get some benefit.

The World-Herald is still toying with its pet scheme "to defeat the lobby" at Lincoln this winter by taking the appointment of the house committees out of the hands of the speaker and having the house copy-

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot.

Tonight will witness one of those rare social events which illumine the history of the White House, the coming-out ball of a daughter of the president.

Of course not. The railroads helped elect the democratic legislature in Nebraska and they are to have their pay in the form of legislative immunity without depending on the usual railroad lobby.

Incidentally the ruling that the supreme court judges draw their increased pay under the new constitutional amendment from December 1 will carry with it increased pay from the same date for all the district judges. It is a safe guess that no court will reverse that decision.

The jury has disagreed in the case against Beach Hargis, the Kentucky feudist, charged with the murder of his father. The testimony shows that the elder Hargis taught his boy to shoot about the time he learned to talk.

A Montana court has held that the professor and not the editor is the responsible person to make answer to parties with grievances. We have always felt confident that the professor would get his some day.

It is reported that J. Pierpont Morgan paid \$12,000 for a Caxton at a recent sale in London. That will seem a big price to folks who do not know whether a Caxton is a blooded horse, a painting or an automobile.

Because he is out of the receivership of the Chicago Great Western does not mean that A. B. Stickney is out of the railroad business.

The management of the next heavyweight championship pugilistic bout ought to be more considerate and locate the event at some place where the cables are beyond interference by storms.

The Interstate Commerce commission is convinced that the "accessorial allowance," which figures in the reports of many railroads, is simply the rebate traveling under a disguise.

Some of those Pittsburg politicians who have been anxious to enter the race to succeed Senator Knox will probably wait now until the grand jury makes its final report.

And now we are assured that politics will be cut out of the business of the coming session of Nebraska's democratic legislature altogether. We have heard that before.

The Highball Whoop.

Washington Post. The New England association of Brooklyn cut out the customary toast to the president and drank to "The Sovereign People." Now, will the president be good?

Smiles of Expectancy. Chicago Record-Herald. Taft said at a recent dinner: "I am glad you all praise me before I have taken office." He knows full well that no man who ever lived was able in office to please everybody.

Confidence in Figures. Indianapolis News. A \$50,000,000 smelting trust has been incorporated in New Jersey, and a \$60,000,000 telephone bond issue has been filed in Chicago. Thus it will be seen that confidence has arrived at a state of restoration where it catches them coming and going.

Misleading Commentators. Brooklyn Eagle. Those writers who think that the next secretary of state, Mr. Knox, will dictate or select the other cabinet officers manifestly never saw or never read the formation of other cabinets. President Taft selects their cabinets. One member of a cabinet does not select the other cabinet officers. All cabinet officers are equal and none is "premier," except in the sense of being selected first. Hamilton Fish was secretary of state under Grant. Instead of being the first man selected he was the last.

The Reasonable Middle Ground. Boston Herald. Those engaged in great enterprises of organized capital see nothing but benefit and good in corporations. Those who see the big profits in such enterprises, but get none of them, but evill. Each views the situation from his own standpoint of individual interest, and the mixture of evil and good stands, from these one-sided views, the less chance of reducing the minimum of the one and reaching the maximum of the other. The fair-to-all view is the only working standpoint for practical reform.

Public Dishonesty Will Out. Kansas City Star. No doubt there are bribe takers and bribe-givers among great and small legislators, that never have been caught, and some of them will be exposed and punished; but the lesson of events is that the betrayal of a public trust for money is a mighty dangerous piece of business. Sooner or later there is sure to be a "leak" in nearly every graft combination, and while it is difficult to punish some of these evildoers even after the evidence has been established, the penalties of exposure and scandal are heavy in themselves. Just now Mr. Nemesis is doing business in Pittsburg.

Zealous Defender of Pure Food. Indianapolis News. Some of the sugar refiners have made complaint against H. W. Wiley, chief chemist in the United States Department of Agriculture, charging him with "pernicious activity" in enforcing the law (7) and asking for his removal from office. We do not think the country will have much patience with the people who are attacking the pure food laws and the government agents who are trying to enforce them. The general impression is that Prof. Wiley has served the people well in his office and that his zeal is all in behalf of good food laws and a rigid enforcement of them in behalf of the consumer.

OUR "REEKING" COUNTRY.

Outburst of Falpit Sensationalism Fittingly Rebuked. New York Sun.

The Rev. Charles F. Aked, minister of the Fifth Avenue Baptist church, does not seem to be very well satisfied with the country to which he is imported from Great Britain to preach the gospel. Speaking to the members of the New England society in this city he admonished his hearers thus:

"You cannot be great while your country reels with social injustice and political wrong; when capital and labor are ready almost to settle their differences in the smoke of battle; when all over the land women in sweatshops are singing the song of the shirt; when the cry of children is heard in factories all over the land. Worst of all is the materialism we see on every hand debasing its people."

Are things really as bad as this? Does our country "reek" with social injustice and political wrong? Are capital and labor ready to get into a revolutionary struggle? Is the case of the women in sweatshops and the children in factories so hopeless of amelioration as the reverend speaker intimates? And is the spirit of materialism debasing the people?

We rather think not. Dr. Aked's language is the utterance of gross exaggeration. There is no product in the world there is less social injustice than there is in the United States of America. It is preposterous to assert that a country reeks with political wrong in which a man of such character as William H. Taft has just been chosen president; and how about a state which has just elected Charles E. Hughes for the second time to its governor? Notwithstanding the antagonisms aroused by some of the utterances of Mr. Roosevelt, there are hopeful signs of a better understanding between capital and labor. Thousands of devoted men and women are toiling to get the cause and money to improve the condition of the workers in sweatshops and factories. As for materialism, if that is making progress, which we gravely doubt, who is responsible therefore more than the church?

That there are evils of the character intimated by Dr. Aked cannot be questioned; but that they are produced in the United States, we emphatically deny. The country does not "reek" with these evils at all; but the pulp reeks with nonsense when it is made the agency of such attacks upon its fair fame.

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MUNICIPAL EXPERIENCES.

Carelessness of Voters Responsible for Public Betrayals. St. Louis Republic.

No one can read of the efforts to punish bribery and purify the municipal government in Pittsburg without asking himself how long will be before American cities learn to govern themselves. Experience may be a good teacher, but the cities learn slowly and one revolution of public sentiment under disclosures of graft and perjury is followed by a lapse of feeling which opens the door for new opportunities, new threats and another spasmodic revolution.

The astonishing thing is that from the experiences of New York, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Pittsburg, San Francisco and Minneapolis there has apparently come little knowledge. The people go on electing the vicious and the vicious go on with the pillaging. Galveston and Des Moines seem to be the only cities that have closed the door to opportunities and secured that stability of conscience which is insurance of a peaceful, virtuous and honest future. Fort Worth, Dallas and other Texas cities have followed the lead of Galveston, but that city seems to be the only one that has arrived at a correct solution of the problems.

The solution is aided by the adoption of the form of government by commission, perhaps, but the point of supreme importance is the awakening of the civic conscience, the stirring of the spirit of patriotism and the deliberate and unanimous determination that the affairs of the municipality shall be conducted without the interference of politics or politicians, but solely for the benefit of the people. So long as the reckless ambitions of selfseekers are allowed to obstruct themselves and the people deliberately choose for their representatives men interested to serve themselves, their interests and their friends, so long will we have recurrent outbreaks of bribery and graft. The form of the government is important, but the disposition of the people is clearly greater importance. It is a ridiculous truism that the people of every municipality have exactly the kind of government they want.

Derelicts of Civilization.

Chicago Inter Ocean. Years ago Walker Bagnot wrote that there were thousands of men living who were not a whit more civilized than the average man was 2,000 years ago. This same idea irresistibly occurs to one who reads how the Redfoot Lake night riders whipped woman after woman during their career of murder and terrorism. It would probably surprise the Redfoot men to hear that they were uncivilized. But the truth is that they are immeasurably below the ethical standard of thousands of the barbarians who were living when Christ came and Caesar Augustus reigned. Our Christian civilization still draws in its legging train numerous types belonging to the world's unhappy youth.

Undercurrent of Sobriety.

Brooklyn Eagle. Mr. Rockefeller says that travel broadens a man. The editor of the Pittsburg Gazette says, on the contrary. It makes him short. So much for the calling in of railway passes.

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PERSONAL NOTES.

Eminent citizens not mentioned for a cabinet position need not feel slighted. Their time will come.

Footprints supposed to be at least 50,000 years old have been discovered at Toronto, but the people who made them seem to have moved away.

Orville Wright, who has fully recovered from his injuries sustained as a result of the fall of his aeroplane at Fort Myer, will sail for Paris in about ten days.

General Botha has presented to the Transvaal museum the Boer flag which waved above the government buildings at Pretoria until the capital was occupied by Lord Roberts.

Mrs. Wadhwa, the oldest of Delawareans, has just died near Muskogee, Okla. at the age of 90 years. She went to the Indian territory from Lawrence, Kan., in 1868 and was in full possession of her mental faculties at the time of her death.

Chang Chung, since the assassination of "Little Pete," the unofficial mayor of San Francisco's Chinatown, died recently from pneumonia. He was one of the wealthiest orientals on the Pacific coast, and was head of the Sun Yip Tong.

John Hayes, the white king of Kakkyuk, will pilot President Roosevelt in his great hunting trip through British East Africa. Hayes has lived in British East Africa for ten years, after having been shipwrecked. He was made king of a large tribe, and his authority is recognized by the British government. He is a Yorkshireman by birth.

Leslie's Weekly, the dean of American pictorials, cheerfully owns up to fifty-three years. But it does not look its years; it reflects them in seasoned thought and ripe experience. Under the aggressive, buoyant management of J. A. Slesher, the weekly is renewing its youth and keeping abreast of the liveliest members of the illustrated procession. Within the present year Leslie's has grown from \$8,000 to \$136,000, indicating a pace swift enough to tryout the endurance of any competitor.

BREEZY TRIPLES. "But why?" asked Mrs. Minims. "Don't you want her invited to join? It seems to me that she would be a big help to the club."

"Oh, she would be agreeable enough, I suppose, but she isn't eligible. She has never been invited on for anything," said Chicago Record-Herald.

Nan-Lil Gardlinger says her steady is the tallest young man in the city. "Fan-She says so, does she? Well, Lil' always was good at drawing the long bean," Chicago Tribune.

"Have you decided on your New Year resolutions?" asked Mr. Bliguns. "I'm going to give up all my expensive habits."

"Until I get my holiday bills paid and can afford them again," Washington Star.

Hicks-So, Mr. Gayboy is going to spend a fortnight at Old Orchard while his wife is gone. "Wicks-Yes; what of it?"

Hicks-On, nothing—only she ought to tie a string around his finger to remind him that he is married.—8 mervillie Journal.

Mrs. Seldom-Holms—You love bought a box of cigars as a Christmas present for your husband? How do you know they are good?"

Mrs. Jenner Lee—Once I smoked one of them.—Chicago Tribune.

First Barn Storner—I say, friend Hamilton Dittie—Yes, friend Shilcock? First Barn Storner—Wouldn't it be great if we could only eat all the roasts we get?—Baltimore American.

"Suppose," blazed the villain, "suppose our plot should leak out?" "That's all right," said his accomplice, consolingly. "I can't see what harm our telling me five minutes ago that it had thickened."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

"So he wasn't willing to head the ticks?" "Oh, yes, he was willing to head the ticks, but he wasn't willing to fork the ticks."—Pittsburg Post.

"Deniss," inquired Mr. Hogan, glancing up over the door of the postoffice at 1114 G. "What is the meanin' of tim letters M-C-C-X-C-VIII?" "They mean eighteen hundred and ninety-eight."—Chicago Tribune.

"Deniss, don't it strike you that they're carryin' this spellin' reform entirely too far?"—Everybody's Magazine.

CONFLICTING EVIDENCE. Indianapolis News. Adam was a lawyer and Eve had to do the hustling to keep little Cain and Abel clothed and fed. Mrs. Catherine Waugh McCulloch of Evansport. We hate to think of Adam so. That he did not. Do all the things he should, you know. To tell the rest.

There's always doubt about events so long of yore. And there's conflicting evidence upon that score.

If Adam, in those days long gone, worked at no trade, what job did he do? Why, what then led old John Bull on? This one to ask:

"When Adam dived, and Eve span, Where was then the gentleman?" Alf Tennyson thought Adam bore Work's incubus. Or he'd have not drawn on his lore Poetic, thus:

"The gardener Adam and his wife Smile at the claims of tong descent." Nor would have Mr. Milton decried A doubtful chance Of being by the critics frisked For this romance!

"Adam the godliest of men since born Has in his soul the faintest of her daughter's Eve." The lady in this may be right, The poet wrong—Facis hoodie not the poet's flight. Nor dog his song.

Man's industry in former days Worked at no trade, what job did he do? What ever may have been his way? He hustles now.