

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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Net total, 1,074,112. Daily average, 49,770. GEORGE B. TOSCHUCA, Notary Public.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Addresses will be changed as often as requested.

Mr. Hearst will have to get a new megaphone. The colonel, we trust, was not taken in by any of the old masters.

Has the census man got you? If not, come in before it is too late.

Give Mayor Seidel credit at least for refusing to get down on the Chautauqua platform.

Colonel Roosevelt passed up the sultan, perhaps because he could not talk Turkey to him.

The muskrat should not be confounded with the muskrake, out of justice to the former.

A few good rains at the right time will help make everyone forget the damage done by the frost.

Colonel Roosevelt long ago gained the applause of the masses and now the kings are cheering him.

Secretary Ballinger has admitted that he thinks Mr. Glavis is a snake, which only adds a slimy aspect to this controversy.

St. Joseph is the latest city to be involved in a street car strike. St. Joseph has Omaha's sympathy borne of experience.

Now a Harvard professor insists that the kiss does spread microbes. Let it go at that—who is afraid of a little microbe?

The Anti-Saloon league spokesmen demand county option or nothing. The only option they would grant is the option to go dry.

A second bribe-taker in connection with the Illinois legislative scandal is said to have confessed. Step right up, gentlemen, and avoid the rush.

What are we coming to? Here is the colonel sipping tea for two hours and then sitting for the sculptor. Shades of the Big Stick, what next?

With gas, electric light, water and telephone all in the courts at once, Omaha is playing no favorites in litigation over its public service utilities.

It should be remembered that the initiative and referendum has had its initiation as a platform plank in the platform promulgated by the populists in Omaha in 1892.

It is gratifying to know that Copenhagen is forming its impressions of Americans from the last distinguished guest it has entertained rather than from a former sad experience.

If there is really nothing to all this talk of bribery in the Illinois legislature those two fellows who confessed to receiving bribes certainly must be anxious for a little free publicity.

When talking about loyalty to platform pledges do not overlook the vote on postal savings in the senate, in which every democratic senator but one repudiated the Denver platform.

Congressman McKinley of California interprets the insurgents' attitude toward the tariff as a vindication of James G. Blaine's prophecy that the time would come when the south would turn to protection and the west to free trade. But we scarcely should charge that up to the insurgents, for every one of them insists on acceptance of the protective principle.

Death of King Edward.

The death of Edward VII will not only throw England and the British empire into mourning, but will cast a gloom over the whole civilized world. While Edward has, perhaps, no great personal achievements distinguishing his short reign, yet he evinced a remarkable appreciation of the responsibilities of the high position to which he was called and demeaned himself with credit to the royal family and to his country.

His loss at this particular time while Great Britain is in the throes of a political crisis is doubly unfortunate and may be fraught with more serious consequences than appear on the surface.

Throughout the entire ruction in Parliament the king had displayed masterful command of the situation, exercising a marked degree of diplomacy in dealing with the various factions. He had shown qualities of tact and statesmanship that must give him a new place in the eyes of the world.

His influence would unquestionably have been invaluable in straightening out the tangle between lords and commons that still threatens the peace and stability of the empire. King Edward had a most difficult role to play coming into the throne after the reign of his illustrious mother, unbroken for nearly sixty-five years. The universal feeling that he more than met expectations will be attested by the sincerity of the tributes to his memory.

Booting Passenger Rates.

Railroads between the Atlantic coast and the Mississippi river are planning for a raise in passenger, as well as freight rates, on the ground that increase in the cost of operation and the necessity of enlarging facilities to meet the rapid expansion of traffic compels them to provide new revenues. But the railroads have not yet made any showing that would justify raising passenger rates, to say nothing of freight. When the states undertook to lower fares the railroads demanded judicial investigation and carried on extensive inquiries before legislatures, but now they seek to advance these rates on their own expert exhibit.

As to freight rates the announced intention is to confine the larger advances to articles carried as first class and make only minor changes in lower grade commodities. Bituminous coal, for instance, and pig iron will not be affected; they both yield a profit, the railroads admit, under the present schedules and so far as that is concerned, the railroads have been apprehensive lest they be forced to lower their rates on coal. Dressed beef will be one of the first articles affected, as it has in some cases already been. It is regarded as expensive traffic. The railroads offer in this connection the contradictory argument that advances in rates should not make for higher prices, in the same breath contending that they are forced to raise their rates because of the high cost of living which has led to a general advance in the level of wages. Their plea now is that this advance in freight rates will be so widely distributed as to be insignificant with respect to any one article, but the consumer always has paid the freight and probably always will.

Need for the Scott Bill.

The Alabama mine horror in which more than 100 lives are reported lost has had the effect of quickening action in congress for the passage of the measure creating a bureau of mines in the Department of the Interior. The appalling frequency of these mine disasters has convinced the government that it can no longer entrust to private enterprise the sacred duty of safeguarding human life employed in the mines. Those private agencies have shown a woeful lack of efficiency in this direction and thousands of lives have paid the toll of mismanagement or lack of management. The bill in congress is constructed on comprehensive lines which it is believed will give a large measure of relief and protection to the miners. Criminal negligence undoubtedly has played a much larger part in these mine accidents than coroners' juries have disclosed or mine owners have admitted and this bill contemplates a reduction of the possibility of this sort of reckless indifference to human safety. Of the bill's enactment into law there seems now to be no doubt. It has only to go through the last process of a conference and to receive the president's signature and will, in its undoubted, encounter no obstacle in that course.

Back to Poots and Herbs.

Guarding against the "thrall of proprietary remedies," medical schools of this country are manifesting a disposition to turn back to the roots and herbs as healing agents which the doctor of the saddle-bag days used. Admitting lack of prescription work in the colleges, but not quite ready to acknowledge that medical students today learn less about materia medica than the students of former days. The New York Medical Journal declares: "We are hopeful that we shall return once more to the use of the medicinal plants and drugs for the utility of which the experience of thousands of years vouches. This sentiment has been expressed recently by an eminent teacher of pharmacology, who, in a prophetic message, says a time when medicine, 'having thoroughly ruined its digestion with synthetic remedies and tested all the organs of the animal body,' will return once more to vegetable drugs and employ them to a greater extent than it does at present. The tendency of the times is in this direction; more and more attention is being paid in the schools to the investigation of plant constituents, and it is not unlikely that the teachers of medicine may yet be led back to the use of vegetable drugs and away from the synthetics, which are now enjoying so great a vogue.

The Journal asserts, however, that substantial progress has been made in the medical colleges in the last decade, adding that "instructors have awakened to the necessity of relieving their future graduates from the thrall of the proprietary medicine manufacturer."

The layman, who as a possible patient, must be conceded the right of a personal interest in this discussion, will be glad to learn of a determination on the part of the medical colleges to get down to a more thorough system of teaching applied therapeutics and materia medica and while he may not know much about the efficacy of herbs and roots in this connection, the ordinary individual will be inclined to look with favor on a back-to-nature cry although he may have less sympathy with the desire of the prescription artists to run the proprietary medicines off the druggists' shelf.

For some years there has been a growing belief that some medical schools turned their graduates out into the world with too little knowledge of the properties of drugs, physical, chemical and therapeutical and this theory is given attention by The New York Medical Journal. It is well, therefore, that those responsible for the increasing army of physicians each year devote themselves to the importance of more thorough preparation. The man or woman who gives his life to the treatment of human ailment cannot be too thoroughly prepared or too well posted on the medicines he administers.

Municipal Ownership.

The people of Omaha have suddenly thrust upon them a condition that warrants careful and sober consideration. With the acquisition by the city of the water plant and the suggested undertaking to acquire an electric light plant for city purposes, with newer determination of the city's rights in its dealings with other public utility corporations, the question of municipal ownership or control takes on a much bigger and more vital aspect.

It is especially important at this juncture that the subject be dealt with sanely, and that the public be not carried away on a wave of hysteria engendered by wild assertions of irresponsible individuals who promise much, but perform little. The serious and costly blunder made in the proceedings to purchase the water plant for the public should stand as a permanent warning against precipitate haste in another direction. If Omaha is to go further along the road to public ownership of what are generally classed as "public utilities," each step should be carefully considered, and the public should be given the fullest opportunity to weigh all matters free from prejudice purposely aroused by selfish demagogues.

The decision of the supreme court in the gas case does not touch directly on the question of municipal ownership, but has an indirect bearing on that point. It is the re-statement in stronger and clearer terms of the power of the city over the corporations that serve its citizens. The position in which the lighting company finds itself is one that gives the public great advantages and proves the wisdom that was exercised on behalf of the people in the stipulations inserted in the gas franchise contract when it was last negotiated.

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So Funny.

The funniest thing of the season is the brave effort that is being made in Lincoln to stay wet after voting dry. With the courts called on to decide as between convivial clubs and central distributing stations the prospect of suburban life-saving stations is renewed, although in the form of retaliation. Here is an item out of a Lincoln paper: Chairman Myers of the village board of West Lincoln said last night that if Lincoln liquor house or a dispensary whereby liquor can be secured that West Lincoln will consider the establishment of saloons. "If Lincoln keeps on sending drunken citizens out this way," said Mr. Myers, "we will be forced to retaliate. West Lincoln is an incorporated village and if the board of trustees decides to grant a license that license will be good. If Lincoln pretends to be dry we want to see it really dry—no half-way measure about it."

Our Birthday Book.

May 7, 1910. "Uncle Joe" Cannon was born May 7, 1856, at Guilford, N. C. Uncle Joe has produced more commotion in the house during the last year than any of his predecessors in the speaker's chair for many a day. He represents the Danville (Ill.) district and smokes long black cigars during his waking hours. F. D. Coburn, who embodies in himself the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, is 44 years old today. He was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, and thinks and dreams agriculture statistics. He is known as Coburn of Kansas by every one who knows anything about modern scientific agriculture. William J. Stone, United States senator from Missouri, is celebrating his sixty-second birthday. He is a native of Kentucky and was governor of Missouri and carries the pet name of "Gumbo Bill." Tudor Jenks, author and magazine writer, was born May 7, 1867, in Brooklyn. He used to be on the editorial staff of the St. Nicholas Magazine.

In Other Lands.

Side lights on what is transpiring among the Near and Far Nations of the Earth. For several years past Australians have been prodded with the insinuating charge that the Asiatics would eventually overrun the empire of the South Pacific. The development of Japan and the awakening of China furnished workable material for race agitators and supplied an excuse for exclusion laws directed against Orientals. How deep and widespread is this fear was made apparent in the impressive welcome accorded the crews of the American battle fleet two years ago. In public and private greetings Australians expressed the hope that in the anticipated conflict of the races they would have a staunch friend in the American republic. With equal bitterness the allies of "the mother country" with Japan was criticized. In these circumstances it is not surprising that General Lord Kitchener found the colonies eagerly receptive for alarmist military plans. His preliminary report on the military needs of Australia calls for a standing army of 20,000 men. Last year the number could be relied upon to prevent invasion, safeguard the opulent coast cities and perpetuate the supremacy of the Anglo-Saxons. An adequate navy will supplement the land forces. Should the Asiatics fail to justify the fears of the Australians it is confidently believed the warlike tendencies will make a glorious record in the colonial appropriation sheets.

Suspicious Enthusiasm.

Kansas City Times. Western republicans may set this down as certain: If the so-called administration railroad bill was the right kind of a bill, the enthusiasm of Aldrich and Steve Elkins would be lacking.

Sure Thing!

Indianapolis News. The coincidence of a killing frost in Nebraska and the refusal of the county commissioners to let Mr. Bryan speak in the court house must, of course, be regarded merely as a coincidence.

Precedent as a Pointer.

Brooklyn Eagle. The supreme court decided that life insurance is not interstate commerce. The proposition that a telephone wire is a common carrier sounds, before that court, the chance of a snowball in eschatology.

A Seemly Thought.

Washington Herald. We do not know what the colonel thought when he stood silent before the tomb of Napoleon, but he must have had some satisfaction in the fact that he may have been speculating on how much more satisfactory it is to be a live one than a dead one.

Commercialism and Patriotism.

Kansas City Times. Speaking for the directors of the Commercial club, who are desirous to drop the demand for a sane Fourth of July, the secretary of the club says: "Hundreds of merchants have bought their Fourth of July stock, and we do not want to confiscate any man's goods."

But They Want the Money.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. At this moment, when most of the transcontinental railroads are giving notice to the Interstate Commerce commission that they will advance freight rates on June 1, it may be of some interest to state that the rates from the roads continue to show much the same sort of behavior as in past years. Possibly the commission will call the roads' attention to this little point.

A Party Born of Progress.

New York Times (Ind.). Men as old as Mr. Cannon ought to have remembered that the republican party was originally made up of bolters from the opposite side, who were progressive enough to see that slavery was doomed, and independent enough to resist a party tyranny which would have meant the end of the republic. When they ignore this significant fact in the history of their party, they ought to recall the equally significant fact that their party has largely used its successes for the last fourteen years to demagogues who were progressive enough to see that slavery was doomed, and independent enough to resist a party tyranny which would have meant the end of the republic.

Beneficial Decision for the Working Women of Illinois.

Chicago Record-Herald. The decision of the Illinois supreme court which upholds the ten-hour law for working women is in keeping with the principles that have been enunciated by the courts of other states and by the supreme court of the United States. An Illinois decision that was relied on to defeat the law failed to impress the higher court as it had the court below. And the doctrine set forth is fully sustained by the facts of human life and by social and industrial as well as legal developments. While the world moves judges should stand still, and should they be blind to what is going on about them, even though justice may wear a bandage over its eyes. So our judges take cognizance of working conditions and of the differences in the effect of those conditions upon men and women, declare that what they themselves know as men they cannot profess to be ignorant of as judges and lead up to this conclusion: "It would, therefore, seem obvious that legislation which limits the number of hours which women shall be permitted to work to ten hours in a single day in such employments as are carried on in mechanical establishments, factories and laundries would tend to preserve the health of women and insure the production of vigorous offspring by them, and would directly conduce to the health, morals and general welfare of the public, and that such legislation would fall clearly within the police power of the state."

Presidents for Courty Whiskers.

New York Globe. Investigation of the precedents in a long line of distinguished cases shows Justice Hughes can wear his whiskers on the bench and wear 'em any way he pleases. The records show that Chief Justice Waite had a beard of the granger variety. Justice Lamar had one of the southern colonel type. Judge Samuel Blatchford wore a "sluggers." Justice Shiras wore "mutton chops," and Judge Horace Gray had "burnsides."

Trouble Chasing Trusts.

Baltimore American. Now Missouri is going to try to evict the trust packers. Even the trusts are feeling the baleful influence of the comet. They are hardly out of one difficulty when they find themselves in another, and they dodge troubles in one state, only to find another chasing them.

POLITICAL DRIFT.

The Ohio legislature passed an act making mandatory the direct nomination of candidates for congress. Rhode Island and New York have negative the federal income tax amendment. Score to date—7 for, 3 against. "The short and ugly word" is utterly unable to convey the surging feelings of Senator Lorimer to his political enemies. One of the startling projects of the socialist government of Milwaukee is a "no seat no fare" law for the benefit of street car patrons. Seats make for sociability, and that helps some. By cutting out champagne cocktails and porterhouse steaks, and restricting their appetites to boiled dinners from jockpots, one member of the last Illinois legislature saved enough money to pay off a mortgage. Another bought a house and four more started bank accounts. A rare record of economy for legislators. There is much talk in Chicago of organizing a commission of experts to determine just what a "jacket" is. Local newspapers are flooded with anxious calls for enlightenment. Many suppose the "jacket" is a rare animal brought from South Africa by Colonel McCutcheon and consigned to the Lincoln park zoo. This supposition lacks confirmation. Those who examined the specimen exhibited in the bathroom of a St. Louis hotel intimate that that jacket was a bird.

LOOKING ON THE SUNNY SIDE.

Capacity for Recovery from Cold Wave Damage. Wall Street Journal. Such a climate disturbance as that which covered the upper portion of the Mississippi drainage basin on Saturday and Sunday will travel farther south and east, is the natural reaction of premature rise in temperature which had occurred during the earlier portion of April, resulting in a much earlier planting and seeding of crops than has usually been the case. One extreme has followed another with the result of inflicting enormous damages on vegetation which was unseasonably early in its development. Yet there are certain mitigating circumstances which should be taken into account before the business judgment of the country finally coils into net values the results of such a catastrophe. It should be remembered, to begin with, that orchards and vegetables have had a much better start than usual and consequently a much greater opportunity to attain that degree of hardness which resists relapses into cold weather even to freezing temperatures. On this account, there may be much less damage than was at first estimated. Furthermore, the fruit trees in many of the orchard districts could undergo the loss of half of their bearings without prejudicing the quantity of the ultimate yield. For most other crops, any fatal damage may be partly recouped by replanting under highly favorable conditions of the soil. Winter wheat and rye are too old to be hurt, and spring wheat and oats are too young to be injured beyond recovery or reseeding. With a gradual return of reasonable weather, it will be found that, in spite of the inevitable damage extending to millions of dollars, the capacity for recovery will soon assert itself, and the marks of the storm within thirty days or more be very largely obliterated.

STEEL PASSENGER COACHES.

Harriman Lines Outranks Rivals in Modern Equipment. Philadelphia Bulletin. Upon the delivery of 42 all-steel passenger cars just ordered from the Pullman company, the Harriman lines will have more steel equipment than any other railroad system in the United States. The claim is made that fully one-third of the entire system will then be of the all-steel type. Distinctive pre-eminence in the use of all-steel cars has hitherto been enjoyed by the Pennsylvania system which, with certain orders, soon will have 90 passenger coaches of that type. But, including the present order, the Harriman lines by the end of the year will have 225 such cars in service. Furthermore, it is believed that within five years every passenger train on the Harriman system will be of steel construction. The marked advantages of all-steel passenger cars is their ability to withstand fire and their indestructibility in wrecks. Frequent collisions have occurred in which the metal coach and its burden of human freight have escaped unscathed, while the old-fashioned wooden car has been splintered and twisted into a mass fit only for the junkshop. No class of men are quicker to realize the possibilities of economy in operation than railroad managers usually are, and it is to the credit of the directors of the Pennsylvania and Harriman lines that they have recognized the value of the steel coach ahead of their rivals. It is a good deal cheaper to lessen serious wreckage by investing in preventive agents than to be called upon to pay death claims as a result of either parsimony or a too cautious conservatism in dealing with a new improvement.

"Very Near the Limit."

Philadelphia Bulletin. It may be "good business" to advertise the expected presence of the president of the United States at base ball games, on bill boards with letters a foot high, as was done in Pittsburgh last week, but it certainly is in pretty bad taste. As Mr. Taft has remarked it is "very near the limit," and the practice will only result in compelling the president to stay away from the games, a thing which probably neither Mr. Taft nor the base ball managers want to bring about.

CAKE, hot biscuit, hot breads, pastry, are lessened in cost and increased in quality and wholesomeness, by ROYAL Baking Powder. Bake the food at home and save money and health.

FUNNY WHITTLINGS.

Benevolent Lady (to show girl)—And, dear child, have you no home? Show Girl—Yes, indeed. My father and mother have both married again, and am welcome at either place.—Life. "You never quote poetry in your speeches?" "No," replied Senator Scroggins, "quoting poetry is too often like sending an anonymous letter. A man resorts to it when he wants to say something and shift the responsibility of authorship."—Washington Star. "Honestly, my son," said the millionaire, "is the best policy." "Well, perhaps it is, dad," rejoined the youthful philosopher; "but it strikes me you have done pretty well nevertheless."—Judge. Quick Lunch Waitress—How do you like your eggs, sir? Hardened Patron—In their teens.—Puck. "Why do you refer to Mayor Gynor as a public benefactor?" "Good gracious, don't you remember? He's the man who made after dinner speeches unpopular."—Cleveland Plain Dealer. "I'll run over to your place some day and get you to give me a bite." "Patient—Oh, doctor, be original! My wife's done that already."—Boston Transcript.

JUSTICE HUGHES' WHISKERS.

Philadelphia Ledger. The most important item in the daily grip of news. Relates and appertains to the honor paid to Justice Hughes. He's going to be a Justice and wear a silken gown. Which lends especial virtue to decisions handed down. With scales that measure truly he will weigh the wicked trust. And he'll talk it to repent, repent it really must. The very fate of nations will be settled by his aid. He'll airily cast out aside, and call a spade a spade. But ere the chamber he invades, where lawyers speak with awe, and heedless faces seem to go with knowledge of the law. There's just a single point of doubt remaining to be cleared—Oh, will he seek a barber first and sacrifice his beard? Full many a year those whiskers denas have cluttered 'round his chin. Until the public had to guess what face was hid therein. Why, we should sorely know him were he treated to a shave? 'Tis what we like him as he is, the crisis seems so grave. If he intends to follow styles adopted by the fad crowd. He'll have to get the whiskers, moved, not only soon, but short. Yet Hughes is such an able man, so logical and strong. The other judges may yet learn the place where beards belong. And each one let his razor rust, forgotten on the shelf. Conclude it a better plan to raise a beard himself. There's character in whiskers, ancient sages had a lot; if modern fowls must not be draped, we want to know why not.

A DOZEN PIANOS. Used, Shopworn or Damaged AS GOOD AS NEW ONES. Terms Less Than Rental. PRICES NEVER SO LOW. Oak Cases, Walnut Cases, Mahogany Cases, Large sizes, Carved Cases, Plain Cases. Saturday we offer these at \$75, \$98, \$115, \$128, \$135, \$155. You Pay \$1 Week. You Get Your Choice of Some of the Best Grades Made. NEW PLAYER PIANOS \$375—GUARANTEED. A. HOSPE CO. 1513-15 Douglas Street.