

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE
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DECEMBER CIRCULATION
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There is a town in Missouri named Paradise. But what's in a name?
After Morgan told it all what was there left for Rockefeller to say?

How can they beat us out of direct election of senators now? Tom Taggart has declared for it.

The governor's power to rescue belated bills caught napping over the time limit may yet have to be invoked.

Colonel Roosevelt is going to start on his autobiography for piecemeal publication. The presumption is that it will be too explosive to set off all at once.

Mr. Chaffin, who led the prohibitionists on their last quadrennial duck hunt, is still chafing under the assertion of John G. Woolley that the party has passed its stage of usefulness.

It is announced that ex-Governor Aldrich is to be "grilled" by his assailants when he appears before a legislative committee. Perhaps, but it's a safe guess that the grilling will not be all on one side.

One member of the Water board has gone to California on a five weeks' jaunt, knowing very well that the board's edicts will be registered by its self-constituted boss in his absence just the same as if he were present.

Omaha must not permit its Auditorium, built by the people and for the people, to be gobbled up by private interests. The city should be in position to take it over and maintain it for its original purpose, which is to provide a meeting place for big assemblies, great conventions and popular amusements that ordinary halls are inadequate to accommodate.

Is the Precedent to Be Followed?

Will the new democratic president encourage his party's devotion to the spoils system, or defy it by adhering to the principle that "gracefulness is easy and justice hard," as enunciated in a case in hand as governor of New Jersey? He is urged to make an appointment because it would be a graceful thing to do and the justice he refers to comes in this, that the incumbent has been efficient and faithful, leaving no good reason for his displacement. And the governor adds: Public office is not worth anything if entirely satisfactory fulfillment of the duties of an office does not entitle a man to consideration for reappointment.

It happens that this incumbent is a republican and the applicant is a democrat, which, of course, may not affect the principle, but lends zest to the situation. Governor Wilson continued: If men are to know that a mere change of administration is to empty an office, no matter how they have deserved to be reappointed, there is nothing of justice or public right.

That naturally whets curiosity to see how well President Wilson succeeds in upholding this worthy precedent of Governor Wilson, with a horde of hungry office-seekers clamoring for the spoils of long-deferred victory.

Who Elected the Governor?
"Who killed rock-robin?" is not the question in Nebraska democratic politics, but "Who elected Governor Morehead?"

"I did, with my little typewriter, I elected Governor Morehead," chirps Wilj Maupin. And a flock of other birds echo, "No, no, I elected Governor Morehead."

These discordant claims find expression when the governor passes out the pie and invites the displeasure of the disappointed and displaced.

This, then, is the vortex of that storm that has been brewing about the official head of our new governor ever since he found it impossible to fill every open mouth with the particular morsel demanded.

Quoth Maupin: I know two or three weeks ago I was not to be appointed labor commissioner, because Morehead promised me the job. And you can say for me that I wrote Governor Morehead's platform, his speeches and nearly all his public utterances during the campaign, as I can prove by the carbon copies now in my office.

Surely, that is the most unkindest cut of all. To have the very man who made him governor thus turn in anger upon him seems a little more than even Governor Morehead, with all his disappointments to hungry democrats, should be called on to bear. It excites the pity of pious people, hence we weep.

National Chamber of Commerce.
The organization of the commercial clubs of the country into a National Chamber of Commerce, whose first annual meeting was held in Washington during the last week, promises to become of much real value, not alone in educational and constructive benefits to the cities represented, but also in the working-out of legislation needed for the better conduct of the commercial affairs. This national organization thus becomes a clearing house of information and ideas operating upon a basis of mutual interest between the various cities and localities.

It is quite time that our mercantile interests were realizing more fully the importance of such relations. They are but pursuing a plan of proved results in Europe and, to come nearer home, by our own labor organizations whose high estate grew out of a unification of interests. Labor has little difficulty today getting a hearing whenever it demands it, but what could it have done had it not been organized? No doubt, every element in our land will derive some direct or indirect advantage from the combination of public commercial bodies seeking merely to advance basic business interests in which all are concerned.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

Thirty Years Ago—
A Japanese tea party given by the First Congregational church women in costume and oriental settings was voted a great success. The receipts of the two nights was over \$100.

General Howard is back from the Otes reservation, where he had gone with Captain Slavin, his chief of staff.

Twenty Years Ago—
Victor Rylander, of the land department of the Union Pacific, was in the city from Chicago.

Ten Years Ago—
John N. Baldwin, general counsel for the Union Pacific, sent his reply to the Real Estate exchange, declining its challenge for a debate on the question of railroad terminal taxation, saying he would content himself to defend the railroad's position before the legislature.

People Talked About
To please their women patrons the Los Angeles Street Railway company lowered the steps of street cars.

Direct Election of Senators.
Several states through their legislatures have already ratified the proposed constitutional amendment for direct popular election of senators, and it seems to be generally assumed that since thirty-two states have previously arranged some method of near-popular election the necessary three-fourths will be forthcoming.

Waking Up.
Philadelphia Ledger: Seemingly it has taken the American public, which has been paying high figures for its electric acid, a long time to be convinced that there is no such thing as a free lunch.

Essentials of Prosperity.
New York Sun: The year 1912 holds the record for imports and exports; almost the record for crops.

Two Told Tales
At Adrianople.
The Balkan enemy, looking over the wall "Why you wretched old Turkish fraud! You've been sneaking food into your starving city! Don't you know that's contrary to all the laws of civilized warfare?"

The Clever Child.
A mother who loves to boast of the more or less bright sayings of her little daughter was taught a lesson one day.

Twice Told Tales

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Oddities of Life
The choir of the First Baptist church of Trenton, N. J., struck for livelier music than the solemn anthem provides and won. Ah, men!

Army Gossip
Medicine Corps Changes.
Arrangements are being made for the return to the United States of additional army surgeons whose tour of duty in the Philippines will shortly expire.

Editorial Siftings
Chicago News: However, if the Rockefeller Foundation idea becomes a fact there will be \$100,000,000 that will never go for steam yachts, libraries, old masters and like forms of festivity.

People Talked About
Bernard Shapiro, a women's tailor of Orange, N. J., thinks he has solved the riddle of the centuries by means of a "Claims he can make a seamless coat or skirt. A fortune goes with the latter also a dream.

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The Bees Letter Box

Plan for the Maiden Aunt.
OMAHA, Jan. 23.—To the Editor of The Bee: I read with interest Dr. Dexter's communication and it is gratifying to know there are those who realize there are other women who live and who are not mothers. If mothers should be positioned, then why not pension them out of their husbands' estate, as the present law only gives a widow one-third of the estate, if "she is the mother of all his children," or a fourth if she is the mother of part of his children. It seems to me she might be allowed a certain sum extra for every child she raises?

GRINS AND GROANS.
"I understand you had some trouble with your boss."
"Yes, he called me an idiot and I left. Then he sent for me to talk it over."
"Well, what happened?"
"He said he'd take the idiot back, and so I stayed."—Chicago Post.

GRINS AND GROANS.
"Hello! Is that the information editor?"
"Yes, ma'am."
"Do you suppose I could order a wave for my front hair by mail?"
"Certainly, madam; have it sent by parcel post. Good-by."—Chicago Tribune.

GRINS AND GROANS.
"Why won't you take young Birkin in with you? He's such a promising young man."
"That's just it."
"Is he a promising young man. This is a paying enterprise."—Baltimore American.

GRINS AND GROANS.
"Are you holding the voice of the people in great respect?"
"Yes," said Senator Sorghum, "except when it comes to the voice of the people in general."—Chicago Post.

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NEBRASKA PRESS COMMENT.
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