

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

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Volunteers and Military Training.

General Hugh Scott's report that the volunteer system has failed, so far as supplying the United States with an army is concerned, did not surprise any who have watched the course of proceedings. It has never been a success, despite the enthusiastic assertions of the "patriots" who joyously prattle about millions springing to arms between sunrise and sunset.

Views, Reviews and Interviews

THROUGH my old friend, Jonathan Edwards, I have come into temporary possession of two most interesting specimens of early Omaha journalism: One is a 60-year-old copy of the Nebraska Democrat and the other is a 58-year-old copy of the Nebraska Republican.

CLAY

Thought Nugget for the Day. Age is opportunity no less Than youth itself, though in another dress. And as the evening twilight fades away The sky is filled with stars, invisible by days.



AROUND THE CITIES.

Savannah has decided to blow itself for a municipal auditorium. Chicago is about to launch a free dispensary for cats and dogs. Denver diverts attention from the prevailing drought by giving free concerts in its auditorium.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.

"The law says that a man must be tried by a jury of his peers, doesn't it?" "Yes, what of it?" "Then must a man of sense necessarily be tried by a jury of 'peppers'?"

Phineas Barnum's census of fooldom falls short of modern requirements. The Yale-Harvard battle score, revised at the box office, totals \$140,000. An educational world record. Richard III offered his kingdom for a horse and found no traders.

Whether we are to prepare for war or not, if our country is to hold its place and lead other nations in the march of progress, its young men and young women must be taught the value of discipline, of orderly action, and respect for authority.

Among reports submitted to the session of the Federated Council of the Churches of Christ, now meeting at St. Louis, is one that proposes a five-day industrial week.

The most pretentious announcement in the paper of an Omaha firm is that of "Tootle and Jackson," telling of a full stock of fall and winter goods, which run the gamut of dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes.

From the editorial pen wielded, even in those early days, by the gifted Mr. Johnson, we can learn of some things still of advantage to Omaha. His principal article gives notice that we have right here on the bank of the Missouri river one of the largest and most desirable mineral springs to be found anywhere.

The value of the Missouri river as an asset to the city is not overlooked, for comparison is made with the Ohio and the Mississippi, with this conclusion: "Although the Missouri has heretofore been looked upon as a hard one to navigate, we are led to believe it will in time prove to be the equal of either of the former and all we need is a development of the resources of the Missouri valley to demonstrate that fact."

The other paper, the Republican, although the very first issue and a bigger sheet, presented less varied contents, being devoted largely to fiction and miscellaneous reprint, with few local allusions and scarcely anything in the way of news reports of more than passing moment.

People and Events. The man who cornered 72,000,000 eggs in Chicago is looking for a chance to let go without cracking the shells. Smartering under the sting of the mitten handed him by Miss Lena Balboa, "the most beautiful woman at the San Francisco exposition," a Philadelphia beau is suing for the return of money and diamonds given her while they were engaged to marry.

Wooster on Legislative Practice. Our old friend, "Charlie" Wooster, has written for The Bee a disquisition on legislative practice that is well worth reading, particularly because of the recommendations he makes. This is in line with the stand taken by The Bee years ago, when it called attention to the fact that the powers of our governor are so restricted that he is not able to give the state his best services.

Chicago looks forward with renewed glee to the prospect of diminishing the smoke smudge on the Lake front. The Illinois Central promises to electrify all its suburban trains within five years, leaving only through train locomotives to smear the scenery with bituminous cloud effects.

The Bureau of Vital Statistics of the New York Board of Health claims records of general health of the common enemy than all the rest of recorded history.

Bolivia is producing about one-third of the world's output of tin. The first attempt to manufacture iron in America was in Virginia in 1818.

Between three and four billion tons of food preserved in tin cans are consumed in the United States each year. Anthracite coal, mined chiefly in Pennsylvania, was first used as fuel by two Connecticut blacksmiths in 1768-69.

1812—Burning of the village of Newark, Canada, by the Americans under General McClure, who was severely wounded, and Fort George evacuated. 1814—Commodore Enoch Parrott, U. S. N., who distinguished himself in the Mexican and civil wars, born at Portsmouth, N. H.; died in New York City, May 18, 1879.

1876—German parliament in an address requested the king of Prussia to become German emperor. 1872—Marshall Biazaine found guilty (for surrendering Metz to the Germans) and sentenced to death. 1877—Osman Pasha and army at Plevna surrendered to the Russians after a siege of five months.

1889—Malletoe was reinstated as king of Samoa, with the assent of the foreign powers. 1899—The British under General Gatacre were led into a Boer ambush near Stormberg Junction and lost 1,000 men. 1902—Assuan dam in Egypt inaugurated by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught.

The Day We Celebrate. Charles A. Goss of the law firm of Switzler, Goss & Switzler, was born December 10, 1863, at Edenburg, O. He is a graduate of Mount Union college. He served a term in the legislature and was also United States attorney for the district of Nebraska for one term.

John S. Helgren, cashier of the Guaranty Fund Life association, is 50. He was born in Hammas, Sweden, coming to this country when 14 years of age. He is something of a musician and composer and is conductor of the Emanuel church choir.

Prince Philippe Marie Alphonse de Bourbon, who recently married Princess Marie of Orleans, born at Cannes, thirty-one years ago today. Countess of Warwick, one of the most beautiful and versatile women of the English nobility, born fifty-five years ago today.

Thomas P. Gore, United States senator from Oklahoma, born in Webster county, Miss., forty-six years ago today. A. J. Gronna, United States senator from North Dakota, born at Elkador, Ia., fifty-eight years ago today.

Storyette of the Day. When Lieutenant Hearst was promoted he reported for duty to the commanding officer of a western post. His superior officer treated him coolly. "Young man," he said, "I have a letter from your former colonel down in Texas and he tells me that, although efficient, you have a weakness for betting. I'm opposed to betting. I won't stand for it in my regiment, sir, do you understand? You couldn't hire me to make a bet. What do you bet about anyway?"

"Colonel, I'll bet you anything," said the youngster. "I'll bet you \$25 now that you have a scar on your left shoulder." "What, sir?" said the colonel. "I'll take that bet." Off came the blouse, then the shirt beneath the undershirt, and the lieutenant lost the bet.

"Then the commander admonished the lieutenant, and afterward wrote the following letter to the colonel in Texas: "Just as you said. This youngster was not in my office two minutes before he bet me \$25 I had a scar on my left shoulder. Of course, he lost, but I hope he will be benefited by the experience."

And then came the answer which said: "The youngster was right. Before he left this post he bet me \$100 that he would have your shirt off five minutes after he met you."—New York Times.

The Drug Stores of the Christmas Spirit. A pleasure to give—a joy to receive—these useful and practical gifts.

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