

THE OMAHA BEE.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., PROPS. R. ROSEWATER, Editor. A. H. PHELPS, Manager Daily Circulation, P. O. Box 865 Omaha, Neb.

It would be a difficult thing just now to convince a stranger that any of the streets of Omaha are paved.

ACCORDING to our dispatches Col. Stanley will be the next brigadier, to succeed Gen. McKenzie. On, Stanley, on!

OSMAN DEDMA is very much discouraged. If he were reinforced by Joe Cook he could face a dynamite battery with Joe's check.

THE Herald nominates J. Sterling Morton as the next democratic candidate for governor of Nebraska. Mr. Morton will be elected as usual.

UNLESS we have a few more congressional funerals soon, we do not know what will become of the surplus in the United States treasury.

THE admirers of Sam Tilden will take much comfort in the fact that the great reformer is younger than Emperor William, William E. Gladstone, or Susan B. Anthony.

AS BETWEEN Church Howe and Tom Konrad as delegates to the national republican convention, to represent this district, we are for Bill Stout, first, last and all the time.

THE Cincinnati gymnastic society sent its resolutions of condolence over the death of Herr Lasker to the German reichstag, and they were presented in due form without a word of protest from Bismarck. The iron duke knows better than to tackle the German-American Turners. They have too much muscle.

DON'T be in too much of a hurry about reading out of the republican party everybody who doesn't vote Fitz John Porter a traitor. Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts, who was chairman of the last republican national convention, has voted for Fitz John Porter twice, and Hoar has been twice elected by Massachusetts to fill the seat once occupied by Charles Sumner.

NEBRASKA will be one of the very few northern states that will not present a "favorite son" for the republican presidential nomination. Connecticut will present the name of Joe Hawley, Maine will probably advance the claims of Blaine, Vermont comes forward with Edmunds, New York will stand by Arthur, Ohio has her John Sherman, Wisconsin her Fairchild, Indiana Ben Harrison or Gresham. Other states have favorite sons who will be brought out as dark horses.

AUSTRIA is a very comfortable country for publishers of political newspapers. Every newspaper appearing more than twice a month has to deposit caution-money if politics are treated or mentioned. For Vienna and surroundings this deposit is fixed at \$9,000; for towns of 60,000 inhabitants, at \$3,000; for towns at 30,000 inhabitants, at \$2,000, and for all other places at \$1,000; but papers only appearing three times a week need only pay half the amount. This system was evidently modeled after the Nebraska high license law.

IT may be some time yet before the Mexican treaty will go into effect, and it is possible that it may yet be defeated. It is necessary that a bill should be passed to carry into effect the provisions of the treaty. This bill must originate in the house, inasmuch as it will be in the nature of a revenue measure. It must recite in effect that whenever the president shall have received satisfactory evidence that the Mexican congress has passed laws to give full effect to the provisions of the treaty, he shall be authorized to issue his proclamation declaring that he has such evidence, and that thereupon from the date of the proclamation the articles enumerated in the treaty, the growth and manufacture or produce of Mexico shall be introduced into the United States free of duty as long as the treaty shall remain in force. A bill containing these or similar provisions must be considered by the ways and means committee and be passed by the house and the senate and signed by the president. The question now is whether such a bill will be passed before adjournment, or postponed until next winter. The bill which was passed in 1876 to carry into effect the Hawaiian treaty received only fourteen majority in the house. A change of seven votes would have defeated it. The Mexican treaty has been ratified by a very close vote, and it can be readily seen that it may be defeated if a fight is made with that object in view.

FAILURE OF THE COMMISSIONER SYSTEM.

Not many months ago the official organ of the Union Pacific railroad ventured to enlighten the farmers of Nebraska with a true solution of the railroad problem. An article carefully prepared by Jay Gould's literary bureau was given wide circulation in a special edition, mainly with a view to pave the way for the establishment of a railway commission in Nebraska. This bogus anti-monopoly appeal started out with the following declaration: Of all plans for railway regulation, the commission plan seems most feasible. With the exception of Nebraska, every state which has had trouble with the railroads has resorted to this measure of regulation, and in every instance the commission system has been successful—in some cases more so than in others, but in all cases enough so to warrant its adoption as an experiment.

The commission plan, of which the railway monopolists in Nebraska have so high an opinion, only meets with their cordial approval where the commissioners are railroad cappers, or where the commission is a mere sop thrown to the grangers to prevent railway regulation by law. When Mr. Touzalin was manager of the Burlington road, he was a warm advocate of a railroad commission in Nebraska on the Iowa plan, with nothing to do but to gather such railroad statistics as can be procured at any time in Poor's Manual, and to draw their salaries with regularity and dispatch. But when Mr. Touzalin became manager of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad took a most decided stand in opposition to the Kansas railroad commission, when that body undertook to regulate his railroad by cutting down exorbitant charges. No sooner had the Kansas commission shown a disposition to carry out the purposes for which they were created by the legislature of that state than they were met by fierce and desperate resistance on the part of the railroad companies, who resorted to their usual methods of bull-dozing and trickery to defeat the decree of the commission. Finally manager Touzalin succeeded in the overthrow of the commission, through injunctions and harassing court proceedings. To show the spirit in which the railroad managers in Kansas accept commissions as a substitute for railway regulation, we will quote from the Troy Chief, one of the subsidized organs in that state: The railroad commissioners have been holding a long controversy with Mr. Touzalin, of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe road, over the rate question. The commissioners seem to regard themselves as the law, instead of the agents of the law. Some of their decisions are not only distasteful to the railroad companies, but to the people, who say that they got better terms from the railroads than under the decision of the commissioners. The Santa Fe road has got out an injunction against the execution of one of the decisions, and the commissioners have been compelled to back down. One issue the commissioners have made is, that the Santa Fe road is making too much money. We do not think it is any business of the commissioners how much money a railroad makes.

The Kansas railroad commissioners were appointed by Governor Glick, a pronounced anti-monopolist, and they were exceptionally honest, hence their decisions were "distasteful" to the railroad companies, but it is very singular that the railroad managers should have applied for injunctions to restrain the commissioners from establishing rates that gave the railroads more than they had formerly exacted. Had the governor of Kansas appointed such a commission as the people of Iowa now have, Mr. Touzalin would have pronounced the commission plan decidedly satisfactory. It will be borne in mind, however, that we have steadily opposed the railway commissioner plan upon other grounds than the danger of making railroad regulation a fiasco through commissioners who are disposed to play capper for the railroads. We have taken the ground that the creation of a commission by the legislature would be in violation of our state constitution, which makes it the duty of the legislature alone to regulate the railway traffic, and this power the legislature cannot delegate to any other body. This was the unofficial opinion of our supreme judges, and that opinion is very sound notwithstanding the jeers and pooh-poohing of eminent railroad attorneys. The decision in the United States circuit court at Nashville, rendered with the concurrence of three federal judges—Baxter, circuit judge, and Key and Hammond, district judges—wiped out the Tennessee railway commission by declaring it unconstitutional.

The history of this important case is as follows: The last Tennessee legislature passed a law creating a railroad commission, to consist of three members who should be appointed by the governor and serve two years, their successors to be elected by the people next November and every two years thereafter. The law provides that the commission should have jurisdiction over all railroads now in operation. It was made the duty of the commission to prepare a schedule of rates on a just basis and carry them into effect. The commission appointed under this law prepared a schedule of rates, and the Louisville & Nashville railroad company filed suit for a preliminary injunction to restrain the commission from enforcing it. The cause was elaborately argued by eminent counsel, and the court withheld its decision for six weeks. The railroad attorneys asserted that the law creating the commission was in violation of several clauses of both the state and federal constitutions. The court sustained almost all the points presented by the railroad company, and although an appeal has been taken to the supreme court of the United States, the commis-

sioner plan in Tennessee has been made a failure by the railroads themselves. Had the legislature of Tennessee passed a law establishing maximum passenger and freight rates, and provided proper penalties for extortion and discrimination by railroads within the state, the courts would hardly have enjoined the enforcement of such just and proper measures. The true policy for those who desire to place the railroads under legitimate restraint, and protect their patrons from abuses which always are incidental to corporate monopolies, is regulation by state and national laws, which give each individual redress without the intervention of commissioners.

THE SPRING ELECTION.

The spring election is only two weeks distant. It is high time that our citizens should canvass the matter of selecting suitable candidates for the city council, and not wait until the very last moment. It is of the utmost importance that the council shall be composed of not only honest men, but men who possess good business qualifications, who will attend to the business of the city with as much care as they handle their own affairs. Many hundreds of thousands of dollars are to be spent this season in public improvements, and the people want to see this money honestly and judiciously expended. The people demand that the city shall get its money's worth from the contractors, and in order to do this the council must be composed of business men.

The tax-payers in each ward of the city should immediately decide upon some candidate who is in every way qualified for the important position of councillor. It may be difficult to induce such men to become candidates, and that is the very reason why, as a rule, it is so easy for "serpents" to be elected to the city council. It is the duty of our staunch business men to occasionally make personal sacrifices for the public good, and serve a term or two in the council. Unless they do this the council will continue to be largely made up of men who are in no way qualified for the place and the ward bummers and hoodlums will, as usual, control the politics of the city. The respectable citizens of Omaha are responsible for this condition of affairs. If they are too eminently respectable to take an active part in politics they can not expect anything better in the future. If they cannot take the trouble to put proper men in the council to protect their interests, they certainly cannot expect the bummers and hoodlums to do it for them.

THE VIADUCT SCHEME.

The scheme to construct a viaduct over the Union Pacific railway tracks, originated with property owners who desired to secure roadway from South Omaha that would not imperil life and limb. Their design was to have the viaduct built on Eleventh street, and several hundred people were induced to sign petitions with an idea that this was purely a scheme in the public interest. It now turns out in this matter, as in nearly every improvement undertaken here, that the Union Pacific proposes to have a hand in the job. As a matter of justice and equity it was the business of that railroad to build proper approaches to its depot at its own expense. It had subjected our people and the traveling public for years and years to inconvenience and danger. Nobody comes into Omaha or goes out of Omaha that does not damn the railroad managers for building and maintaining a depot which cannot be approached without crossing over a dozen tracks, upon which cars and locomotives are moving at all times of the night and day. Frequently the street is blockaded and passengers, desirous of leaving the city, miss their trains. All delay and expense could long ago have been done away with if the road were in the hands of men who have any regard for their duties and responsibilities. They have doubtless continued the outrageous nuisance, because they have virtually owned our council. It is because they feel sure of their ownership of the council at the present time that they propose to ruin one of our best business streets, by the construction of a cheap-John viaduct, for which they expect the city to pay one half the cost. The life of the present council is limited to three weeks, and the scheme is to spring this viaduct job and push it through at the last moment.

Tenth street is now one of our most important business thoroughfares. It was paved last year at an enormous cost. To plant a viaduct in the middle of Tenth street, from Howard to Pierce, would simply make the adjacent property almost valueless for anything but wholesale trade, and that would also be very seriously damaged. It would be like the property along the line of the elevated railways in New York, only a great deal worse. Now, we want a viaduct, and the railroad ought to build it at its own cost, and it should be located on Ninth street, where it would do the least harm. Ninth street is already closed by the rail-road depot. There is no retail traffic on that street, and the business now there would not suffer materially. Furthermore the viaduct on Ninth street would give the entire length of Farnam street the benefit of street cars, which would necessarily pass over the viaduct. The magnificent cowshed in the middle of Ninth street could not be damaged in any way. There is no excuse for any haste in this matter, and if it is attempted the property holders will protect themselves.

The only son of ex-Governor Leland Stanford, of California, died in Florence, Italy, on March 13th, after a brief illness, at the age of sixteen years. He had been in ill

health for a year or more, and had been traveling in Europe with his father and mother. The youth had everything to live for that a human being could have, but all his great advantages could not raise him above the physical laws which govern life and death. There are things which even millionaires cannot control, and money cannot buy. Health is one of these things. Good health and a clear conscience are more valuable than untold wealth. The hand of death invades the palaces of the rich and the hovels of the poor, treating all alike.

GOVERNOR IRWIN, of Idaho, continues the eccentricity of returning his salary to the treasury department. He has just returned \$650, being the amount of his salary for the quarter ending December 31. This makes the third quarter's salary that he has sent back to the treasury department. The only explanation of his conduct is that being unable to attend to his duties he cannot conscientiously accept the salary. The new governor, Mr. Bann, of Pennsylvania, will see that the salary is hereafter put where it will do the most good.

THE Philadelphia Press begs permission to reiterate its former opinion that Benjamin F. Butler would be just the man to appoint governor of Utah. The way he would make the awful Mormon stand around would be a caution to snakes.

WESTERN NEWS.

DAKOTA. Grafton has a population of 2,000. A twelve-foot vein of coal has been discovered in McClean county. Coal in abundance has been found in the Turtle Mountain region. The Black Hills oil company has leveled a one-foot vein of coal in the Black Hills. There is at present about 20,000 bushels of grain in Madison awaiting shipment. Minnehaha county farms, near Sioux Falls, can be purchased at eight dollars to fifteen dollars an acre. Body ash, hickory or oak is worth in Elk Point the present year \$3 per cord, cut-wood and elm from \$2.25 to \$3. Canton school bonds sold last week for a premium of five per cent., the issue of \$10,000 having sold for \$10,500 in cash, the interest being ten per cent.

Campbell county is the most central county in Dakota. Put your finger as near as possible upon the center of a map of Dakota and you will have it upon Campbell county. In view of the great migration, which will take a large number of the population of the railroads have added a large number of freight cars which will be used exclusively to carry household goods and farm machinery. Beadle county has one hundred and five miles of railway or three miles per township. This proportion is greater than that of any other county in the territory except Cass, which has 3.67 miles per township. The ratio of Spink is 2.55 of Brown, 2.37.

WYOMING. The new Congressional church at Cheyenne was dedicated last Wednesday. A disease known as the black tongue, is prevailing among the milk stock of Albany county. A party by the name of Brown, while flush with lucre and lucre, was relieved of \$600 in a Cheyenne saloon. A party by the name of Brown, while flush with lucre and lucre, was relieved of \$600 in a Cheyenne saloon. A party by the name of Brown, while flush with lucre and lucre, was relieved of \$600 in a Cheyenne saloon.

NEBRASKA. The annual meeting of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association will be held at Cheyenne April 7th. About 300 stockmen are expected. The Central association, with a capital of \$10,000,000, is the latest organization in the territory. The object is the purchase and sale of mineral and lands. Commins, one of the Jesse James gang, on whose head there is said to be a reward of \$15,000, was arrested in Buffalo March 17th, where he managed a saloon. A Cheyenne burglar who was caught in the act of robbing a house, had the cheek of a policeman \$25 for his liberty. Unfortunately for the burglar there were too many spectators. Cheyenne parties have secured a patent on what they think will be a valuable discovery. It is a method of separating gold from pulverized quartz, by pure chloride, which is made by electricity. The Cheyenne Democratic leader is out in a new spring out of bourgeois. The leader has been greatly improved in every department since the change of owners, and it is now the leader, not only in name but in fact. The National Yellowstone Park Improvement company has filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of the territory. The capital is \$1,000,000. Incorporators are Hon. S. W. Downey, Hon. H. N. S. Grosbeck and Nellie Cortright. The Buffalo Echo says large cattle owners in the north, anxious to secure large tracts of land, are being deceived by their employes in the public domain offering a certain amount of money for a fraudulent filing, and discharging the cowboys who refuse. The Bay State Live Stock company, with headquarters in Boston, has recently constituted a purchase from John F. Coad near Clark Creek of their large herd of cattle, the price being \$70,000 cash. Some time ago the same company bought from Durbin Bros. a large herd, and they also made other purchases, all of which aggregated nearly \$1,500,000 worth of cattle. COLORADO. Ore is now shipped from Mexico to Denver for treatment. The police force of Denver has been increased by 100 men. The Silverton mine blockade has been broken. It lasted thirty days. Fort Collins is urging the Telephone company to connect it with southern cities. In reorganizing the First regiment of state militia the colored company has been left out. The potato crop of Colorado last year was in excess of the demand by at least 2,000,000 bushels. Longmont is to have a Presbyterian college. Dr. Boyd has raised \$25,000 and secured a site for the purpose. George C. Bates, a Denver attorney, has sued Brick Pomeroy for \$6,827, money loaned and legal services. Under the new fast mail arrangement Denver has her eastern mail fourteen hours sooner than before. John Cannon, the wrestler, wants to wrestle anybody, not barring Gibbs, for any sum from \$250 to \$500 a side. A waterfall near Beaver village, Clear Fork, has revealed a six-inch fissure containing a rich vein of silver. Denver has a new directory containing 25,140 names, which, it is claimed, represents a population of 75,000. February was a short month, yet Gilpin must have produced upwards of \$90,000 of mill gold during the twenty-nine days. Colorado Springs has gotten out an injunction restraining the erection of a roller skating rink on the ground that it is a nuisance. The Farmer's Alliance of Larimer county is encouraged by the fact that wheat has advanced, since its organization, ten cents per bushel. The contract for the new school house in Colorado Springs is now let for \$117,724, but the contractor had to give a bond of \$20,000 for the performance of work. L. V. Bond, of Leadville, was held up on the night of the 9th and \$1,300 in money and a valuable gold watch taken. A pair of 6-shooters were the persuaders used. It is an ill slide that brings snow body good

and the average reporter smiles as he contemplates the mountain disasters in which he will revel as soon as the beautiful begins to move. There is great demand by the ranchmen of Weld county for hands to work on ranches. The wages paid will average \$30 per month. Sheep men are hunting for herders at \$25 to \$30 per month. Saguacho is making preparations for unusually good times the coming summer. It bases its belief in the fact that a heavy loan company is purchasing considerable of the contiguous farming lands. The ranchmen of the Arkansas valley have united with the citizens of Salina in the endeavor to erect a flouring mill at Salina, and subscriptions have already been rendered which give promise of the scheme resulting successfully. During the month of February coal shipments of three companies named were as follows: Raton Coal and Coke company, 9,821 tons; Trinidad Coal and Coke company, 10,679 tons; Canon City company, 15,888 tons; coke from the Trinidad works, 832 tons. The success of the borers of the artesian well in getting down to sand rock and water, more than 1,900 feet below the surface, not only helps and settles, but will have a marked effect on northern Colorado, for twenty or thirty capitalists, rich farmers, mill owners, stockmen, and others, have been anxiously watching the country experiments. Water at Salina rises to the mouth of the well, and flows away in considerable quantities. It is expected that a large subterranean stream from the mountains will be reached soon. CALIFORNIA. There is \$214,199.86 in the city treasury at Sacramento. Several rich pocket-mining strikes have been made in Tuolumne county during the past week. Boxes in the theatre where the St. Patrick night entertainment was given, sold as high as \$100 each. The lowest price paid \$10. Messrs. Baggett and Wayne, the attorneys for the people in the suit against the Central Pacific, were faced by the railroad in \$2,500 each to agree to a settlement. The warm rains are threatening another flood in Los Angeles. The bridge over the San Gabriel was washed away and though the Los Angeles is at it within its banks, fears are expressed of its overflow if the rains continue, and they promise to do so. The California & Nevada railway is now building, and rails are laid 30 miles out of San Francisco. The road will run from San Francisco to a point in Utah, where it will make connection with the Utah Southern and the Denver & Rio Grande railway. The terminus has not yet been determined upon. When completed it will be a leading western road, and will enter into sharp competition with the Central Pacific. MONTANA. Livingston expects to improve \$200,000 worth the present year. Bullion shipments from Butte for the week ending March 1st, aggregated \$110,918. The Helena Independent, the democratic forger of last Chautauque, has gone back on the Hon. Martin Maginnis, delegate in congress. The Concord Coal Company of Custer county, through its agent, has just purchased 5,500 cattle in the states. They will be brought to Montana in the spring. Virginia City is to have a cannery which will operate by a stock company having a capital of \$50,000. Two hundred head of cows will be purchased for a starter. The trustees of Deer Lodge school district have established a rule, and no one who has had a hair shaved is admitted to school unless six weeks have expired after convenience. The quantity of ore from the Montana Belle mine, of Neihart, which was shipped to Omaha for reduction, and the shippers \$140 per ton after deducting the cost of shipping and working. The new system of issuing pay checks from the offices of the division superintendents is said to be a success, and \$7,000 per month to the Northern Pacific—the cost of running a pay car out from St. Paul. Throughout eastern cities thousands of flaming hangers have been posted bearing Court A. H. Adams' advertisement of the following nature: "Ho! gold fields of North Idaho! \$200 nuggets of gold and \$100 per man per day." The Western Union telegraph company has made a reduction on both day and night messages from Helena to the states and territories of Colorado, C. Horna, Nevada, Kansas, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming, Iowa and Nebraska, so that the tariff now to those places will be one dollar for ten words and seven cents for each additional word for day messages. The night rates for the same places, is seventy-five cents for ten words, and five cents for each additional word. The Butte Independent thus pictures the bride of a contemporary: "Society circles in Helena were delighted a few days ago by the unexpected return from Cork, Ireland, of Mr. Hugh Mico Wade, heavy editor of The Independent and his bride, Mrs. Bridget Maginnis, whose young and untamed affections he won while visiting his native heath. The bride is a blonde with red hair, emerald green eyes full of liquid tenderness, and a love, and feet which would span the Missouri river at high at high water. Her waist measures forty inches, and her hands, encased in fourteen button kids, are about the size of a hay fork."

NEVADA. An artesian well company has been organized in Reno. The capital stock is \$10,000, divided into 2,000 shares. A five horse team loaded with sheep shears has left Reno for Pyramid Lake and Warm Springs valley, where 100,000 head of sheep are to be sheared this spring. The Pioche Record says: "There is nothing in this section of the country but snow! snow! snow! Snow to the right of us, snow to the left of us, snow all around us, piled high and drifting."

UTAH. A site for the new Brigham Young academy at Provo has been selected, and the work of construction begun. Governor Murray vetoed the election bill passed by the Utah legislature. The Mormon papers recommend sending the bill to Washington, and asking congress to pass it. The receipts of health in Salt Lake City for the week ending March 12, inclusive, were \$101,177.95; of ore, \$9,500; aggregate, \$110,677.95. In the previous week the aggregate was \$120,525.22, of which \$111,643.22 was bullion.

A Salt Lake machinist has invented what is called a "balance engine," and it is so constructed that there is no friction either in the pistons or in the valve. The latter is so free from wear and tear that the steam escapes in steady columns instead of in puffs, as in ordinary engines. Daring Robbery—Daring Recovery. WILMINGTON, Del., March 18.—Last evening a valuable consignment of \$5,000, obtained from the treasury department by Paul Schmellick, of Philadelphia, was thrown by a thief from the window of a car on the congressional express and seized by a confederate. Schmellick pursued, firing a pistol and regaining the value.

ANTI-SALOON IN PENNSYLVANIA. WILKESBARRE, Pa., March 18.—The citizens in mass meeting packed the largest hall here to-night and adopted a resolution pleading support to judges in curbing in reducing the number of liquor licenses and enforcing the law.

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