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THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., PROPS
E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

A. H. Fitch, Manager Daily Circulation, P. O. Box 488 Omaha, Neb.

IT is the "old ticket" that wins in the board of education election.

THE old school board will not be disturbed for some days to come.

MINISTER SARGENT objects to the climate of St. Petersburg. He prefers California and a seat in the United States senate.

IT is positively asserted that Ben. Butler has signified a willingness to accept the greenback nomination for president. We would like to know of something that he wouldn't accept.

PAT. O. HAWES arrived by special train from Washington, just in time for election. An election without Pat. as the chief engineer would be like the play of Hamlet with Hamlet left out.

AMERICAN manufacturers of butterine and bogus cheese have been supplying the English market to a liberal extent with their imitation products, and now the English foreign office has been instructed to investigate the importation of these compounds.

IT is rather singular that immediately following the withdrawal of Minister Sargent from Germany, Bismarck has concluded to step down from the Prussian ministry, with the consent of Kaiser Wilhelm. It seems that the American hog has succeeded in raising quite a stir on both sides of the Atlantic.

THOMAS SAMON, a New Hampshire murderer, has pleaded guilty to murder in the first degree on the ground, that it would not be just for him to attempt by trial to escape the gallows. Such a remarkable course surprises the court, who, although accepting the plea, was inclined to regard the man as insane, although no other evidence of insanity could be found. Samon is to be given a medical examination.

BOSTON is in an uneasy state of mind over the reported sailing of 270 emigrants, taken from the workhouse of Swineford, county Mayo, Ireland, and shipped by the Allen line of steamships. It is claimed that the British authorities have evaded the law to empty their poor house upon Boston, and that this is not the first time that they have recently offended. The collector of the port is to make an investigation.

ONE member is so sure that congress will be ready to adjourn by June that he wants a declaration made now that the national legislators will go home on the 2nd of that month. It is somewhat difficult to see how any man, not gifted with prophecy, can be sure on the last day of March that congress will have completed its business by the second day of June. Possibly the fact that the republican national convention comes on the 3d of June may throw some light on this apparently hopeless mystery.

THOSE adventurous navigators who go down to the sea in the ships of the great American navy had better get their lives insured. The other day the naval board of inspection started out of Norfolk, Va., on the United States steamer Ossipee, and in a few moments the noble craft ran hard aground on a sand-bar. After it had been pried off, and had resumed its voyage, part of its machinery broke down. Then she was towed back to the navy yard and the board finished their journey on safe dry land. The best way to make the United States navy as harmless to its friends as it would be to its foes is to pull it up on the shore and then let the boards examine it from carriages.

THE Iowa legislature will probaby adjourn to-day. A great mass of bills has been crowded through during the last two or three days in order to make up for the dilatoriness of the latter part of the session. As might be expected, a good deal of legislation is going through without much consideration. A bureau of labor statistics, with another officer to be paid by the dear people, was established yesterday. Iowa needs a bureau of labor statistics about as much as a wagon needs five wheels. The labor interests of the state are large and growing, but what advantage it will be to those interests to have salaried officers collecting statistics about them it is hard to say. A report about wages and work is not going to help Iowa coal miners for instance, or Iowa laborers of any class, to better pay nor their children to better schools, nor their taxes to be reduced. It will, however, help some one to an office, and this is too often an object dearer to the legislator's heart than any other.

MAKING COUNTY ROADS.

The road bill which passed the Iowa senate on Monday, is, so far as it goes, an excellent measure. It does away with the old and cumbrous system of working out taxes upon the roads, and permits each township to levy a tax for highway improvements to be paid only in money. The township will then let a contract for the construction and repair of the road, and there is reason to believe that the work, in most cases, will be done in a satisfactory manner. This is, for the most part, the reform which two state road conventions, one held in Iowa City in March, 1883, and one in Des Moines in the present year, have recommended. All details as to the manner of performing the work, matters which have been discussed a great deal throughout the state, are wisely left to the township officials. The law, as it stands, is much like the Ohio road law which has given great satisfaction through years of experience, and the reform seems to promise only well for Iowa. The old system was about as bad as could be imagined. A tax, payable in work on the roads, was levied in an indiscriminate manner. At the seasons of the year when the roads needed the least attention, crowds of men and boys would gather from the farms to work out their taxes. They were most often without intelligent supervision, and in the greater number of cases did more harm than good. The methods employed in different localities were entirely different, but the object of the work everywhere was the same. It was to pay the tax in the cheapest and easiest way. The result has been, in most parts of the state, roads indescribably bad. During the spring months, the county highways are impassable and almost a total embargo is laid upon trade. Every rain transforms the roads into quagmires, through which only the strongest teams can pull the heavy wagons. Business men in the smaller towns in Iowa have suffered more from the sudden suspension of all their country traffic than from almost any other cause, and obviously the losses to farmers must have been, at least, equally great. At the same time, experiment showed that good roads could be made in Iowa. A portion of the highway in front of the state agricultural college at Ames was prepared in an intelligent manner and made an excellent and durable road. But it is probably the only piece of county road in the state which is entitled to be called good. The extension of such highways throughout the state seems certain to add very materially to its prosperity.

It is possible that the Iowa law does not go far enough and will have to be made more radical. But, at least, making it possible for the work of road building to be put into the hands of competent contractors is a great step forward. Other western states, cursed with wretched country roads, as Iowa has been, would do well to follow its example.

CLEMENCY TO CRIMINALS.

The prevalence of crime all over our country, and the escape from proper punishment of those who commit it, is what aroused popular vengeance in Cincinnati. It was not merely the solitary case of the beardless boy who failed to be convicted of a capital offense that produced the upheaval in that city of the spirit of murderous revenge. It was other cases just like it which are constantly occurring there, in Illinois, and all over the country, that drove the people to madness. Government by the mob is at the bottom of it all; want of respect for respectability, contempt for law and for authority in religious as well as in civil affairs, are the rooted evils which produced the appalling riot and ruin in the great state and city on the Ohio.—*Omaha Herald*

We are glad to observe that the *Herald* is at last beginning to see the evil effects of leniency to convicted criminals, especially murderers. The *Herald* says it was other cases, just like the Berner case in Cincinnati, which are constantly occurring all over the country that drove the people to madness. This is very true. "All over the country" of course includes Nebraska. The *Herald* has always been an advocate of clemency to criminals, and has always fought against capital punishment. Its appeals in behalf of the murderers in Nebraska have no doubt had their effect, for men who have been sentenced to death are now enjoying life in the penitentiary.

Within the past year two cold-blooded murderers, Polin and Hart, were convicted of murder in the first degree and were sentenced to death. Through the efforts of their friends, and the kind assistance of the jurors and the courts that convicted them, the governor commuted the death sentence to life imprisonment. The governor, instead of performing his duty, acted in sympathy with a false sentiment which has been created by just such tender hearted papers as the Omaha *Herald*.

If capital punishment were inflicted every time it was merited there would be less wanton destruction of human life, and there would be no necessity of lynching.

MR. KASSON, of Iowa, has introduced a bill to repeal the internal revenue duties upon tobacco and the distillation of peaches and apples. If congress is half as wise as an ordinary congress should be it will seat itself upon this proposition with great force. In the first place, there is no demand whatever for the reduction of the tobacco tax. No tax in our entire revenue system is so entirely unobjectionable. It is laid upon the most unnecessary luxury in common use. Its fitness and justice are so generally recognized even by those who pay it most often that there is no complaint whatever against it. It provides a certain and large revenue without a great expense to the government, and no one feels particularly hurt by its collection. Certainly, as long as there are heavier taxes upon articles of common and necessary use the duty upon tobacco should be left untouched. The Iowa congressman's second proposition about the apple and peach distillation is of a kind to make one smile. If it should be adopted, he would be a stupid distiller who would not be bright enough to label his corn juice as the product of apple or peach distillation. Where would the whisky revenue be then? The manufacture of rye and bourbon whiskies would ostensibly cease, and we should see a distillery on every farm.

WAR ON BOGUS BUTTER.

The New York legislature is evidently determined to put an end to the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine, suine, butterine, and other fraudulent substitutes for farm and dairy products. A new bill has been introduced with this object in view, and it is proposed to appropriate $300,000 to carry the bill into effect. The principal fraud is in the manufacture of substitutes for butter and selling the same under the name of butter. It is asserted by the investigating committee that the imitation of butter is frequently so perfect that it can only be detected by chemical analysis, and that makers of bogus butter do not properly label their products, as is required by law. It is stated that not less than 40,000,000 pounds of this stuff is consumed annually in New York state alone, and that in addition to the extent to which the consumers are defrauded, the loss to the state is from five to ten million dollars a year in breaking down the export butter trade. The fight on bogus butter is being carried on by the New York State Dairymen's Association, which intends, under the proposed new law, to entirely stop its manufacture. Whether such a law can be enforced is a question, for if the manufacturers honestly label their products and sell them for just what they are, no law can well prevent them. Oleomargarine and butterine are not any more deleterious to the health of consumers than the lard and tallow from which they are made. If people want such substitutes for butter and buy them knowing them to be such, no law, which prohibits the sale and purchase under such circumstance, can be constitutional. There are already laws enough for the punishment of frauds in food adulteration, and all that is necessary is their enforcement. The manufacture of oleomargarine and selling it under the name of butter is simply obtaining money under false pretenses and is a punishable offense.

THE whisky distillers are not entirely disheartened by the defeat of the bonded extension bill. They still have hope of securing some kind of legislation that will accomplish their ends. A bill was introduced in the first part of the session which provides for the consolidation of certain revenue collection districts and contains other apparently innocent provisions, but really covers a permission to store whisky for a longer period under certain conditions. It is believed by some of the distillers that it is possible for this bill to pass. Many, however, conclude that the temper of the present congress is altogether unfavorable to them, and will seek relief only by export. They will ship their products to points in Germany at cost for freight and handling equal to about 8 per cent. of the tax they would otherwise have to pay. It may seem strange that they should be willing to endure so heavy an expense, since the tax must eventually be paid in any event. But the object of the distillers is to avoid throwing an immense quantity of their product on the market at one time through the expiration of the bonded period. By exporting a large amount until the present surplus shall have been reduced, they will, they think, accomplish this purpose. But it is perfectly evident that as long as they continue, as at present, to manufacture more whisky than can be consumed, neither exportation nor any other expedient will be of much avail. The distillers seem to have mismanaged their business. Overproduction in their trade is as great as in the iron industry. Instead of government interference, the distillers really want decreased production, and they can bring that about themselves without lobbying or special legislation of any sort.

THE prohibitionists of Maine seem to be even more impracticable than prohibitionists elsewhere. For years they have lived under a law which has always been regarded as the utmost limit of restrictive legislation. It has been enforced in the smaller towns and is almost a dead letter in the cities. In order to extend prohibition to those places which the law does not cover, these good people are trying to force upon the constitution an iron clad prohibition amendment. This interesting measure has already been passed through one legislature, and at the next election will be submitted to the people. The idea that a mere declaration in the constitution will enforce prohibition where law has failed seems very absurd, but Maine is not the only place where it has been, or where it will be entertained. It is a common feeling in the minds of many people that in some mysterious manner a constitutional amendment is going to put itself into effect without any more ado. As a matter of fact, such an amendment in Maine will be absolutely worthless unless the legislature shall make special provisions for its enforcement. But the legislature could pass laws for more stringent prohibition at each session without any amendment. Moreover, the amendment would have the effect of annuling all previous legislation on the subject, so that entirely new penalties would have to be devised to support it. The chief justice of the state is urging these objections upon the voters, but apparently without much effect as yet.

OUR MUDDY WATER SUPPLY.

The contract between the waterworks company and the city of Omaha is that they are to furnish us clear and wholesome water for general use. For more than two months, and in fact nearly all winter, the people of Omaha have been regaled with Missouri river slops. Instead of pure filtered water supplied from the reservoir by gravitation, we have had mud-swill pumped from the flats by direct pressure. The city waterworks company should be made to understand that they must live up to their contract obligations. Our people have certainly been tolerant enough in dealing with this corporation. They have submitted patiently to all sorts of inconvenience by reason of delay in the construction of the works, and the replacing of poor machinery bought by the company with a view to economy. They have not murmured at the enormous increase in water-tax by reason of the extravagant increase in the number of fire hydrants. They will no longer submit without protest to the wretched quality of the water supply. Missouri river slush may be a very wholesome beverage for some people, but it is certainly nauseating to have such stuff served at the table. People in Omaha may use it because they cannot help themselves, but the hundreds and thousands of strangers who stop at our hotels will go away with a very poor impression of our water supply. We voice the sentiments of the great mass of our citizens when we say that forbearance has ceased to be a virtue. Direct pressure and pumping from the settling basins may be very economic so far as the waterworks company are concerned, but the citizens of Omaha have a right to demand that the water supply shall come from the upper reservoir, by gravitation after it is filtered and purified. We have had clean water whenever an effort has been made to furnish it, and there is no reason why we should not have it all the time.

HEREAFTER Mr. Bruner will attend strictly to his own business.

HAVE you heard from the *Okolona-Omaha Bee* Mr. Copeland?

MR. JOHN SABLER will not preside over a republican city convention very soon.

IT was a rainy day yesterday, and we had to take the Italians in out of the wet.

IT is now settled that the old school board suits the people of Omaha well enough.

POLITICAL NOTES.

The budding candidate will bloom before he bursts.

Instead of being a dark horse Blaine is as conspicuous as a white elephant.

Mr. Vanderbilt says he has no politics. Both parties are to be congratulated.

General Logan should not think of writing a history. Let him get out an almanac.

General Grant should send his discarded crutches to some of the presidential candidates.

Mr. Morrison will probably conclude to take our advice and put his poor little bill in camphor.

One strong point made in President Arthur's favor is that he is not a Tyler, a Fillmore or a Johnson.

How would this ticket suit? President—Private Dalzell. Vice President—Sergeant Bates. Platform—More pie for tramps.

There are eleven states in which women vote for school directors. Most people will be surprised to learn that Kentucky is one of the states.

Lincoln and Hawley is the latest presidential ticket for the republicans. It is, we are afraid, too sweet to live long.—[New York Journal.

The Bayard boom is a blessing that brightens as it wings its flight to that mysterious bourne from whence no bursted boomlet ever returns.

Robert O'Lincoln is the bird that worries the life out of Logan. The president and the vice-president cannot be taken from the same state, you know.

It is stated on apparently excellent authority that Mr. Tilden is not a candidate for the presidency, and will not be unless the democratic convention nominates him.

There is a movement on foot to nominate John Kelly for mayor of New York. He would be a bitter pill for the Tildenites to swallow, but they would doubtless gulp it down.

It is thought in Washington that Logan's canvassing is made as much to put him in shape for the senatorial contest as with any expectation of his being nominated for president. His term as senator will expire next year.

On April 9 the Missouri republicans will hold their state convention at Sedalia for the purpose of electing delegates-at-large to the national convention, and such congressional district delegates as may not have been chosen previously.

This year will not be the first when the national conventions of two great political parties met in the same city. In 1844 and again in 1852 both the whigs and democrats held their conventions in Baltimore. Polk and Clay were the presidential nominees in 1844, and Pierce and Scott in 1852.

The Cincinnati Enquirer (Dem.) has sent out inquiries to Indiana democrats for the purpose of ascertaining their opinion on the tariff question. Of about 7,000 answers received 631 declared for a tariff for revenue only, 811 for protection, and 5,344 for the double-end platform of the Ohio democracy.

The seventh congressional district of South Carolina will undoubtedly choose a colored representative to succeed the late Congressman Mackey, unless some pupil of "Shoe-string" Chalmers enters the fight and elects himself by bulldozing and ballot box stuffing. Ex-Congressman Smalls is making an energetic canvass, and appears now to have the best chance of success.

Presidential candidates seventy years ago were chosen in a close caucus at Washington; fifty years ago they began to be chosen in conventions, meeting nearly a year before the event. A half century of these conventions has made the choice of delegates more important than the convention itself. American politics thus moves back, decade by decade, nearer the people, and the newspaper polls and canvasses of the popular choice in progress now are the coming shadow of a day when the voters of each party will act directly in making these nominations. Already the selection must be made by the people or success cannot be had.

The following is the most recent statement of the faith of the Mahonites, by the Richmond, Va., Whig (Read.): "The republican party of Virginia to-day is not that of ten years ago. The times have changed, and men have changed with them. Republicanism in Virginia means bitter and determined opposition to the outrages of this latter-day faction which calls itself democracy, and causes a repression of the national interests of the entire people of Virginia. We want to align ourselves alongside with that great national party that favors protection of Virginia's mineral, mechanical, and agricultural interests. We are for the nominee of the Chicago convention, because that nominee will be for us—as we were for Arthur, because Arthur was for us. Charity and politics should begin at home. We should not be bourbon democrats because free trade is an enmity with our prosperity and future welfare. We should war against this faction because it has and will again war against us."

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An Editor Assassinated.

SANTA FE, New Mexico, April 1.—Charles L. Kusg, editor of the Gringo and Greaser, at Manzano, Vallencia county, was fatally shot last week by unknown parties. No particulars. He had been in New Mexico about three years. He resided in Georgetown, Col., in 1875, where he was a member of the firm of Broad & Ksug, and three years later he was one of the lucky at Leadville, where he made over $100,000, most of which he soon parted with. Since coming to this territory he has been engaged in real estate operations under the firm names of Kusg & Co. and Bradford & Kusg.

The Burlington's Big Business.

BOSTON, April 1.—The following figures are from the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy's report for 1883: Total gross earnings, including leased lands and branches, $26,110,369; operating expenses, $13,496,478; net earnings, $12,163,891; against $10,266,842, in 1883; net surplus for year, $987,646; total funded debt December 31st 1883 was $77,408,990. The length of road in operation December 31st 1883 was 3,332 miles. In addition the company controls and practically owns the Hannibal and St. Joe railroad.

The D. & R. G. Management.

SALT LAKE, Utah, April 1.—Yesterday President Lovejoy dismissed Col. Dodge from the general management of the Denver & Rio Grande. Dodge refuses to be dismissed, claiming that by the lease of the Denver & Rio Grande and Western he is made general manager for life or till his resignation, and the officers of the road stand by him in the fight. This section of the road runs 400 miles west from Grand Junction, Colorado, and holds the key to the western through business.

Buying Bonds.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 1.—The house committee on banking and currency instructed Dingley to report favorably a bill authorizing the secretary of the treasury out of any lawful money deposited by the national banks for the purpose of retiring their circulation, to purchase at current market rates bonds of the United States he may deem profitable to the government, the bonds so purchased to be held for use for purposes of this trust.

Bliss' Big Find.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—George Bliss continued his testimony relative to the star route trials before the Springer committee to-day. He said Cook kept in his possession a number of weeks abstracts of 16 routes prepared by Woodward. "In my opinion," Bliss said, "these abstracts were retained for the other side to copy."

The decrease of the public debt during March was $14,238,324; decrease since June 30, $81,828,398; cash in treasury, $402,875,211.

A Pittsburg Colony.

PITTSBURG, April 1.—A colony of 25 amilies left Pittsburg to-day for Seattle, Washington territory, which they purpose making their future home. Foreign immigration, which is crowding them out of trades, giving employers an opportunity to reduce wages, is given as the reason for seeking new homes. Several hundred more will leave shortly, if reports from the colony are favorable.

Fighting Railroad Commissioners.

JACKSON, Miss., April 1.—The counsel for the Illinois Central railroad to-day filed a long bill in the United States court against the railroad commissioners, praying an injunction enjoining them from every variety of interference with that road. If necessary the cases will be carried to the supreme court of the United States.

The Ice and Overflow at Bismarck.

BISMARCK, April 1.—Ice is forming below again, but the water is falling above. The steamers, Josephine and Rosebud are both hard aground. An immense ice field above Ft. Yates, and a big gorge may form at any time. The danger is not yet passed. Mails and passengers are still being transferred at Manday.

A Raid of Burglars.

GREENSBURG, Pa., April 1.—Last night burglars broke into the county treasurer's office, blew open the safe, stole $690 in cash and a number of valuable papers. The thieves escaped. Detectives are on the track. A clue has been found and it is thought they will be speedily captured.

Securing a Decree of Perjury.

PHILADELPHIA, April 1.—The grand jury this afternoon found a true bill against Major A. H. Nickerson, charging him with perjury. This is an outcome of his divorce suit, in which the major figured a year ago when he secured a divorce from his wife.

A Methodist Minister Dying.

PETERSBURG, Va., April 1.—Rev. John C. Edwards, pastor of the Market street M. E. church, one of the most prominent ministers in the M. E. church South, is lying at the point of death from stricture of the bowels.

Indorsing Arthur—Voting for Blaine.

PITTSBURG, Pa., April 1.—The republican convention of Clearfield county today endorsed President Arthur's administration and elected Blaine delegates to the state convention.

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