# THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

* TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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| 1 | 24,077 | 17 | 23,737 |
| 2 | 24,151 | 18 | 24,700 |
| 3 | 24,084 | 19 | 23,584 |
| 4 | 24,970 | 20 | 23,803 |
| 5 | 24,223 | 21 | 23,592 |
| 6 | 24,846 | 22 | 23,611 |
| 7 | 24,825 | 23 | 23,470 |
| 8 | 25,172 | 24 | 23,738 |
| 9 | 23,936 | 25 | 24,290 |
| 10 | 24,193 | 26 | 23,320 |
| 11 | 24,880 | 27 | 23,724 |
| 12 | 24,156 | 28 | 23,416 |
| 13 | 24,332 | 29 | 23,504 |
| 14 | 24,263 | 30 | 23,407 |
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GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 31st day of December, 1898.

(Seal.) N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

The race of the iron horse is proving almost as exciting as the usual race with horses of real flesh and blood.

The Nicaraugua canal bill will have the right of way in the senate. There are millions in it for some people.

The council has voted $1,000 to be expended on the cleaning of the streets as soon as the weather permits. But how far will $1,000 go?

From reports from various state capitals in which legislatures are convening it is plain that Lincoln is not the only place where boiling senatorial pots are ranged along the hearthstone.

It looks now as if the chief result of the army beef investigation would be to give the beef contractors some extensive free advertising for expert certificates of the purity of their meat products.

The charter amendments should be introduced as soon as the legislative committees are appointed. Holding back the charter has always been one cause of its being made a foot ball for everybody.

Douglas county men kept well to the front in the opening day proceedings of the legislature. It is to be hoped they will make equally as good a showing when they come to count up results of the entire session.

The report of the condition of the national banks in Nebraska outside of Omaha and Lincoln, like those from these two cities and of the state banks, emphasize the encouraging financial condition in this state.

It is really too bad to disappoint the fusionists so early in the session, even though their hopes had been raised to the point of jollification by the prospect of a split in the republican forces over the organization of the house.

To comply fully with the demands of all the different boards and departments the new city tax levy would have to go up like a skyrocket. The council therefore has in prospect the customary annual mission of reconciliation after disappointed hopes.

The ordinance for replacing with a modern pavement the rotten wooden blocks that have so long disfigured Capitol avenue has been formally introduced into the city council. The shouting, however, will be deferred until after the new pavement is laid.

Gomez evidently does not intend to disband his army as long as the rations hold out, or at least until some one provides the wherewith to purchase a future supply. After having successfully fought their battles for them without expectation of reward it appears to be somewhat out of the ordinary to ask Uncle Sam to pay the Cuban soldiers for the privilege.

The peace treaty has been placed before the senate. People who read the newspapers had been in possession of its contents for some time in spite of the fact that the commission and the authorities at Washington have kept it a profound "secret." The leaks in the diplomatic circle are just as numerous and as difficult to stop as those in senate executive sessions.

Attorney General Monett of Ohio, without waiting for the conclusion of his catch-as-catch-can match with the Standard Oil trust, has started after the Cracker trust, officially known as the American Biscuit company. Other attorney generals have the same license to proceed against some of the numerous trusts if they so desire and the general public will file no demurrer.

The political forecaster of the popocratic organ has it all figured out just how each member of the republican legislative majority will cast his vote for United States senator. When the roll call is responded to it will disclose that the popocratic organ is about as far off now as it was when it proclaimed Senator Allen's re-election to be assured by the election returns.

### *THE REVENUE QUESTION.*

There will be no revenue legislation by the present congress, but the Fifty-sixth congress will find this one of the most important of the questions that will demand consideration. The treasury statement of disbursements and receipts for December makes an uncommonly good showing, receipts falling below disbursements to the amount of only $460,000, but in order to understand the revenue situation it is necessary to examine results for a longer period. The total receipts of the government from customs, internal revenue and miscellaneous sources during the calendar year 1898 amounted in round numbers to $441,000,000. The expenditures for 1898 were nearly $565,000,000, of which about $194,000,000 was for the war. There is thus shown to have been during that year an excess of expenditures over receipts to the amount of $124,000,000. It is estimated that the war revenue act has furnished about $60,000,000 of the receipts of the last year, or an average of $10,000,000 a month since it went into operation. With this average maintained, as it probably will be, it seems safe to estimate that the treasury will receive from all sources of revenue during the present year $485,000,000 to $490,000,000. While it is not expected that this year's expenditures will equal those of last year they may not be very much less, so that it is obviously necessary to continue existing taxation for at least a year. Whether at the end of that time any reduction of revenue can be made will depend upon circumstances which cannot now be foreseen.

It seems evident that there will have to be a change in our revenue system in the near future. In the opinion of some intelligent students of the subject the government will have to rely hereafter more upon internal taxes and less upon customs duties. It is suggested that the lessening yield from customs, which is likely to continue, will compel this country to adopt the revenue policy which has been substantially adopted by the great nations of Europe. The customs revenues of Great Britain, amounting to about $100,000,000 yearly, are derived from a small number of commodities, including only tobacco, tea, coffee, wines, spirits and articles of that kind, which either have no domestic competitors or competitors upon which a counterbalancing internal revenue tax is laid. The bulk of the revenue comes from excise taxes and taxes on estates and inheritance, stamps, income and property. France also derives nearly all of its revenue from internal taxes and the German government obtains a considerable part of its revenue in the same way, though that country derives more than other European nations from customs. Russia, out of a total revenue of $600,000,000, obtains only $90,000,000 from customs.

It will become the duty of the next congress to consider and determine what modifications in our revenue system are required by the new conditions. This will involve revision of the tariff law and a readjustment of duties, but it is not to be apprehended that in accomplishing this a republican congress will abandon a policy of moderate protection, even as to those industries which seem to be no longer in need of protection. Whatever remodeling of the revenue system a republican congress may make it is entirely safe to say that it will not be at such sacrifice of the protective principle as will endanger the control of the home market by American manufacturers.

### *ROOSEVELT ON EXPANSION.*

Governor Roosevelt, in his message to the New York legislature, leaves no doubt in regard to his position on the policy of territorial expansion. He fully approves it and states his attitude with characteristic frankness. Of his right to do this there will be no question, but it may fairly be doubted whether he reflects the sentiment of a majority of the people of his state who have given the subject intelligent and thoughtful consideration. How many of the workingmen of that state are in favor of the expansion policy? Probably not five per cent of such of them as have given the matter any attention and have some understanding of what it means. How many of the farmers of the Empire state believe that their interests and welfare will be promoted by the acquisition of territory in the far east whose people do not need our agricultural products, but may become competitors in some of them with our own producers? The workingmen and the farmers of New York have cheerfully paid the taxes made necessary by war, but they will not continue to willingly do this in support of a policy that can bring them no benefit, but may do them harm. We do not think, therefore, that Governor Roosevelt represents these classes of the people in his attitude regarding expansion and they constitute a majority of the people of his state.

### *ENLARGED TERMINAL FACILITIES.*

The city council has finally passed the ordinance granting to the Omaha Bridge and Terminal Railway company the right-of-way through Fourteenth street on the following conditions:

1. All of the property, tracks and bridge of the company are to be forever free for any railroad which may desire to use them upon fair and equal terms without discrimination.

2. The company is bound not to enter into any trust or agreement with any other bridge or railroad company for the maintenance of rates.

3. Within one year the company is bound to have constructed a depot north of Capitol avenue, to which shall be operated the trains of at least one railroad not now entering Omaha.

4. The city shall have the right at all times to construct sewers, gas or water pipes or conduits under all tracks constructed.

5. Any private party or railroad company shall have the right to construct switch tracks to any factory, mill or industry and the Terminal company shall be bound to connect said tracks with its main tracks, and switch, without discrimination, cars to or from said industry.

6. All tracks crossing streets shall be laid even with the grades of the streets, and all paving replaced and forever maintained by the company.

While there may be some difference of opinion as to whether these restrictions and obligations imposed on the Terminal company are an equivalent for whatever value attaches to the streets that are to be crossed by the new tracks, it will be conceded by everybody interested in the growth of Omaha that competition between the two Missouri river bridges and additional terminal facilities will go far toward making the city a great distributing center. If it be true, as is asserted, that this right-of-way will be used by the Great Western, Omaha can well afford to be liberal or even generous. If, on the other hand, it is simply to become the inlet for the Port Arthur line, which is already at our door, no serious loss can be entailed upon any interest. With the safeguards that guarantee the use of the tracks at reasonable rates to all railroads as well as private parties owning factories, mills and warehouses, the city will derive material advantage from the concession.

### *GOMEZ AN OBSTRUCTIONIST.*

The proclamation of General Gomez to the Cuban army is likely to make the task of pacification more troublesome for the American authorities. He counsels the army not to disband until the debt which the country owes it shall be discharged and declares his intention to remain in the field, sword in hand, ready to resist American authority if not accompanied with a guaranty that the Cuban soldiers shall be paid what they claim is due them. The commission, at the head of which was General Garcia, that went to Washington to propose some arrangement for paying the Cuban soldiers, did not find our government well disposed toward its mission. It is not probable that the attitude of Gomez will change the opinion evidently held at Washington that this government is under no obligation to pay the soldiers of Cuba for their services in an insurrection against Spain. It is undoubtedly a fact that these men are in a destitute condition. Most of them have no homes, they are without the means to subsist until they can find employment and some, doubtless, are not able to work if work was at hand for them. But they have no just claim upon this country, which has expended a vast sum to give them the freedom they might never have achieved without such help.

Gomez says that Cuba is not yet free or independent. His course will not promote that consummation. It is not difficult to understand his sympathy and concern for the Cuban soldiers, but their condition will not be improved by obstructing the work of pacification and thereby delaying that freedom and independence which it is the desire of the United States government Cuba shall realize as soon as possible. The policy of these Cubans should be to heartily co-operate with this government in its purpose to give them independence and self-government and if they fail to do this the conviction will grow that they are not capable of governing themselves. From every point of view the position of General Gomez is unfortunate and if generally acquiesced in by the Cuban people may cause a great deal of trouble. Disbandment of the Cuban army is the first condition to pacification. It would be a most serious matter if it should have to be accomplished by force.

St. Clair county, Missouri, presents the most peculiar situation to be found anywhere in the world. In that county two men are annually elected to go to jail. The names of the men appear on the ballot as candidates for county judges, but they are not much more than settled in their offices until they are imprisoned for contempt of the federal court. A judgment, which, with interest, now amounts to over a million dollars, hangs over the county, and as the people are unanimous that the judgment is unjust, the county judges year after year refuse to levy a tax to pay it and are sent to jail for contempt. Just when this strange condition of affairs will end no one appears able to tell.

Judge Slabaugh has announced that an effort is to be made to collect forfeited bail bonds in the district court. Of late years, at least, no serious effort has been made to enforce them and men have looked upon the signing of a bail bond as a mere formality. As a result, it is generally known that a large proportion of these bonds are worthless, as will be disclosed by the first effort to recover on them. Should it become understood that men signing bail bonds are to be held to strict accountability it would be a serious discouragement to professional bondsmen and also make responsible parties think several times before signing bonds for irresponsible men.

The German military officer who was at Manila at the time the city surrendered and before says it is all a mistake about the ill-feeling between the German and American naval officers and that Germany is perfectly satisfied with the possession of the islands by the United States. The truth appears to be that foreign powers are beginning to realize what a good thing they would have if this country assumed the burden of governing those islands and allowed all nations to trade there on the same terms as its own citizens.

Omaha has reason to congratulate itself upon the raising of the smallpox quarantine after the stamping out of the disease. This gratifying condition is due to the prompt and vigorous action of the local health officers and the cordial co-operation of the physicians who have been in attendance on the cases in the united effort to handle the pest along lines dictated by modern medical science.

The jobbers in farm implements are again wrestling with the problem of heading off the cat houses or mail order concerns. This can be done in just two ways. First by inducing the implement manufacturers to sell to jobbers only and second by meeting the competition of the cat houses through better quality or lower prices. Boycotting the Greater America Exposition will not do it.

Kansas City now has a big convention hall. What is the matter with Omaha having one? The city last year demonstrated its ability to care for immense crowds, and with a suitable meeting place provided there is no reason why Omaha cannot in the future capture many of the big conventions. Its mid-continent location, coupled with unexcelled railroad facilities, make it a specially desirable and convenient point for such gatherings.

Governor Roosevelt gives it out that wife murderers and men convicted of abusing their better halves need expect no executive clemency during his term. The governor appears to have decided convictions on matters of family discipline as well as military discipline.

**Not Easily Scared.**
Boston Transcript.

The plucky Dutchmen of the Transvaal are slow in accepting the British jingo basis of "destiny" that they are an inferior race.

**Hard Heads to Operate On.**
St. Louis Republic.

The writing of Agoncillo and the bluffing of Aguinaldo are obstacles in the path of pacification. But they do not constitute all the hard nuts to be cracked before the Filipinos can be Americanized.

**Couriers of Civilization.**
Brooklyn Eagle.

The Spaniards owned the Philippines for centuries and left them about as they found them. The Yankees have been there only a few months and there are American bars all over Manila and soap "ads" in shrieking yellow letters all over the walls.

**Man for an Emergency.**
Buffalo Express.

General Lawton proved himself at Santiago just the kind of tactful, sensible man that is needed in the Philippines. The announcement that he is to go there probably means that he will be expectd to assume chief command as soon as may be without seeming to discredit General Otis.

**An Eye-Opener for Foreigners.**
Louisville Courier-Journal.

"This is the first time in the history of finance that New York has been in a position to dictate money rates to London, Berlin and Paris," remarks the manager of one of the biggest of London's banks. The year just closed made several "first time" records for the United States which have opened the eyes of the people across the Atlantic.

**Promotion in the Navy.**
Chicago Post.

The plan proposed by Dewey's officers may not give the best solution of the problem of promotion in the navy, but it is entitled to careful consideration. There is certainly something wrong with a system, such as the present, which permits a man to be rewarded for meritorious services only at the expense of others whose work may have been but slightly less meritorious. It ought not to be necessary to push one man down to put another up.

**The Regular Army Officer.**
Indianapolis Journal.

If there is a case on record in which a United States regular army officer has not proved equal to every emergency and discharged difficult duties with intelligence and tact we do not recall it. In peace or in war, in command of troops in action or as military governors, as Indian agents or as fiscal agents, they are always equal to the occasion. Proofs of this are being afforded now in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. Wherever the flag flies American interests are safe in the hands of American officers.

**The Paper Trust.**
Philadelphia Record.

The Paper Trust lays a heavy hand on the newspapers, which are made to contribute about $2,000,000 per year to its revenues. Some of the newspapers deserve the punishment they get because they have been persistent advocates of the policy which has filled the country with trusts. Unjust taxation may have an educative effect upon the newspaper press which could not have been so thoroughly brought about in any other way. To pinch his pocket is generally a very effective way of reaching the intelligence of the taxpayer.

**The Asiatic Colony.**
Prof. Woolsey in New York Independent.

It was to secure the good of its own people that this government was organized. To risk that good or to sacrifice it for the sake of another people is to betray a trust. The destruction of the Spanish fleet at Manila was a defensive act. It saved the California coast from possible attack. The dispatch of an army and capture of Manila was an offensive measure, not necessary for, or directly connected with, the main object of the war, viz., the liberation of Cuba. By it the administration created a difficulty. Now it uses the very difficulty to justify the plan of annexation.

**Memorial to a School Builder.**
Kansas City Star.

A monument has been raised in Lafayette square, New Orleans, in honor of John McDonogh, who left his great fortune for the building of schools in Baltimore and New Orleans. Some forty fine school buildings have been erected in New Orleans and the monument was reared by the school children of New Orleans, who gave $10,000. It is well that a philanthropist, unlike a prophet, is honored in his own country. While John McDonogh conferred inestimable service upon the city of New Orleans, his name is not to be found in American cyclopedias of biography. New Orleans honored itself by raising monuments to him and to Margaret Haughery.

**America's Peace Envoy.**
Kansas City Star.

The choice of Archbishop Ireland as a representative of the United States at the czar's peace congress seems entirely appropriate. As a minister of the Prince of Peace, the archbishop would be a fitting representative in a council called for the pacification of nations. He who represents America should be an American in his attachments, thoughts and feelings, and Archbishop Ireland is all that. A man of cultivated mind, of patriotic impulses, of mature years; taught by the experiences of both war and peace, Archbishop Ireland should lend dignity and purpose to the council.

**Ruin in Interior Cuba.**
Havana Letter in Leslie's Weekly.

On by train into interior Cuba—a region of abandoned farms, ruined plantations, and deserted villages. Matanzas province is a desert of ashes; Santa Clara, a wilderness of weeds; the province of Santiago, a jungle. The ruin and the desolation are the terrible autographs of rifle and torch. Royal palms guard the plantation region, useless sentinels ever since the day in which $60,000,000 of sugar cane became drifting ashes. Nine miles from Guanabana the train came to a washout, stopped, giving us time to wander about the country. Not an inhabitant was visible—yes, in one of the ruined haciendas I did find one family. Father, mother and daughter had been living on potatoes and fruit for more than a year. Meat and money teby had not seen since the beginning of the insurrection. The lonely ones living there were worse off than Arabs in the desert, for they had neither horses nor salt. Learning that they actually beheld an American, they fell to the ground and kissed my boots. Then they wanted to know if what they had heard was really true—that President McKinley was coming to live in "Cooba" and was to furnish all "Coobans" with codfish and cornmeal and coin forever. After that, at every plantation I visited, I found pacificos living in the same tomb-like seclusion, the ghostly apparitions of a paradise in ruins.

### THE NEW CUBA.

Louisville Courier-Journal: Spain has now retired forever from this hemisphere. Let the dead past bury its dead and let the faces of the future be turned to the future.

Minneapolis Times: With proper regard for the racial peculiarities of our new Cuban wards, the task of governing them should not be a very difficult one, disposed, as they seem to be, to accept the situation philosophically.

Indianapolis News: It was also, and it is yet, the desire of our people that the Cubans should have independence. Whether they get it in the near future depends entirely on the way they conduct themselves. A new Cuba already exists. It is within the power of the people of the island to make a new nation. They have the sympathy of the American people, and they will have their support and assistance.

Kansas City Star: The first sign of a new and better rule in the island should be a restoration of industry. The most fertile soil in the world should be cultivated. The Americans have little patience with the talk heard from some Cubans to the effect that the late insurgent soldiers must be fed by the United States or they will take to the hills and become bandits. The American mind does not recognize thieving as a necessary alternative. The United States will be a large employer in Cuba, but the Cubans who do not work for the government must work for themselves or somebody else.

Chicago Tribune: The chapter in American history that was brought to a close when the Spanish flag was carried slinkingly down a back street to the wharf in Havana is one that could fitly be ended by such an act of bad faith. It is a chapter of rapine, murder, tyranny and cruel oppression. The gnarled wreck of the Maine lying in the bay, a historic monument of Spanish treachery, is the true symbol of Spanish methods and a perpetual reminder of Spanish principles. It is not strange that such a power should make its final exit down a back alley rather than fulfill a pledge to depart in open daylight with the honors accorded by a generous victor.

Chicago Record: This change marks the goal toward which the Cuban people have been struggling for years. The former insurrections were suppressed or smothered, and what the ultimate outcome of the recent revolution would have been in case the United States had not intervened cannot be told. The insurgents a year ago were nearer victory than they were in the previous revolt, but the decisive triumphs which could enable them to drive the Spanish from the cities and thus establish independent government were apparently as far out of reach as ever. At the time this nation intervened the condition of the people was shocking, and there was nothing to show that any amelioration of their troubles was in sight.

Philadelphia Times: It goes without saying that American energy will be foremost in the development of Cuba. Already our capitalists are there contending for the control of her railroads, telegraphs, telephones and her great mineral wealth, and other millions are ready for the speedy development of her matchless sugar lands now generally devastated. A single year will be likely to make Cuba blossom and fruit as never before, and her growth in the development of most substantial wealth will be unexampled. American influences will rule from the start and in the near future there will be a thoroughly Americanized Cuban republic that will be ready for annexation as one of the territories or states of the union.

New York Tribune: Our flag in Cuba today means that this nation dares to be strong for another. It has been thus strong before. It did more for others than for itself when it did what all the powers of Europe could not or dared not do, when it smoked out the pirate wasp nests on the Barbary coast. It did a deed for the whole race when it opened Japan to civilized intercourse. It was strong for others when it spread the shield of the Monroe doctrine over the young republics of the south. It was strong not for its own selfish use when it drove pinchbeck Bonapartism out of Mexico, and when it required justice and reason to prevail above mere force on the Venezuelan frontier. In all these things there was no self-seeking for a single rood of ground. And the same is now true in Cuba. The solemn pledge made in the act of intervention still holds good.

### PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Aguinaldo seems to think that his is the main circus, and Uncle Sam is running the side show.

Only four members of Alabama's secession convention are now living—United States Senator John T. Morgan, Circuit Judge A. A. Coleman of Birmingham, W. E. Clark of Mobile and John W. Inzey of St. Clair.

Some one the other day asked Senator Simon of Oregon what he thought of the business opportunities of Alaska. "Carpet-beating is the best business," he replied. "You can just beat the carpets and keep the dust."

Rain or shine, while the president is in the White House a splendid silk flag always waves from a flag pole on the executive mansion. When the chief magistrate leaves Washington it is taken down and folded away until his return.

The pen with which Governor Roosevelt of New York signed the oath of office was kept by the governor himself. It was the one which General Palmer had used during the civil war. The bible on which the oath was taken was presented to Mrs. Roosevelt.

Colonel George B. M. Harvey, who is at the head of a syndicate which bought the street railway systems of Havana for $1,472,000, is an old journalist. He was once connected with the Springfield Republican and was later managing editor of the New York World.

Judge Hamilton Ward of the supreme court of New York, who died at his home in Belmont last Wednesday, was a member of the congressional committee appointed to consider the assassination of President Lincoln, and also of the committee to draw up articles of impeachment against President Andrew Johnson.

An Italian journal says that the German emperor will, during the winter, take a short holiday in Rome, where he will give a grand costume ball at the German embassy. This would add one more costume to those in the kaiser's collection, for the dresses are to be those of the Roman empire. The embassy is being restored, and the paintings in the principal room will cost, it is said, not less than £8,000.

Officials of the weather bureau will be star witnesses in the damage suits entered against the owners of the steamer Portland, wrecked off the Massachusetts coast in the blizzard of November 26-7. These claims aggregate $1,000,000. The storm began in Boston about noon on the 26th. For hours before the storm signals of the weather bureau floated from many staffs and warnings were sent to the shipping. Notwithstanding all this, the Portland put to sea, carrying 165 persons to destruction.

### ECHOES OF THE WAR.

One of the few features of the war that give it a shade of gaiety is a dispatch recently made public concerning the Santiago campaign. After the scrapping of July 1-2 and the destruction of Cervera's fleet General Shafter urged Admiral Sampson to force the entrance to the harbor. These urgings were fruitless and in the midst of them the War department sent a telegram to General Shafter advising him to make an entrance for the ships of the navy into the harbor by sending in a transport protected from the enemy's guns by a sheathing of baled hay. It appears that the idea was really entertained; that Colonel Humphrey, chief of the quartermaster's department, who was selected by General Shafter to engineer the exploit, got as far as selecting a suitable vessel and securing a pilot familiar with the channel, and that Captain Stewart M. Brice was among the volunteers. The whole thing was dropped at the last moment because General Shafter learned that the Spaniards were really going to surrender.

"Some of the regimental commanders at Santiago," writes a correspondent of Leslie's Weekly, "thought it best to take the instruments away from the band and either arm them or make them litter-bearers, but happily many commanders were far-sighted enough to see that the men would need music far more than they would the help of the bandmen in any other capacity. There was no time when the men actually needed music as they did during the period of truces, for when the fighting would cease and the excitement of the work would die out it was then that the men would think, and it was then, if ever, that their spirits would droop. No matter how wet and cold they were whenever the 'wind-jammers unlimbered' their spirits would rise immediately and in an instant they would be singing in the chorus. The men of the regiments that had left their instruments behind on the transports would crowd to the end of their line, as near the music as possible.

"'There'll be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight' proved to be a perfect battle tune, and the men were never too tired or too hungry to stand up and yell themselves hoarse over the song. It was the marching song, it was the song of the trenches, and it was played at the flag raising in Santiago.

"The afternoon concerts always ended with the national hymn, 'The Star-Spangled Banner,' and until one has heard that grand anthem where it means so much he cannot appreciate its sentiment."

The poor sugar syndicate of Hawaii is already knocking at the doors of congress seeking relief from the clause of the territorial bill abolishing the coolie. A Washington correspondent says the planters think they should be allowed a long term of years—twenty preferably—to adapt themselves to the new conditions. They allege that a sudden change from contract Asiatic labor at $13 a month to white men and white men's wages means ruin, and the prospect of much lower tariff rates on Cuban and Philippine sugar strengthens them in this view. In fact, this situation was the reason publicly assigned by the Spreckels for the sale of all their interests in Hawaiian sugar property—at one time very large. Some of the sugar corporations in the islands have paid as high as 50 per cent dividends in one year, but the planters allege that such returns are abnormal and should not be taken into consideration in determining the justness of their plea for special legislation.

### THE OMAHA IDEA.

**Model Plan for an Agricultural Display at Paris.**
Chicago Times-Herald.

Shall we have a practical exhibit of the best products of American agriculture at the Paris exhibition, or shall we send over one of those microscopical exhibits of "scientific husbandry" with which we have astonished the world at various expositions in the past?

Shall we show the Europeans the finest wheat, corn and potatoes that are grown on the globe, or shall we dazzle them with jars of growing roots and illustrated treatises on the nomadic habits of the omnivorous chinch bug and hen louse?

These are questions that the practical agriculturists of the west, who do not farm with a microscope, are asking each other. Having discussed the matter among themselves they are beginning to extend their inquiries in the direction of Washington.

Those who visited the argicultural exhibit at the Omaha exposition could not fail to be strongly impressed with the remarkable agricultural resources of Nebraska. Neither could they fail to note the practical idea underlying the display which made it a most comprehensive presentation of the possibilities of Nebraska soil.

It is contended by those who are interested in sending a creditable agricultural exhibit to Paris that we have never had a complete, practical, comprehensive display of the nation's agricultural resources at any great exposition. Some of the exhibits from single counties in Nebraska at the Omaha exposition surpassed the entire agricultural display at the World's fair.

It is the Omaha idea that should prevail in the exhibit of our agricultural products at the Paris exposition. The application of scientific ideas to husbandry is not to be depreciated. It is to science that we owe our remarkable agricultural development within the last twenty years. But our display at Paris should embrace the products of scientific farming, not the science itself. We should aim to impress the Europeans with the vastness and richness of our great western territory, the soil of which is destined to feed the world.

If the government should conclude to send such an exhibit it should call at once upon each state to prepare to raise the crops necessary to enter the contest for the honor of furnishing the best products in each department of husbandry.

### NO OTHER NATION LIKE OURS.

**Unique and Enviable Financial Position of the United States.**
New York Sun.

It needs the occasional reminder of a debt statement, presidential message, congressional appropriation bill, or government balance sheet to impress fully on public attention the unique, enviable and wholly unrivalled financial position which the United States bears among the nations of the world. On December 1 the total debt of the United States was $1,036,000,000. This is a large debt when measured by ordinary standards, but of relatively small account when considered in connection with the fact that thirty-two years ago the debt of the country was nearly three times as large and the interest four time greater than it is at present. The United States is not the only country which has a large debt, but it is the only country which is steadily decreasing its debt, while at the same time enormously increasing its resources. In this respect the financial position of the United States is absolutely impregnable, and its credit is steadily on the increase.

Great Britain's debt is now about $87 per capita, that of France $115, of Holland $190 and of Italy $75. The per capita debt of the United States is less than $15 and the security for its payment is increasing all the time. Again, from another point of view, the financial position of the United States is the envy and marvel of the financiers of all countries. To supply the sums requisite for ordinary governmental expenses, to meet the interest on the existing debt, to provide resources for new expenditures, buildings, armament, subsidies and various public works, European nations generally, and some South American nations, too, have had recourse to various methods of taxation which may be said to have attained their extreme in two countries, Italy and Portugal. England has an income tax and collects about 20 per cent of its revenue from direct taxation. France has a tobacco monopoly, registration taxes, stamp taxes, tax on windows, and almost countless local taxes, of which the octroi, on goods entering cities, is one. Austria has an income tax and, besides many stamp taxes, lotteries are a source of public revenue. Italy has a tobacco monopoly, a house tax, an income tax, a salt tax, octroi duties, stamp taxes and large legacy and registration taxes. Greece has a cattle tax, a house tax, a salt tax, a government monopoly of petroleum sales and tobacco dealing and almost countless local taxes.

In the United States the public revenues have been provided for and all public expenses met and the national debt reduced in addition without recourse to any direct taxation. There are no government monopolies, and the treasury has been kept usually in a plethoric condition from the receipts of customs and internal revenue payments.

### SMILING REMARKS.

Detroit Free Press: "Is Glister so wealthy?"

"I should say he was! Why, he is so rich that he doesn't have to pay his bills."

Somerville Journal: It may or may not be right to tax bachelors, but married men are often taxed by their wives with things they didn't do.

Indianapolis Journal: "What has become of that young man who used to practice incessantly on the cornet?"

"We got even with him," answered the small-souled citizen. "We gave his children a lot of tin horns on Christmas and they made him so nervous he packed up and moved into the country."

Chicago Tribune: Mabel (after the caller had gone)—Did you notice the pained expression that came over Mr. Hankinson's face when he shifted his chair?

Maud—No. What was the matter?

Mabel—I think he found where I had stuck my gum.

Chicago Tribune: Statesman — Well, Squatting Bear, how does the expansion idea strike you—great father at Washington annex the Philippines—take islands in Pacific ocean, you know?

Squatting Bear—Heap good. Mebby Injun agents go. Heap d—— rascals. Rob Philpeens. Mebbe let Injun alone. Ugh!

### A BELATED GREETING.

W. J. Lampton in New York Sun.

Hail, '99;
Arise and shine!
Don't be a clam,
But spread yourself on Uncle Sam
And turn your glim
On him.
Look at him, will you? See
His glory and his majesty.
One foot is in Alaska's cold,
And with a bootleg full of gold.
Another down
In Florida, whose crown
Is fair Pomona's, Summer Queen,
Robed in her everlasting green;
Whose fruits and flowers,
In fragrant showers,
Pour ceaseless harvests; there
Is a world of sunshine, and the air
Is full of healing balm, and health
Adds to his wealth
Its benison. He spreads his hands
O'er other lands;
He smiles
Upon the Sandwich Isles,
And, with a grin,
He sticks them in
The pocket of his ample vest
At their request.
Snug little Porto Rico he
Wears as his finger ring; she
Is a diamond set
In a sapphire ring of wet.
He spreads his flying coat-tails o'er
The Cuban shore
And hills;
And suffering Cuba's ills
Are nevermore.
And eastward, where the Orient leans
On the sunrise, he takes the Philippines
In clustered beauty, as his toll,
And pins them in his buttonhole.
About him everywhere, prosperity,
In field and shop and mill and argosy
Lies plenty, and
His is a happy land.
Say, '99, ain't he a looloo? Ain't
He a symphony in red paint?


ROYAL BAKING POWDER
ABSOLUTELY PURE
Makes the food more delicious and wholesome
ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.



A waste of wind.

Next to the weather bureau, perhaps the greatest waste of wind is in foolish newspaper advertising. A good deal of it is like blowing into a lung tester. It fills the lung tester for a minute but leaves the lungs empty to nobody's benefit.

We prefer to call your attention to a few facts that are facts, and to invite you here to prove our representations, and then to leave the rest to the good judgment of the customer.

If you will exercise your judgment, you will come here for clothes. Our goods will justify your choice.

BROWNING KING & CO