

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, deposes and swears that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of July, 1891, was as follows:

1. Total number of copies printed.....	21,015	2. Total number of copies distributed.....	21,015
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Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 1st day of August, 1891.

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RAILROAD RATES IN IOWA.

The old fight of the railroads against governmental regulation of rates is about to be renewed in Iowa. Notice to that effect has already been served upon the people by the petition of the through lines asking the Board of Railroad Commissioners "to revise the schedules and classifications now in force and to raise the maximum rates which may be charged in Iowa." The proposed effect of the petitioning railroads is to secure "a reasonable, fair and just compensation for the service to be rendered in each particular case," and the allegation is made that the compensation now allowed is not reasonable, fair and just. This, of course, will raise a storm of opposition from jobbers, merchants, farmers and shippers generally, but the railroads, elated by their recent victory over the American Railway union, are eager to make another test of strength with the people.

When the Iowa schedule of maximum rates went into effect in 1888 the railroads flooded the state with promises of dire disaster and prevented its enforcement to the greatest extent in their power. Notwithstanding this, however, the earnings increased by over \$5,000,000, and they have continued to increase steadily ever since. In 1890 their earnings for Iowa were \$45,000,000, a considerable advance over the \$37,000,000 of the previous year. The outlook for the present year is said to be very encouraging to the Iowa railroads, but to what business is it very encouraging? The traffic and receipts of the railroads in that state have not been affected more seriously than those of roads in other states, while, according to their own statements, their economies, through retrenchment and reduced service, have been equal to the best.

The through lines tried to precipitate this issue last fall, when they changed the basis of dividing earnings with local lines which originate the business. Prior to that time local lines received 30, 40 and even as high as 52 1/2 per cent of the entire earnings for originating the business and the local haul. As the through traffic constitutes 65 per cent of the traffic of Iowa lines, this gave them satisfactory returns regardless of local rates. An order of the through lines promulgated in November, 1890, proposed to cut the basis of division to 10 per cent, and was expected to transfer about \$10,000,000 annually from the local lines to the through lines. It was also expected to drive the local lines to demand an increase of the maximum local rates, and there was considerable talk of such action at the time. The plan, however, did not materialize. The through lines have therefore been left to institute the fight themselves, a task to which they have but now brought themselves. The issue is bound to be brought into the political arena, particularly since the present Board of Railroad Commissioners venture to accede to the request of the petitioners. Such a proceeding will be viewed as the first step in a systematic plan to undo all the railroad regulation which the people of Iowa have secured after years of earnest effort. It will not be submitted to without a struggle.

CARNOT'S ASSASSIN SENTENCED.

French justice dealt summarily with an anarchist assassin. On Sunday, June 21, Sadi Carnot, president of France, was assassinated in the streets of Lyons by a young man who had espoused anarchism. Last Thursday the assassin was put on trial and yesterday he was sentenced to death. There was no time wasted in the preliminaries and no delay in the proceedings before the court. No tricky lawyers interposed technical objections to the course of justice. Taken to the gallows the murderer could have but one defense, that of irresponsibility by reason of mental weakness, and this defense he would not make. Investigation into the family history of Carnot had disclosed the fact that four of his relatives died in insane asylums and it was thought that this might be made the ground for a plea of insanity on his behalf. But when the judge asked the assassin whether he was responsible for his actions he replied in the affirmative and further declared that none of his family had ever been weak minded.

The answers given by Cesarlo to the questions of the court illustrate the powerful influence which anarchistic teachings exert upon the minds of those who espouse them. This young man said that he loves his mother, who had tried hard, as did other members of his family, to dissuade him from becoming an anarchist, but he could regard her pleadings as prompted by prejudice and was acting in the cause of humanity. What sort of mental condition is it that allows a man to accept the doctrine that destruction of life and property is a proper means of remedying the ills of society, that in such a cause deliberate and cold-blooded murder is glorious, and who will renounce family and friends in order to put in practice the most barbarous doctrine? Certainly the mind cannot be entirely sound and rational and will do this. The assassin of Carnot does not appear to be a mere brute. That he believes he was justified in committing the heinous crime is not to be doubted, but he did not, in the course of the trial, make any inordinate manifestations, as some others have done, of a sense of pride or glory in his deed, the only approach to such an exhibition being his claim that he planned the assassination without assistance, and this may have been done for the purpose of shielding others from suspicion. The prisoner was allowed three days in which to take an appeal, but he may not avail himself of it, knowing that it would be of no avail to do so. The higher court will certainly sustain the verdict and as soon as French law permits Cesarlo will pay the penalty of his crime on the guillotine.

The swiftness with which justice has been meted out in this case will naturally be contrasted with the slow course of the law in the cases of the assassins of public men in this country, particularly that of Prendergast, who did not pay the penalty of his crime for more than eight months after its commission. The example of the French method of administering justice in such cases is worthy of serious consideration.

ADVANTAGE OF PAVED COUNTY ROADS.

Whether macadam as laid on the new roads in this county proves a success or failure there is no doubt that the stone block pavement will endure several generations. The new roadway on the old Military road should by all means be extended to the Elkhorn and clear to the western boundary of the county. It is a magnificent stretch of public road as far as it has been laid, and is not excelled by any country road in America. While stone blocks are very costly for country road pavements, they will, in our judgment, prove the cheapest in the end. There are now about 150 miles of public roads in Douglas county. Every mile of paved roadway is sure to double the value of adjacent land. The paving of every mile of road in the county would be the most profitable investment the county could make. The area

of