

## THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. HOWESWATER, EDITOR.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

Bills of Nebraska, Douglas County, etc., George H. Fischbeck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says copy of the Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee, printed during the month of February, 1899, was as follows:

	18,000	18,000	24,000
1. 9,410	18,000	24,000	24,000
2. 9,410	18,000	24,000	24,000
3. 9,410	18,000	24,000	24,000
4. 2,820	18,000	24,000	24,000
5. 2,405	18,000	24,000	24,000
6. 22,890	18,000	24,000	24,000
7. 20,650	18,000	24,000	24,000
8. 20,140	18,000	24,000	24,000
9. 24,040	18,000	24,000	24,000
10. 24,040	18,000	24,000	24,000
11. 24,040	18,000	24,000	24,000
12. 24,040	18,000	24,000	24,000
13. 24,040	18,000	24,000	24,000
14. 24,040	18,000	24,000	24,000
Total	707,300		
Lots bound and returned copies	14,000		
Net total sales	693,300		
Net daily average	9,167		
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of March, 1899,	GEORGE M. REED,		
Notary Public in and for Douglas County,	No. 100.		

No more firetraps are wanted in Omaha.

Auditor Cornell has discovered what everybody else knew that The Bee prints the news ahead of all competitors.

The legislature has fixed the last day of March for its adjourn. Invitations to the funeral may be expected in due course.

France has had another explosion, but the wonder only is that a nation so surcharged with gas does not blow up altogether.

Beware of the tinder box structure with but one wooden staircase exit as a certain pitfall for inmates in every case of fire.

Auditor Cornell should have known long ago that the vigilant Bee reporters have always been the terror of officials who betray a public trust.

According to the almanac it is now spring, but the wise man will restrain his ardor for a straw hat and a palm leaf fan for at least a few days.

Commander Tansig of the Bennington has added another bloodless victory to the record of the navy by capturing Wake Island without a struggle.

General Miles is in Boston, but it is not stated whether his presence has anything to do with Major Josiah Quincy's efforts to embalm a few English sparrows.

Aguinaldo announces that within twenty days he will move his forces into Manila. He probably will move within that time, but he has mistaken the direction. He should take a day off and adjust his compass.

The first duty devolving on Omaha's new postmaster will be to exert him self to secure an increase in the local clerical and delivery force. In this he will have all Omaha behind him, regardless of age, color or politics.

Voters in Nebraska towns are just now preparing to decide whether they shall be wet or dry during the ensuing season. As the legislature has not passed the禁酒 bill the country will be compelled to depend on the oft-fashoned weather regulator.

The heavy taxpayers who took special pains to enter vigorous protest against the proposed charter amendment, in opposing the bill that requires them to list all taxable property at its fair market worth, and they will now proceed to assess the cash held by local banks at one-tenth its face value.

As always, The Bee was the first paper to give the news of the fatal Decatur block fire with the names of the killed and injured. Compare the wild and incoherent gosses of an alleged contemporary with The Bee's prompt and accurate report given to the public in an extra while the fire was still in its height.

No matter how often a chronic line is shown up, it keeps on lying. The World-Herald is now trying to make its readers believe The Bee suppressed the report of the appointment of the committee to investigate charges of corruption practiced by members of the supreme court. The appointment of this committee is recorded in the first column of the first page of Thursday's Bee. But the World-Herald will keep right on lying.

any intention to do this. A clash between Americans and Canadians in the disputed territory would be a serious matter, even if it should not raise a grave international complication, and every proper effort should be made to avert such a trouble, which is believed to be imminent. We cannot suppose that our government is indifferent to the situation, though it does not seem to be regarded with very great concern.

The Alaska boundary question is one of the matters before the Anglo-American commission and when negotiations are resumed there should be a prompt and earnest effort made to effect a settlement of the irritating and dangerous issue.

## A DEPLORABLE CATASTROPHE.

The fatal fire in the Patterson block resulting in the loss of two lives and the injury of so many others is a most deplorable catastrophe. While like in similar calamities, it is difficult to see how the numerous casualties could possibly have been prevented under the circumstances, the sympathy of the whole community goes out to the stricken families of the dead and injured, and the pall of the gloomy event covers the entire city.

What I think of our colonel? It was a lucky day for the First Nebraska when it got a military man at its head. He's a terror for discipline, but a "cracker-jack" when it comes to fighting.

Perhaps it would not be out of order for the governor to command him to request the immediate removal of Col. Blotsenburgh from command of the First Nebraska.

## THE SPANISH PRISONERS.

Doubtless the Spanish prisoners held by Aguinaldo are faring badly. It is not probable that the Filipinos are paying much attention to the principles observed by civilized countries in the treatment of prisoners of war and very likely the Spaniards are subjected to much hardship and privation. By the terms of the treaty of peace the United States undertook to obtain the release of these prisoners and some effort has been made to carry out this obligation, but the action of General Otis in forbidding communication across his lines with the insurgents, which had been carried on by General Rios on behalf of the Spanish government, put an end to negotiations for the release of the prisoners and their situation is now rather worse than ever, since all prospect of Aguinaldo getting a ransom for their release has disappeared.

The matter was presented to the attention of the State department a few days ago by the French ambassador at the request of the Spanish government, who requested that this government would make earnest efforts for the release of the Spanish prisoners in the hands of the Filipinos, or to establish his claim to their esteem as a brave and able soldier and a patriotic citizen. In this respects the position of General Wheeler is firmly fixed in the public mind and whoever shall attempt to impugn or detract from it is certain to meet with overwhelming popular rebuke. We do not know what motive prompted the charges which General Wheeler felt called upon to take notice of and which he has most completely refuted, but we are entirely confident they had no weight with the American people.

Fortunately the sad side of the catastrophe is illumined by the heroic courage, not only of the firemen, but also of the citizen volunteers who risked their lives to assist others in danger. The debt of gratitude owing them should not be forgotten.

## GENERAL WHEELER'S STATEMENT.

The statement made by General Joseph Wheeler in regard to the part he and his cavalry command bore in the Santiago campaign, intended as a retort of charges reflecting on his conduct, is an interesting and valuable contribution to the history of that memorable campaign, but it was not needed to assure the American people that he well and faithfully performed his duty at Santiago, or to establish his claim to their esteem as a brave and able soldier and a patriotic citizen. In this respects the position of General Wheeler is firmly fixed in the public mind and whoever shall attempt to impugn or detract from it is certain to meet with overwhelming popular rebuke. We do not know what motive prompted the charges which General Wheeler felt called upon to take notice of and which he has most completely refuted, but we are entirely confident they had no weight with the American people.

General Wheeler offered his services to the government as soon as war was declared. That was a patriotic act which reflected, as it deserved, the hearty commendation of the country. At Santiago he was in the forefront of the fighting, inspiring officers and men by his example and effectively arousing his ability as a commander. There were other capable soldiers there, but none did more courageous or more useful service than the veteran Wheeler, or whom Colonel Roosevelt said he was the backbone of the campaign. Imperial history will not withhold from General Wheeler the just praise and honor which he merits for his services in the war with Spain.

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Over-hasty, to say the least.

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CHICAGO TIMES-HERALD.

Both from a moral, mental and physical standpoint it is essential that convicts should be kept employed, but the selection of an employment which will conflict least with free labor is not so easy. So far as any Iowa industry is concerned the one proposed is probably open to as little objection as any which could have been selected.

Inasmuch as a superficial investigation

has reduced the Cuban army from forty-eight to thirteen thousand it is not improbable a still more thorough examination may develop a lack of a quorum.

## Brave, but Not Reckless.

Chicago News.

General Wheeler denies the report that he is about to marry, thus giving his friends to understand that in spite of his well known bravery he is not at all inclined to be reckless.

## Second the Motion.

Chicago Record.

After the beef question has been thoroughly sifted the government should make an investigation of the weather department and see if it has not been giving us embalmed weather during the last few months.

## Political Pedigrees in Demand.

St. Paul Pioneer Press.

The next man that invites Mr. Bryan to dine would do well to apprise the Inviting a brief statement of his pedigree, his religious affiliations, his domestic status, the way he voted at the last election and the way he intends to vote at the next.

## Where to Strike the Trots.

Chicago Times-Herald.

Wherever the protective tariff enhances the price of the product of a country to the American consumer it should be reduced or removed entirely. That is a pretty safe proposition. Its adoption will remove the stigma of fostering trusts from the republican party.

## Benefits of Protective Duties.

New York Tribune.

British India in the east adopts the United States system of protective duties against bountied sugar, while British India in the west is not permitted to do so, and in consequence is falling into industrial破产.

The lesson is one which statesmen should understand.

## Uncle Sam's Free Lunch.

Indispensable Journal.

During the month of February the government distributed about 1,000,000 rations in Cuba, and nearly 2,000,000 will have been given away by the end of March. As each ration costs 11 cents the expense to the government's charity for this month will be about \$48,000. It is said, however, that the period of greatest distress is past and the cost of all rations distributed after April 1st will be charged up against the Cuban customs revenue.

## Rising Industrial Tide.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

It is noticed that rates for call loans in New York are rising. This is one of the signs of activity in trade. Money is in active demand because business is expanding and this sends up rates. Other signs of expansion in circulation is much greater than it ever was before, but business is growing with still greater rapidity. No one now alive ever saw a brighter industrial outlook than there is at the present time.

## Millions for the Cubans.

Cincinnati Commercial.

It requires no Daniel to foretell the good days ahead for the merchants of Havana and Santiago. Three million dollars scattered about in two towns the size of those will have an appreciable effect, and whatever may be said about the purpose of the intervention we must admit that the influence of Uncle Sam's bounty will not be anxious to establish themselves in business or farming. They will make a brighter industrial outlook than there is at the present time.

## CENSORED WAR NEWS.

Springfield Republican: The latest development in the Philippine war is the sudden appearance of at least two long distance messages. Beginning something like this: Manila, March 14. My way of Hong Kong, March 18, unconscious. The meaning of it is that the government decays all the news dispatches placed on the wall of Manila, thus forcing correspondents who wish to send home unmitigated matter to send it to Hong Kong, where it is placed on the wire for the United States.

Philadelphia Record: Admiral Dewey's regulation for light draught gunboats for inshore and river work and General Otis' request for mountain batteries cannot be made to square with the rosse reports given out at the War department in Washington. If it be true that the collapse of the insurrection in the Philippines is expected by General Otis to occur within three weeks, why should he require Hatchet rifles and howitzers such as are used in hill warfare? Certainly neither he nor Admiral Dewey would desire the reinforcements asked for just display!

Philadelphia Ledger: During the war with Spain strict censorship of dispatches from the seat of war was necessary and the public recognized its necessity. If the censor were too relaxed, American readers would be obliged to resort to correspondence surreptitious, or to resort to the seal of the situation or to correspondence in which the situation is perhaps drawn with too free a hand because written at a distance from the actual scene to secure the censor. But nothing is to be gained by minimizing at the insistence of the press censor details which show the true