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The BEE PUBLISHING CO., Prop. E. ROSEWATER Editor.

PICKING the pockets of the taxpayers at Lincoln is just as much robbery as rifling them at their homes.

It looks as if the present legislature was the jobbers' bonanza, and it is being worked for all it is worthy.

Look out for the new nickels. Entertaining citizens of Washington are washing them with bronze and passing them for five dollar gold pieces.

SURAN B. ANTHONY sails for England in a few days. Mrs. Gougar will remain at Lafayette until her libel trouble has been brought to a focus.

SOME ten thousand bill have been introduced in congress during the past year and a half. Nine thousand nine hundred and fifty might just as well have been omitted.

BILLS to protect the primaries are now pending in the New York and Ohio legislatures. The bill to protect primary elections in Nebraska ought to be speedily brought to a passage at Lincoln.

THE clerks at Washington who get ten hours' pay for doing seven hours' work are breathing easier since the item dealing with their case has been stricken out of the general appropriation bill and reported in a separate measure.

CITIZENS who refuse to clean their gutters ought to be promptly waited upon by the police. If by shameful neglect our streets are allowed to remain in their present condition several thousand dollars will be lost by our citizens through flooded cellars.

CAPTAIN PAYNE and his raiders do not seem to be the only intruders on the lands of the Indian territory. A list of 2,400 intruders have been sent to Commissioner Price with the request that they be summarily turned out. This looks as if there was immediate employment for four more companies of cavalry.

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EVERY dispatch adds new particulars to the tale of disaster wrought by the Ohio floods. Such a calamity as the abnormal rise of the rivers in the east in midwinter is unprecedented. That the distress among the sufferers from the floods is appalling is shown by the reports of the various relief committees in Ohio and Indiana. The country will now be called upon to check their contributions for the Rhine sufferers and devote their charity to relieving the distress of their own people.

THE committee on commerce are certain that there can be no objection to their new and revised river and harbor bill. They claim that all the creeks, trout brooks and canals have been left out, and the items recommended are for necessary improvements. But there is every probability that before it gets through the house it will be extended to its original proportions. Fifty members are waiting for a chance to insert a steel for the benefit of their localities, and to drive another bargain before they retire from public life.

THE Herald and Republican have crossed swords over the question whether the Grand Army of the Republic is a political organization. Those who ought to know declare that it is not. Probably no comrade will deny that the organization is made use of by designing men for political purposes just as the Masons and Odd Fellows societies are frequently diverted to assist members in reaching office. There has been some lively partisan work done by comrades of the G. A. R. not a thousand miles away from Omaha but presumably it is unfair to charge their trickery to the organization which they have used to boost themselves into prominence.

A NEW REVENUE LAW.

The demand for a change in our revenue law is general and emphatic and every section of the state is interested in the passage of a measure which will remedy the deficiencies of the present law and equalize taxation in Nebraska by distributing its burdens where they belong.

The present law is lame in several particulars and especially in the provisions which relate to the taxation of the property of corporations. Under its operation three classes of railroad property amounting in value to an aggregate of millions of dollars have escaped assessment every year, and the revenue which their taxation should have brought into the treasury has been collected from the people of the state.

The books of the state auditor show that the railroads of Nebraska have never paid a dollar of taxes on their side tracks and switches. In Douglas county alone there are over 300 miles, which if valued as they ought to be, at \$5,000 a mile, and assessed at the usual discount, would give us a half a million dollars additional of taxable property. A levy of two per cent for county purposes would add \$10,000 a year to the revenues of Douglas county, and an equal amount to the funds in the city treasury, while the state would also receive its share of the taxes. This shameful evasion of taxes can never be remedied as long as the revenue law stands in its present condition.

A second and very important evasion of taxation by the railroads is the failure of the managers to list all the raw materials in their shops and yards for purposes of taxation. Not a dollar has been paid by any of the railroads in this state upon the immense amounts of construction material used in the operation of their roads. The millions of feet of timber and lumber, the thousands of tons of railroad and scrap iron, of copper and lead, vast stores of chemicals and oils and supplies representing several millions of dollars, entirely escape taxation. The railroad storehouses are exempt, while the merchant who has a bar of lead or a barrel of oil is compelled to return it for assessment.

Three years ago Sidney Dillon in his annual statement to the directors of the Union Pacific road returned \$850,000 worth of raw material on hand. Since that time the quantity has been very materially increased, and there is no doubt that the B. & M. has half a million of dollars of stores and supplies at their various shops and yards.

But beyond all this and above all this, the franchisees of these corporations which the constitution expressly requires shall be listed for taxation have escaped without a dollar of tax. The franchisees are the extraordinary and exceptional advantages for conducting their business, given to the corporations by the people. They possess a market value just as much as the roadbed and rails. And the franchisees of the railroads in Nebraska are worth many millions of dollars.

The duty of the legislature is to pass a revenue law which will take all these omissions into consideration and those members who pledged themselves to remedy the shameful evasions of taxes in this state will grossly betray their trust if they permit the present session to close without taking every precaution necessary to make the railroads like private citizens bear their full share of the burdens of maintaining the government.

SOME comment is being excited by the fact that the president has made no apparent move towards the execution of the civil service law. All criticism as yet is premature. A full month yet remains before the act goes into effect and Mr. Arthur has no doubt been keeping up a good deal of thinking since its passage. The only parties who need to worry themselves are the odd thousand clerks and supernumeraries whom the enforcement of the measure will affect. As far as any one else is concerned it is harmless.

A BILL is now pending in the legislature that will relieve the council a great deal and enable them to carry out needed improvements. It provides for a special levy of four mills for police and fire protection, independent of the general fund. This will enable the council to make use of the general fund without figuring out at the end of each month what fixed charges must be met from it for payment of the city employees.

A NUMBER of reasons suggest themselves why the proposed commercial treaty with Mexico ought to be ratified by the senate. The first is the certainty which it promises that Americans can under its operation at once control the greater portion of the trade of the country to the exclusion of the German and English houses who have monopolized all of its commercial advantages. The new treaty proposes a limited reciprocity in trade advantages between the two countries, allowing a large number of specified articles to be admitted on both sides free of duty. Twenty-eight unmanufactured Mexican articles are put on the free list by its terms. As twenty of these are already unaffected by our tariff it

is difficult to see how, in this instance, the industrial barons and Washington can make much capital out of their stock cry of the dangers of unrestricted trade.

The opening of Mexico to our manufacturers and capitalists will be a real and substantial gain to the people of the country at large. Mexico is entering upon a new stage of internal development. Both her imports and exports are steadily increasing, while American produce and manufactures have gained steadily in favor during the past four years. The country is being rapidly opened up by extension of three great railroad systems largely built by American capital. What possible reasons can be offered for our people's refusal to throw down all the artificial barriers which have been placed in the way of trade, and to open up new and extensive foreign markets for our produce and manufactures? Under the provisions of the treaty the advantages seem to be all on our side. Neglect to seize upon so favorable an opportunity will be scarcely less than original.

GENERAL HAZEN and the signal service are placed in a very unfavorable light by the investigations of Congressman Beltzhoover, of Pennsylvania. It seems as if since General Meyer's death the service had become thoroughly demoralized. Every one knows that the character of the predictions is not what it was. Their errors have become subjects of common remark and the predictions are practically worthless. Very few people now read the signal service predictions to see what the weather is going to be, while very many observe the weather to note how the signal service has been mistaken in its forecasts. A good guesser will make more hits in a month than the signal service will. The trouble seems to be, first, that Hazen is entirely unfit for his position, that he has used his office to fill the service with favorites and supernumeraries, and that he has devoted more time to endeavoring to secure favorable congressional legislation than he has to maintaining and increasing the efficiency of his department. It looks as if a change will be necessary and that no change will be effective which does not begin with changing the head of the bureau.

A Poem of Poker.

Last night Mr. F. D. Carley had a most agreeable party of gentlemen at his house. Among them were Mr. John Mason Brown, Mr. George M. Davis, Mr. Arthur Carey, Mr. W. O. Harris and General Basil Duke. Mr. Davis improvised the following song, which was sung to an air from "Patience" by Mr. W. O. Harris, with brilliancy and power. The poet does not understand the technical terms used in the song, but they were perfectly intelligible to the gentlemen present.

KING AT THE ROUND-TABLE.

If you want to play the game in the way to bring you fame, Do not have of cash to spare, Do not fustle with the fools who have written out the rules, But drop in an easy chair, Fill you up a little "jigger," just to amuse your figure.

And rather than to play; Never mind the art and science—put in luck your whole reliance— In the Waterstonian way.

Then perhaps some one may say, As you make your mystic play, "Any one can understand—be must hold a mighty hand!"

So, no matter what's dealt me, From his manner and expression, I am forced to the conclusion, He may take that pot from me!"

When you get a little hand that you think will never stand, Don't give up your ante; Just remember it's a law—everything is in the draw.

And call for the usual three; If the size and colors differ, make your own little offer.

Put a bad luck in your eye; With the swagger of a duffer take the chances of a bluffer, And stack your chips on high.

For perhaps some one may say, As you make that sort of play, "His nerve is so delicious 'twould delude the most suspicious."

And he hold the edge on me; From the way he sips his whiskey I am certain it's too risky, That young man's raise to see."

If you try a flush and fail, and are left with a lousy tail, Let your countenance show not; Take another drink of liquor, never let your spirit flicker, And lay for the lovely pot, With a steady eye and fire raise the rifle higher—higher—

Never mind how the other one plays; Knock your knuckles on the table—put up with the most hearted able— And ask, "Who wants to raise?"

Then, surely all will say, As you make that "sure" way: "Surely he is no beginner, but a hardened old sinner— He can't be deceiving me—I may deserve a censure, but I darren't make the venture; His game's too deep for me!"

When the game has reached its close, where you'll stand, nobody knows; Then, call by the Restaurant, Order oysters, crab and pheasant, and the pompage no pleasant, And the tempter's heated pate foils gras; Then, a little nip of liquor—just to work the stomach quicker—

And, along about two or three, You ought to be a little bit, with a towel round your head, To your wife and family.

Then perhaps your wife will say: "It's just his guileless way; It's perfectly apparent—he's a regular knight errant."

In the cause of charity; Yet, I can't help being jealous of the Masons and Odd Fellows, Who have kept him out from me!"

Domo a heavy business—The stone-yard—[Crier's Journal Doing a light business—The gas works—[Drummer. Doing a safe business—The bank-vault works—[Baton. Doing a grave business—The cemetery company—[New South. Doing a medium business—The spiritualist—[Grip. Doing a rattling business—The tin shop.

WYOMING.

One of the stamp mills at Cummins has closed down on account of the heavy snow.

The indebtedness of Albany county, as shown by the treasurer's report, is \$54,439.27.

A new strike of rich gold quartz was recently made in the Gold Hill mine, Cummins. It is said the vein is four feet thick and very rich.

The condition of Bill Nya, the humorist of The Laramie Boomerang, is not much better, and fears are entertained lest he should die.

The editor of the Laramie Boomerang found forty-two errors on two pages of The Rock Mountain Tribune recently, and he thinks his search was not careful either.

The snow is drifting on the Union Pacific railroad between Cheyenne and Laramie so as to cause much trouble and labor.

The Cheyenne papers are commended by their readers for their suppression of the Carbon. Here is a specimen dispatch: "Carbon, Wyo., February 10, 1883. Editor Cheyenne Sun: Bully for you! Hit the biggest mouthed croaky agent!

But be gentle; Macaroni and Michael Angelo have caused softening of the brain in him! Carbon has a telegraph pole that has cured that disease, and can again if necessary. Yours, for the suppression of croakers and extinguishment of tender feet, S."

DAKOTA.

Three thousand feet of sewer pipe were laid in Fargo last year.

Grafton's growth in buildings in one year has been over \$325,565.

Aberdeen, in Brown county, is talking of building a street railroad.

Potatoes are worth \$1.50 per bushel in Grand Forks and can hardly be obtained for that amount.

In the last six months Elk Point has done a business amounting to between \$150,000 and \$200,000.

The county commissioners of Cass county have apportioned that county into twenty-eight townships.

The Union elevator at Fargo contains 75,000 bushels of wheat which is being sold at the rate of 3,500 bushels per day.

There is a rumor to the effect that the location by the extension of the St. P. & M. & M. railroads towards Turtle mountain has been definitely settled.

The Germans of Morton county have held a meeting to devise means to send relief to the flood sufferers in Germany. They will give a concert.

The records at Fort Pembina show the present winter to have been the coldest in seven years. The average temperature during the first twenty days in January was eighteen degrees below zero.

COLORADO.

The new Denver court house will be occupied about the 1st of March.

Central City wants a better system of water supply. The present works are inadequate.

The Elk's club held an entertainment in Denver on the 12th inst., which proved very successful.

The street railway company has been organized in Durango. The papers of incorporation have been filed in Denver.

Notwithstanding the cold weather and snow a large number of immigrants are going into the Uncompahgre Valley.

The \$3,000 organ in the First Baptist church in Denver was damaged to the amount of \$1,000, last week, by some unknown hoodlums.

The legislature has appropriated \$300,000 to build one wing of the Capitol building, and \$100,000 to buy a portion of the ground on which it is to be located.

Beck Pomeroy is organizing a company to build a railroad from Bakerville to the summit of Gray's Peak. He has raised \$200,000, and the work will be commenced soon.

The Denver Tribune prints an account of the peculiarities and oddities of members of the present Colorado legislature. To do the subject justice the year's edition of the paper should be given it.

A case has been commenced in the United States court at Denver, in which Joseph L. Phillips claims \$2,000,000 from the Basick mining company, one of the heaviest concerns in the State. Phillips was the original discoverer of the mine and claims to have been defrauded.

IDAHOO.

Negotiations are in progress for the erection of gigantic smelting works at Halley.

It is reported that the Minnie Moore mine six miles southwest of Halley, has been sold for \$1,000,000.

About thirty Wood river mines last summer shipped ore to Salt Lake, a distance of over 300 miles, the owners receiving an average of over \$138 per ton after the smelters' charges had been deducted.

The Mynflower, Jay Gould, Bullion, O. K., Minnie Moore and Idahoan mines, all within eight miles of Halley, have from \$1,000,000 to \$1,000,000 in sight, and will average an output of half a million dollars each this year.

It is stated in Lewiston that Mr. Osborne, surveyor of the Oregon Short Line, is missing. It is feared that he became lost in the mountains.

Heft Lewiston Saturday morning for came fifteen miles up Snake river. A searching party has gone out after him.

MONTANA.

The bullion shipments from Butte during last week were valued at \$110,838.

Beaverhead county has never been mapped. There are other counties in the territory in a similar position.

The first adobe building in Montana was built 38 years ago at Fort Lewis, which is now known as Fort Benton. The building is still standing.

The proprietor of Hunter's hot springs says that Rufus Hatch of New York is endeavoring to lease the hot springs from him through his attorneys in Washington, D. C.

The Bozeman jail contains one man charged with tampering with the mails, one with murder, one with burglary, two with grand larceny and a number of others for various offences.

Felix O'Neill has filed a suit at Butte, against the Utah Northern railroad for \$25,000 damages for injuries received by the falling of a building in which he was working under the orders of a superior officer.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

Several washouts occurred on the Northern Pacific near Ainsworth, a few days ago.

Mrs. A. W. Day and her son, Arthur Maxson, while descending a rough track of Seattle in a small boat, on the first of February, upset the boat and were thrown into the water, the boy being drowned. He was 4 years and ten months old. They were rescued from Spiken Falls.

George Thorman, a stranger employed as a fireman on the railroad at Seattle, fell off a moving train at Benton and went through a trestle. He had an arm and a leg broken, and was otherwise so seriously injured that he died before reaching town.

NEVADA.

A Chinese mission school has been established at Reno, and the Monks will have a chance to acquire the English language cheaply.

OCcidental JOTTINGS.

The question as to whether the United States authorities or Elko county, Nev., shall stand the expense of the trial of the M. pello train robbers is being discussed at Elko. For the arrested murderer of Messenger Ross, the robbers, the train hands and the attack on Wells, Fargo & Co.'s car they are amenable to the state laws, but in attaching the vehicle or car of a common carrier containing the United States mail there is committed an offense against the postal department of the United States.

The Willamette river, four miles above Portland, is gorged with snags.

Ham Boyd, formerly mayor of Portland, Or., and for years one of the most enterprising and influential citizens, has been sent to the poor-house.

Cornelius J. Murphy the Portland forger, recently from San Francisco, where he was employed in the custom house, has been sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary.

CALIFORNIA.

Fur seals have appeared in the Straits of Fuca, and a fleet of vessels will be fitted out, and it is expected the catch will be large.

Wong Ah Long, who shot and killed a fellow countryman at Sonoma about two months ago, has been sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment at San Quentin.

W. W. Markham, a San Jose policeman, has been convicted of a felony in receiving a bribe from a Chinese gambler, whom he promised immunity from arrest.

There are 512 students registered in the Normal school at San Jose, not including the training department. With visiting teachers there are over 550. There are 183 in the senior class, which is in two sections.

The citizens of Santa Ana, L. A. county, are ridding themselves of the Chinese wash-house nuisance by purchasing the property carried by them and ordering them to the outskirts of the town.

A band of sixty Indians has been seen near Owen's station, in the Gila valley. The settlers are much alarmed and fear a repetition of the massacre of a year ago, as they are unprotected, the military all being at the posts.

The Sacramento Bee says a number of the grand jury states that the late board of supervisors not long ago appropriated \$150 to buy a patent wooden log for a post, or claimant, and that the expenditure was charged and allowed under the head of "permanent repairs and improvements."

ARIZONA.

One hundred Mormon families have arrived at Smithville thus far this season.

The Navajo Indians in Arizona have 300,000 sheep and 200,000 goats, the result of an investment of \$30,000 made for them by the government two or three years ago.

The bill introduced in the Arizona legislature to aid in the construction of the Prescott and Thirty-fifth Parallel road provides that the supervisors shall issue \$200,000 in county bonds to exchange for a like sum in railroad bonds.

BLOOD POISONING.

John McCullough, the actor, says of the use of cosmetics: "Blood poisoning from the use of face paints is in my opinion not only an absurdity, but it is sheer humbug, and any respectable doctor or chemist acquainted with their properties will tell you so. I have been on the stage for the past twenty-five years, and, of course, like every other actor, had to use them in my make-up. Look at my face and judge for yourself. Whether I am a sufferer or not by their use." (Mr. McCullough's face was spotted, and there were no indications that he had at any time been a sufferer from the use of the various paints and cosmetics).

"It is claimed that you were a victim of blood poisoning some years ago while playing with Edwin Forrest."

"Yes, there was such a statement, but it was a story made out of whole cloth. I never was sick from any such cause. I buy the best kinds of paints and cosmetics, and have never yet found them injurious."

"Of course if an actor has a cut or sore on his face the use of cosmetics causes irritation; still, even then I have never been affected by any disease or ailment on that account. To be brief, I have never known or heard of any instance of an actor or actress being laid up by blood poisoning. When I say this I don't mean to convey that the use of Chinese vermilion, for instance, which is sold for a mere song, will not injure the face or system of an actor. No respectable actor, however, who has any regard for his health would buy such stuff."

How to Be Beautiful.

Whatever the internal application of hot water may effect, girls desirous of having a good complexion would do well to apply it to their faces. They should either dip their faces into a basin of very hot water or apply the water with a sponge. At first they are like lobsters, but in a few moments this is replaced by the tints of peaches and lilies.

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