

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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CHARLES C. ROSEWATER, General Manager

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 26th day of September, 1907.

M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public

WHEN OUT OF TOWN: Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have the Bee mailed to them.

Storm doors are ripe.

The way to encourage business confidence is to exhibit a little confidence yourself.

Thanksgiving is several weeks away, but the Louisiana bears are already celebrating.

An eminent French physician declares that yawning is healthful. Such opinions induce yawning.

Hard coal is only \$3 a ton at the mines, but most consumers object to going back to the mines.

If it is true, as Lillian Russell says, that "divorce is a vehicle," it ought to be arrested for exceeding the speed limit.

Chestnuts are now quoted at 30 cents a pound, but a drop is expected about December 2, when congress meets.

The average individual feels something like a Wall Street bank. He is perfectly solvent, even if he has no money.

Judge Alton B. Parker says he has no patience with regular candidates for office. Was he a volunteer, or was he drafted?

It is very inconsiderate of the Ute Indians to start trouble while Uncle Sam's official pacifier is busy over in the Philippines.

Recent developments in Wall Street have emphasized the difference between gilt-edged securities and guilt-edged securities.

Instead of the east sending money to the west to move the crops, the west is sending money to the east to move the stocks.

"Patient resting easier. Symptoms of hysteria very slight," is about the substance of Dr. Cortelyou's report from Wall Street.

Those who express fear that the standing army will disappear may be reassured by watching the street cars during rush hours.

Has that proposition to saddle Omaha with \$3,500,000 of gas bonds any friends or champions? If so, let them stand up and speak out.

A horse at St. Louis ate a \$2 bill in place of an apple. The horse must have felt that he could not afford to eat apples at the existing prices.

Experience has shown that it is a good deal harder to lift up the lid than to put it down. Some people who are talking retaliation should keep this in mind.

A magazine predicts that "Chicago will become the most beautiful city in the world." Still, some persons insist that American writers are lacking in imagination.

Some of those Omaha bankers who worked overtime Sunday took big chances on the enforcement of the law against desecrating the Sabbath at common labor.

Mayor "Jim" boasted a great deal about that "backbone" of his when he was running for office, but now when it devolves on him to deliver the goods the "backbone" is nowhere in evidence.

ACTION OF THE OMAHA BANKS

The Omaha banks which hold membership in the local Clearing House association have taken action to protect their cash assets by suspending payment of drafts and checks, except through the clearing house, conforming to the action taken by the banks in practically all the large cities east of the Rocky mountains.

While local conditions do not call for such an innovation, the situation as developed throughout the country would have left the Omaha banks exposed to outside drains if they stood alone paying out cash while other cities were using clearing house certificates. Could Omaha have safely withstood the pressure notwithstanding the suspension orders in other cities it would of course have been a great feather in our cap, but the best judgment of our local bankers seems to have been that such procedure would be inviting danger and in the end put Omaha in a worse position.

It is to be hoped that this action of the banks will not unduly inconvenience or disturb local trade and industry, and there is no good reason why business should not continue as before with checks passing freely in place of actual money whenever required. It is also to be hoped that normal conditions will be quickly restored and that it will not be necessary to keep the proposed clearing house certificates outstanding for any protracted period of time.

AMERICA'S GOLD PRODUCTION

In the fiscal year ending with last June the United States added something more than \$94,000,000, a little more than one-quarter of the total production, to the world's supply of gold, without meeting more than half way the increased demand for the metal. The fact that the Rand and other mines in South Africa are reported to have an available reserve resource of something like \$5,000,000,000,000, appeals to the imagination, but does not go very far towards supplying present demands.

All reports from the mining districts of the world agree that the possible supply of gold is adequate to legitimate demands that may be made for years to come. There is enough in sight, according to estimates of experts of the John Hays Hammond type, to supply the world's demands for centuries to come, enough to cover the amount required for a universal liquidation of debts, public and private, with a remainder sufficient to make a capitalist of every member of the human race. The only difficulty is in getting out the gold fast enough to supply the demands. Best experts now agree that every dollar's worth of gold mined represents a full dollar's worth of labor or invested capital, which is one of the most potent arguments offered in favor of the gold standard. While the visible supply of gold apparently is unlimited, the method of its production is such that it cannot be offered on any get-rich-quick basis and business conditions must be adjusted to meet present and possible production of gold.

The money stringency, or whatever it may be called, is largely due to the fact that the banks of the affected region have, in their zeal to develop the resources of the country, contracted obligations exceeding the ability of the existing gold supply as a money basis. The shortening of sails is a logical result, but all agree that the world's available gold supply is adequate to meet all legitimate demands, even if it refuses to acknowledge overdrafts, such as have been made upon it in the last few months. The trouble with the country now is not that a halt has been called upon methods that have obtained in banking and speculative circles in the east, but that such methods have been allowed to be employed so long without a reckoning from those in authority.

THE COUNTY COMPTROLLERSHIP

The newly created county comptrollership for Douglas county will be filled for the first time at the coming election. This office will be one of the most important offices in the county, eventually absorbing the office of city comptroller, which is to be merged with it by self-acting operation of the law at the end of the term of the present incumbent of the city comptroller's office. The county comptroller to be chosen this year will, therefore, have the double task of organizing the auditing department of the county as a separate branch of the county government and also of adapting it to the auditing department of the city government when that shall come under his authority.

The law creating the office of county comptroller fixes the qualifications in general terms. It says that he shall act as general accountant and fiscal agent of the county; that he shall exercise "a general supervision over all officers of the county charged in any manner with the receipts, collections and disbursement of revenues;" that he shall be "a competent book-keeper and accountant," and sets out in detail what his work is to be. In a word, the first county comptroller will have to be not only a competent book-keeper and experienced accountant, but he will have to have creative ability to organize the whole department and put it in good running order.

Of the candidates who are asking for this office, one stands out prominently as qualified above all the others. This one is Emmet G. Solomon, whose competency as a book-keeper is not to be questioned, who has years of experience as an accountant and who is in addition familiar

with the workings of the county government and especially its financial operations through previous service in the auditor's office. With Emmet G. Solomon as county comptroller, there would be no experimenting and no guessing. The office would not be given as a reward for work done somewhere else, but purely in recognition of special qualifications for the position.

As a protection to themselves the taxpayers of Douglas county should see to it that Mr. Solomon is elected county comptroller.

UNCLE SAM AS A BANKER

Developments in financial circles in the east have done more in a few days than any other one thing in years to impress the people with the necessity of some further legislation looking to currency reform. Essential as it may be, it is not a pleasing spectacle for the secretary of the treasury to take up his temporary residence in New York to keep in touch with the financial situation and afford relief, when deemed necessary, to the commerce and industry of the nation as represented by the banking interests. Let it be understood at once that Secretary Cortelyou has been less susceptible to demands from Wall Street than any treasury secretary who has preceded him since the war. He has done as much if not more than any of his predecessors to keep the federal funds out of the hands of the speculative interests and has shown commendable discretion in placing the government money where it would best serve legitimate business interests. But the fact remains that he has been compelled to come to the relief of the New York bankers repeatedly, the relief being furnished out of the government surplus.

The United States is in reality the biggest banker in the country, but cannot legally engage in banking as a business. When it comes down to brass tacks, as the street gamins would state it, the federal government has no more authority to furnish relief to the financially distressed in New York than it has to come to the relief of the victims of a little friendly game of table stakes at Tin Cup, Arizona, security extended being equal. But no secretary of the treasury with a surplus on hand has found a way of sidestepping the responsibility. In democratic times, with a treasury deficit instead of a surplus, there is never any occasion for worry over what to do to prevent the federal funds accumulating into threatening totals. As secretary of the treasury, Mr. Cortelyou today has charge of something like \$236,000,000, representing a surplus over the liabilities of the government, in addition to the \$150,000,000 retained in gold to maintain the parity between gold and the greenbacks and silver notes. In other words, the treasury holds about \$386,000,000, which is supposedly not in use at all, but which represents something more than one-sixth of the actual money supply of the nation.

It is gratifying, of course, to know that Uncle Sam has more money than he knows what to do with, but the fact remains that the condition works a hardship on the industry of the country. How to secure the benefit of the circulation of this surplus in the treasury vaults is the vexed problem, but none of the plans offered has appealed strongly to public sentiment. Until this problem is settled wisely and satisfactorily the nation will have to be content to leave one-sixth of its actual cash in the treasury to be employed as the secretary sees fit.

POSTMASTER GENERAL MEYER ESTIMATES

that the adoption of a postal savings bank would place in circulation at least \$1,500,000,000, that is now being hoarded by people who would deposit their money with a government institution, but will not place it in ordinary banks. The condition, if it exists, is something of a reflection upon the intelligence of the people, but a potent argument for the postal savings bank. The addition of part of \$1,500,000,000 to the volume of circulation would help greatly at this time.

GOVERNOR SHELDON HAS BEEN GREATLY AMUSED

by the fake stories put in circulation by his political enemies during his absence about an alleged feud between him and President Roosevelt, which he does not think worth dignifying with a denial. The only gullibles who swallowed that bait are a few eastern newspapers so far away that they could not be acquainted with the unreliability of its source.

IF THE DEMOCRATS CAN GET ANY CONSOLIDATION

out of the registration figures for Omaha and South Omaha they are entitled to their bill. On the face of the returns, a republican plurality of between 4,000 and 5,000 is indicated, and allowing liberally for those who may be sailing under false colors, the normal republican majority is in prospect.

A PHILADELPHIA PAPER PUBLISHES A LIST

of the enterprises launched in the last few years that have made an excessive drain on the capital supply of the nation. By some oversight, the paper neglects to list the \$10,000,000 drawn out by the grafters who had a hand in robbing the Pennsylvania state capitol fund.

The record made by the republicans in the last Nebraska legislature will stand the test as to the interests of labor by any unprejudiced arbitrators. More laws carrying substantial benefit to workmen were put on the

statute books by that legislature than by any three legislatures that have gone before it.

It is reported that when Mr. Bryan was in New York the other day he called on Mr. Hearst and the two spent several hours in a conference. It is presumed they talked about the St. Louis balloon races.

The local democratic organ has finally screwed up its courage to the point of throwing a bouquet at "Andy" Gallagher. It comes hard, but some things have to be done under pressure of a political emergency.

Business is returning to normal conditions in the east, but few Wall Street financiers are planning to buy railroads as Christmas presents for the little folks at home.

Colonel Bryan says there are two sides to the democratic fight in Massachusetts. According to the suits filed in court, there are eight sides to the Massachusetts democracy.

The Brooklyn Eagle should explain how its editorial showing the strength of the Lewis Stuyvesant Chanler presidential boom came to be printed under the "Amusements" heading.

Casual perusal of the open letter edited by Editor Sprecher to Editor Hitchcock quickly tells why that interesting document failed to find space in the columns of the World-Herald.

More Man's Humiliation.

Gettrude Atherton calmly announces that any woman can marry any man she wants. Massachusetts has a lot of school teachers who would like to get Gettrude's formula.

Delights of Uncertainty.

Philadelphia Record.

Among the pleasures of ballooning is the delight of being regarding your destination. The band that played "I don't know where I'm going, but I am on the way," showed a thorough knowledge of drifting among the air currents.

The Bagless Cat.

Baltimore American.

Speculative Banking Must Go.

Cincinnati Enquirer.

THE CULPRIT AT THE BAR.

Frederic Finance Vainly Strives to Hide His Guilt.

New York World.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Japan is now making "Scott's" whiskey, and occasionally shows symptoms of having sampled it.

It is remarkable that whereas nine balloons sailed from St. Louis rubbernecked citizens at various points had no difficulty in discerning at least three times that number.

Secretary Loeb has broken camp in the Yellowstone National park and started for Washington. He reports that his hunting party had better luck than ago for Roosevelt had in the canebanks of Louisiana.

Clark Williams, who has been appointed by Governor Hughes as superintendent of banks of New York state, is vice president of the Columbia Trust company of New York. Mr. Williams was graduated from Williams college in 1892.

Captain Ross Admanson has been notified by J. H. Cox, president of the Geographic Society of Chicago, that the first gold medal ever offered by this society has been awarded to him for his discovery of the Northwest passage.

An Ohio doctor presents a spectacle by his admission that he was too full to know what he was doing when he got married. He got rid of one load readily and asks a judge to disconnect the second load. A padded cell would help some.

French is the continental language of diplomacy. Diplomacy has been defined as "the art of concealing thought." If the definition is correct it is strange that the Chinese language, with 1,600 words, each possessing ten different shades of meaning, has been ignored by the artful dodgers of the world's chancelleries.

A picturesque figure in the banking world is William B. Witham of Georgia, who is president of 100 small banks located throughout the south. While he was touring the south several years ago for a wholesale millinery house, he conceived the idea of starting small banks in localities where banking consists largely of a pawnbroking business, with live stock as collateral.

ARMY GOSSIP IN WASHINGTON.

Current Events Gleaned from the Army and Navy Register.

The most important development of the week has been the proposition which finds favor in influential quarters that the president shall specially authorize officers of the army, navy, marine corps and revenue cutter service to take such action as they believe to be necessary in furthering the interests of the service pay bill. It is possible that the president will comply with this request, although it seems likely that he will impose certain restrictions upon officers who are disposed to engage in such an activity. It is desired, of course, to so direct any effort in behalf of the measure that it will count for, and not against, the desired enactment. It is appreciated by conservative observers that it would be well to have too much done for the bill on the principle of the adage which has to do with the superfluity of cooks. The service pay bill is now in very good hands and has substantial and influential backing of an official sort. At the same time, there might be a benefit derived from conscientiously and discreetly disposed influences exerted by individual officers to the end that representatives and senators by the time congress meets will come to know of the bill and of its merits and the necessity for its enactment.

The army quartermasters who have to do with the acquisition of clothing and equipment are in the market for 1,000,000 yards of khaki cloth, 5,000 iron bedsteads, 50,000 line collars, 50,000 cotton undershirts, 100,000 pair of black shoes, and 50,000 pairs of tan shoes of the improved pattern.

The last-mentioned item relates to the marching shoes—new to the extent that the stiffening has been taken out of the toe and the shoe made as flexible as possible, it being desired to impart to the footgear all possible qualities of comfort. The khaki cloth will be used in the manufacture of 150,000 suits, which is desired to have in stock by next spring. The woolen stockings are in relation to the exhausted supply of those articles which are in such great demand that it is difficult to meet the requirements. The enlisted men regard these woolen stockings with greater favor than the cotton variety, since they absorb the moisture and add to the comfort of the foot covering in marching.

Some idea may be gained of the difficulty of maintaining an enlisted force that is anywhere nearly up to the authorized allowance from the official reports which are reaching the War department from various posts. One report states that the Sixty-third company of coast artillery at Fort Casey, Wash., has only twenty-seven men in it or 25 per cent of its authorized strength. This is not one of the new companies, but an old one, and the commanding officer reports that if he were to appoint all the noncommissioned officers, cooks, mechanics, etc., to which the company is entitled there would not be a single private left in the command, the authorized strength being 100, of whom eighty should be privates. There are other companies in the same post which have a few more men, but which are woefully handicapped, owing to the lack of soldiers. No company at the post has as many as 50 per cent of the authorized strength. This is not an isolated case or peculiar in any sense to the local situation, but a fact of the same nature exists at all army posts and in the infantry and cavalry, as well as in the artillery.

An application for pension has been received from the widow of the late officer of the Indiana National Guard who contracted typhoid fever during the period of army maneuvers near Indianapolis last year and who died as a result of such disease. The question has come up whether the War department should pay this. It is held that if a member of a militia organization receives injuries or becomes disabled while employed at a national campment, he should look to the state government and not to the War department for relief, as the injuries were incurred in the service, not of the United States, but of the state whose organized militia he formed a part. This was a decision rendered as long ago as 1904 and is considered as applying to the present case.

There is no indication as yet of the action the War department will take concerning the failures among army officers to come up to the requirements of horsemanship. It is expected that the reports of all the rides will be in the possession of the adjutant general by November 1, and then it will be decided, doubtless, whether the officers who have been excused for physical reasons or who are not able to complete the fifteen-mile ride will be ordered before retiring boards. In some cases this will be an obvious necessity, but in other instances, it is by no means certain that the examination by a retiring board would result in retirement.

NEBRASKA PRESS COMMENT.

Columbus Tribune: The disastrous fire at the Fremont Normal school last week should not discourage the promoter of the school in the least. Men who are able to build such institutions are not to be discouraged by accidents, but are simply moved to greater endeavors. Fremont and its people have builded too well to hesitate. Emergencies only develop the men, and the past has proven that Fremont has the men.

Fremont Tribune: It would be a species of folly, of which the people of Nebraska will not be guilty, to repudiate a party which has kept implicit faith with them. To defeat the republican ticket after such performance would be a crime against the highest interests of the state. If honest dealing between a party and the people is to be rebuked, what incentive to honest action will there hereafter be? If legislative integrity is not to be esteemed it will be a sorry day. Indeed, when the announcement of that hubristic fact is made.

Wood River Sunbeam: Not being able to find any reasonable argument against the candidacy of Judge Reese, the republican candidate for the supreme court, the democratic press, now insists that he should be defeated and a democrat placed on the bench that the court might be non-partisan. This argument would be quite unattractive to the democrats and how they would react it had they the majority on the bench and the republicans used such an argument to gain their points. Such is foolish, but it only goes to show that the republicans have placed a man in nomination with whom no fault can be found and this is the only argument that is being used against him.

Norfolk News: This paper is for M. H. Reese for supreme judge because he is a republican but because he represents the sentiment common to thinking men of all political parties that the absolute domination of state affairs should cease. A long step toward that end was taken last year in the election of a governor and a legislature that the corporations could not control and who redeemed the platform pledges of the party in letter and in spirit in the face of all the opposition the railroads could muster to defeat the legislation. The nomination of Judge Reese is the direct result of the redemption of the party pledge of a direct primary law, and it makes him the candidate of the people, not of political

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manipulators of the corporations. As such a candidate, he is entitled to the vote of all men, regardless of politics, who want a sane government of the people and for the people. It does not matter much who or what his opponents may be, or where he hails from.

Broken Bow Republican: Some of the heads of the big railroads claim that the agitation of the rate question and antagonistic railway sentiment has practically precluded further railway extension.

Why do you say "Rats!" whenever one of the wheels strikes a hole in the road? "I tell you, it's a rat in a road-dent, isn't it?"—Houston Post.

Wareham Long—Akkidly tryin' to find work, are you? You pumpkin-headed, wishy-washy old—

Just from Ireland, are you?" asked Mrs. Hiram Oler of the applicant, "and were you trained across the water?" "No, ma'am," replied the girl, "I was shipped across."—Philadelphia Press.

I am looking forward to the time when the waters will flow through our mighty inland channels and carry our commerce.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR TROUBLE

Financial Speculators Vainly Strive to Cover Their Tracks.

Brooklyn Eagle.

Smoke in the hollows, Slowly the autumn sun, His darts rays twin, Cleaving the whiter mist With shafts of gold.

Leaves all a-dropping, Hints for the birds to go; Jack Frost comes crooping, All things that grow; Corn on the hillsides, Shooked at the winds so rude; Good natured pumpkins, Smiling beatitude.

Carnivals all over, How show come and gone; Go! How funnels out, Quick put 'em on; Exit the ice man, Coal crashes down the trough; Signs in the sky fore, "Stop that cough!"

Omaha, Neb. —BAYOLL NE TRELL

Baby Mine Every mother feels a great dread of the pain and danger attendant upon the most critical period of her life. Becoming a mother should be a source of joy to all, but the suffering and danger incident to the ordeal makes its anticipation one of misery.

READY FOR A RUN FOR the man of sedate taste in dress, for the young man of more advanced ideas, or the boy of extreme notions, we have our wide range of models the suit or the overcoat for each.

Browning, King & Co R. S. WILCOX, Manager.

"PRICE CUTTING AT THE EXPENSE OF QUALITY IS NOT ECONOMY" These Canadian, Red Cedar, clear Shingles, are packed FULL COUNT, that's the reason they go further, and are honestly worth \$4.50 per M., we make you \$3.75 for cash.

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