

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

Entered at Omaha Postoffice as second class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Daily Bee (without Sunday), one year, \$4.00.

DELIVERED BY CARRIER: Daily Bee (including Sunday), per week, 10c.

OFFICE: Omaha—The Bee Building, South Omaha—City Hall Building.

REMITTANCES: Remit by draft, express or postal order payable to The Bee Publishing Company.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION: State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: Charles C. Rosewater, general manager.

Table with 2 columns: Date and Circulation figures. Includes weekly and monthly averages.

Less unsorted and returned copies, 9,955. Net total, 1,129,555.

CHARLES C. ROSEWATER, General Manager. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of November, 1907.

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

Nebraska and Iowa farmers are too busy husking corn to waste any time husking bees.

A Detroit woman has refused to throw her money to the dogs by devising most of it to a hospital for cats.

At that, Thanksgiving is not in it with the Fourth of July with furnishing subjects for the hospital and the undertaker.

Dr. Osler is a little slow in sending his telegram to Pedestrian Weston, who, at the age of 70, has just completed his 1,400-mile walk.

A society leader in New York turned on the gas and the phonograph at the same time. The coroner's jury will have to decide which caused the fatality.

The democrats would be happy enough if they could only believe the reports they are circulating about the collapse of the Taft boom.

Speaker Cannon may not know it, but there are 886 members of the house, each convinced that he possesses special qualifications for appointment on the ways and means committee.

Mayor "Jim" got back alive from the great conspiracy at French Lick Springs. But, of course, no one can tell what might not have been done had not Mayor "Jim" been there.

"The trouble with Santo Domingo is that its people have never learned to live within their incomes," says the New York World. Anyway, the Santo Dominicans need not feel lonesome.

Inquiry shows that twenty-five college graduates are working as street car conductors at Pittsburg. Yet some persons insist that a college education does not help a man in earning a living.

Sam-in-law Nick Longworth is a real sport all right. To the charge that he has won \$3,000,000 on Wall street recently, he retorts that he will give \$1,000,000 to the man that can prove it.

Senator "Jeff" Davis of Arkansas says he "will make Rome howl" when he gets to Washington. Washington and the country will appreciate it if "Jeff" will just confine his attentions to Rome.

A dispatch from Lincoln says that Mr. Bryan expects to remain at home during most of the next presidential campaign. That man simply seems determined to make himself popular at any cost.

The Kaiser's gift of \$10,000 in tips to the help at Windsor castle will not avail. Ambassador Reid, who spends \$1,000,000 a year of his \$17,000 salary is the real idol of the London courtiers and flunkies.

Unfortunately as it may be, it can not be helped. The postponement of the Thaw trial until late in January is going to give the entire membership of the Port Paragaphers' union an excuse for talking about the January Thaw.

Governor Crawford of South Dakota would like to be promoted to the United States senate. Governor LaFollette of Wisconsin is already there, and Governor Cummins of Iowa is on his way. So why not Governor Crawford of South Dakota?

BURNING THE NATION'S WEALTH.

The boast of Americans that this country produces more wealth each year than any other country on the globe, is true enough and proper cause for pride, but it loses some of its effectiveness when the other side of the case is presented.

As a nation we own, according to the figures offered, 11,500,000 buildings of all classes and erect more new structures each year than any people on earth, but fully 36 per cent of the new construction is necessary to fill the gaps made by flames.

The loss by fires does not constitute the total penalty in this direction. It costs \$300,000,000 annually to maintain fire departments of the country and to supply them with new equipment.

The remedy suggested calls for a material strengthening of the backbones of city councils and building inspectors. Admitting the extra cost of the construction of fireproof buildings, it is proposed to remit taxes on such buildings until the amount remitted would cover the difference between the cost of the fireproof building and one of the fire-trap variety.

Severe as the arraignment is, Americans have not profited by their costly experience. We are spending millions annually in construction work that offers little or no resistance to fire, while the majority of buildings erected in most of the European cities are practically fireproof.

A SIDELIGHT ON THE GAME. Speaker Cannon, John Sharp Williams, Joel W. Babcock and Senator-elect Bankhead of Alabama were playing for pastime and a small ante, in a Washington hotel. It was Uncle Joe's deal. When the cards were scrutinized, Bankhead discovered that he was the possessor of four jacks.

There was a paralyzed pause. Then Speaker Cannon reached for the deck and looked at it. "Gentlemen," said he, "if any one of you lets it get into the newspapers I will see to it that he never gets a decent committee while I remain in public life. It shall never get out to the country that Joseph G. Cannon of Illinois played poker with a pinhead deck." And the game broke up.

Such a story, too good to keep, was of course told in strictest confidence to a few friends, soon becoming public property, and the speaker's worst fears are in a fair way of realization. The country has stood for much in the way of candidates for office, but it is not ready, as the speaker admits, to give the highest office in the world to a man who will sit in a poker game and deal from a pinhead deck, until he shows evidence of reform.

CHOOSING THE CONVENTION CITY. The republican national committee will meet at Washington next week to choose the convention city and arrange the other details that must be settled before the call is issued for the selection of delegates to put in nomination the next republican candidates for president and vice president.

The advance signs point to a brisk competition for the honor and emoluments that attach to the choice of the convention meeting place, with at least half a dozen cities actively in the race. When the conflicting claims are sifted out, however, it will probably be found that the real choice will be between Chicago and Kansas City.

Both Chicago and Kansas City are in the heart of the central west and are reasonably easy of access alike from all parts of the country. Both have commodious convention halls and both have adequate hotel facilities. So far as the republicans of Omaha and Nebraska are concerned the con-

vention at either of these two places would be entirely convenient.

Of late Omaha has been working together a little more closely with Kansas City as having a community-of-interest as Missouri river towns. Not seeking the convention for itself this time it would not be unneighborly for Omaha to throw a few bouquets at Kansas City in the hope some day of drawing on Kansas City for reciprocity when Omaha has something of a similar nature at stake.

This much is certain with reference to the selection of the convention city, not only for the republicans, but also for the democrats as well, that the great west is recognized as a most important factor in the next presidential campaign and that its influence will weigh strongly in the decision of all the preliminary questions.

LAFING THE GOLDEN EGG.

The Pullman company will, it is announced from the headquarters, soon declare an extra dividend distributing \$30,000,000 of an accumulated surplus among stockholders of the company. This is in addition to the regular dividend of 8 per cent paid annually on a capitalization of \$74,000,000, a yearly distribution of \$5,920,000. The division of the existing surplus is understood to be due to the recent action of the corporation of the town of Pullman and turning attention entirely to the sleeping car business. The fact that a suit is pending in the federal court which will determine whether the Pullman company is a common carrier and thus subject to the new federal rate law may also have something to do with the determination of the directors of the company to cut the \$30,000,000 melon.

The Pullman company has been one of the biggest money makers in the country, reports of its agents and lobbyists to state legislative bodies to the contrary, notwithstanding. With an original capital of \$30,000,000, of which a large share was charged to patents, the company found in 1898 that it had a surplus of \$18,000,000, although the regular 8 per cent dividends had been paid each year since 1867. This surplus was added to the capital stock, each shareholder having his stock increased by 50 per cent. With a capitalization of \$54,000,000, the dividend rate was reduced to 6 per cent, but was restored to 8 per cent at the end of the first year. In 1899 the Wagner company, with a capital stock of \$20,000,000, was absorbed and the Pullman capitalization increased to \$74,000,000. Since that time the company has not only paid its regular 8 per cent dividend, but has been accumulating a surplus of more than \$3,000,000 annually.

The total dividend payments of the company since its organization are staggering. For thirty years the annual dividends were \$2,680,000, or a total of \$80,400,000, to which must be added the \$18,000,000 surplus divided in 1898, making a grand dividend total of \$98,400,000 up to the Pullman-Wagner merger in 1899. Since that date, or for nine years ending with last June, the company has paid a yearly dividend of 8 per cent on a capitalization of \$74,000,000, or \$5,920,000 a year, a total of \$53,280,000 for the nine years, making a grand total, including the \$98,400,000 that is soon to be divided, of \$191,680,000 paid by the company since its organization.

The local democratic organ rushes to the defense of Colonel Bryan's claim to sponsorship for the proposed guaranty of national bank deposits, which is being disputed by numerous competitors for the honor. Who saw it first is really not all-important. Congressman Boyd of the Third Nebraska district announced some weeks ago that he had a bill along this line tucked away in his inside pocket and Congressman Hinshaw of the Fourth district has likewise been talking in print about championing a measure to insure the safety of bank creditors. It is now claimed for Mr. Bryan that he proposed a bill in congress somewhat of this nature during his second term, away back in 1892, and old-timers are declaring that the identical idea was being loudly promulgated by the notorious Charley Mosher just before the collapse of his Capital National bank; which later gave him the excuse for retirement behind the walls of the Sioux Falls penitentiary. But the scheme was not original even with Mosher, and it is barely possible he got it from Mr. Bryan. If it is a good proposition it should be adopted, no matter who advocates it, and if it is a bad proposition it should be turned down, no matter who may be offended.

Information from the seat of authority at Lincoln is to the effect that notwithstanding the election of a successor to occupy his seat in the state senate supposed to have been vacated by removal from the state the "Hon. Joe" Burns declines to be dislocated as Nebraska law-maker. The "Hon. Joe" has had more political jolts than any other prominent political figure in Nebraska, but through all his somersaults and double somersaults he has always managed, cat-like, to alight upon his feet. Should the unforeseen emergency by any chance present a special session of the legislature during the coming year it is dollars to doughnuts that the "Hon. Joe" will be cavorting around the senate chamber doing business at the old stand.

Another delegation of Indians from the Omaha reservation is to make a pilgrimage to Washington to re-enforce some pending claims against the government. Such an excursion to Wash-

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

Modern ideas are steadily spreading in China and uprooting customs sanctioned by the usage of centuries. The last one scheduled for the ax of the executioner is the system of native ministers of the crown.

"American reporters are optimists," says Mrs. Elinor Glynn. "They look on life from the bright side; from the view point of men who succeed. Your reporters in this country are such gentlemen and they are so accurate." We do not know Mrs. Glynn, but have a suspicion that she is trying to save the amount that would go usually to the employment of a press agent.

The Ute Indians, who have been on the warpath in South Dakota, have gone to work at railroad construction and have agreed to send their children to school. In another year or two the Indians will be taking part in politics and will then be no better than white folks.

When states fall out the public learns something of the truth. Maine's boast over shipping 1,000,000 bushels of apples to Europe develops the fact that California is preparing to ship 1,000,000 gallons of champagne to France to be properly bottled and labeled.

It is duly recorded in the early chronicles of Omaha that our first post-office was located in the postmaster's hat. That rural visitor who complains of the loss of his money, which he had likewise stored in his chapeau, was, therefore, mistakenly following an illustrious and time-honored precedent.

The navigability of the Missouri proved more than one hundred years ago by Lewis and Clark on their famous exploring expedition. Is it not strange then that anyone should have to go half way across the continent in this twentieth century to testify to the fact that the Missouri can be made to carry a great river traffic?

The killing of a coyote within the city limits of Omaha on Thanksgiving day is an inexcusable offense. A requisition should have been made at once for Mayor "Jim" and his larlat and the privilege accorded to His Honor to rope the ferocious beast.

Pretty Good News. Chicago News.

It looks as if the banks would resume paying out money with less fuss than they suspended that pleasing employment.

Put to Good Use. Chicago Tribune.

Better use some of those nice new checks in buying stamps, or something else. You don't know how soon they may be called in and replaced with ordinary money.

Burgling Business Looking Up. Philadelphia Press.

The rather unusual activity of burglars all around the country is undoubtedly due to the general knowledge that people are hoarding money in their homes instead of keeping it in the banks, where, neither burglar nor anybody else can get it just now.

Coming Out of It. Chicago Record-Herald.

John D. Rockefeller says the worst part of the money stringency is over, and, therefore, he refuses to believe that Roosevelt was wholly responsible for the trouble. John D. is likely to wake up some morning and discover that he has lost the unanimous support of Chancellor Day.

How Railroads Provoke Resentment. Kansas City Times.

Although Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska and most of the other states have the 2-cent fare in force, a ticket from one state to another state is still charged for at 2 cents a mile, under the technical guise of "interstate commerce." Yet the railroads profess to be shocked and grieved that the traveling public should feel any resentment.

Value of the Shipplaster. Philadelphia Record.

It is estimated that there has been floated in despite of legal prohibitions by banks and other employing corporations as much as \$25,000,000 of circulating currency. What else was it possible to do to prevent a total stagnation of business? This is precisely the issue of asset currency without any better guarantee than the good faith of the issuers. But there does not appear to be any doubt in any quarter of its redemption and retirement from circulation directly after the re-establishment of cash payments by the banks. It was a boast made in congress after the subsidence of the panic of 1892 that not a dollar was lost to the holders of illegal emergency currency. The "shipplaster" has its uses.

RATE MAKING AND THE LAW. Legislative Grant of Powers to a Commission. New York Tribune.

The decision of the special division of the supreme court sitting in Albany that the public service commissions law is constitutional goes into the essential question whether the legislature can grant such powers to a commission as are granted in that act. That the legislature itself has the power to do what the commission is authorized to do no one disputes. But there is an established rule of law that the legislature cannot delegate legislative powers to other bodies. The question was whether the rate making function and due commission was legislative or purely administrative. It is established by law that a legislature may fix a standard of charges and intrust to a commission the application of the standard. It was contended that the public service law fixed no such standard and that therefore the functions of the body were legislative. The court has decided that the broad words "within the limits prescribed by law" constitute a standard within the meaning of the law.

It is in the public interest that a broad construction be put upon the word "standard" for the vitality of regulation by commissions depends upon the power of the standard. Bodies with large discretionary authority, as shown at the hearing before the court, twenty-two states have commissions under statutes similar to the New York statute. The growth of such commissions is so recent that the law relating to them has not been made clear by decisions and there has been doubt how the courts would apply in their case the prohibition against delegating legislative powers and how the "standard" the courts would require to be fixed in the acts. This decision was in the public interest, and although it was handed down by a divided bench there is reason to feel confident that it will be sustained on appeal.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

Modern ideas are steadily spreading in China and uprooting customs sanctioned by the usage of centuries. The last one scheduled for the ax of the executioner is the system of native ministers of the crown. The emperor has not been unanimous in their opposition to their performance, but the ambassadors of Great Britain and France have refused for half a century to conform to that custom, and four of them were not formally received for that reason. European opposition succeeded, as usual, and diplomats are required to conform to that custom. The action of the emperor in urging abolition of the custom is symptomatic of the spirit of what Wu Lin-fang denominated "the reformed empire." Not long ago a Chinese official who would suggest that the kowtow was a "degrading custom" would be liable to be executed on the spot. But the world moves and China moves with it.

A London fog is the real article. All others are base imitations. Those who have not experienced it, unless gifted with the "creative imagination," can scarcely comprehend its density and darkness. It must be seen to be appreciated. A correspondent of the New York Times essays a picture of a London fog which settled down on the world's metropolis on Wednesday last week: "There was no dawn," he writes, "at the hour when morning light usually drives away night's gloomy shroud, the darkness actually grew denser as the morning came and commercial life came to a standstill. It was not fog that blackened the sky, although there was some of that about; as one looked overhead it seemed as if all the smoke that had poured out of London chimneys for a month had settled down over the city in a thick black pall. It was solid, much more substantial than the fogs of the sort one cuts up into chunks with his carving knife. It was of a sort to be blown to pieces with dynamite. Another peculiarity of the darkness was that it stayed aloft, and so did not cause so much inconvenience as a thick fog is apt to cause. One could see a fair distance across the street, just as one can in the night-time. In fact, the streets as they looked about as they look at night, when the lights are aflame in the shop windows, the offices and residences. Above, it was inky dark; on the street level it was merely the normal night. At various points one could read with difficulty electric signs that were fixed at heights of fifty feet or more. Other signs higher up worked in vain, conveying no messages to the people. Such of the illuminated clocks as were fairly close to the ground could be consulted readily; the rest looked like debilitated anaemic little moons, and told the hours to no useful purpose. Our real night was gladly welcomed after the literally awful blackness of a miscellany day."

The exodus of British subjects from South Africa, which is officially reported to exceed the number coming in by 838 for the first seven months of the present year, was the subject of special inquiry by a correspondent of the London Mail. The writer, who has traveled from the cape to nearly 400 miles north of the Zambesi river, and who has discussed the subject with English and Boer residents alike, including not only politicians, but traders and distributors, farmers, mining officials, railway men, bankers, lawyers and other qualified to indicate public opinion. He arrived, he says, as the conclusion that the exodus from South Africa is accounted for by certain indisputable facts. In the first place, the whole of the far north of the Zambesi river, the chief center of the diamond output, has during the last two years been suffering from unexampled depression, which has been intensified in Johannesburg. In the second place, observers of all parties are unanimously agreed that the cause of this depression is an utter want of confidence in the future of the country's principal industry, although the gold mining of the Rand is still in its infancy, and if systematically developed might be expected to maintain and even increase the present high level of gold yields at least another half century. Confidence has waned because of low grade ore, requiring cheaper labor to yield a profit, and because nature "kaffir" labor is expensive, inefficient and untrustworthy. Under the circumstances the Mail's correspondent can see no ground for a return of confidence on the part of Europe, and he consequently the present stampede from the Transvaal is likely to continue.

Among the various German protests excited by the Pope's encyclical on Modernism is a letter which a Wurtemberg priest of some prominence recently addressed in Latin to the Pope, signed by the names of a number of the Wurtemberg clergy and laity. The letter has now been translated into German, and has been reproduced very generally by the German press from the Journal in which the translation first appeared. It describes the Pope's encyclical as a stumbling block for German teachers of Catholic theology and for all pious and educated laymen. The encyclical is presented as an attempt to suppress the professors and to exhibit them in the light of intellectual slaves of the Vatican. The view is expressed that the policy of the Pope is calculated to alienate the education of the laity from the church and to reduce the church itself, notwithstanding the outward splendor of its recognized position in Catholic and semi-Catholic countries, to the level to which paganism had sunk in the Roman empire at the beginning of the fourth century, when although it still remained the official religion, the light of Christianity was beginning to permeate Europe and to attract the highest intelligences of the time. This letter closes with the following appeal to the Pope: "Do not pursue the path upon which you have recently entered; do not put too great trust in your advisers; they really have no knowledge of our times, they are ignorant of the character of the Germans."

GUARANTEERING BANK DEPOSITS. Mr. Bryan in the Role of an Expert Financier. New York Sun.

At Washington, November 21, Mr. William J. Bryan, the well known expert on financial questions, advanced an interesting scheme. He proposed that by act of congress the government insure all deposits in national banks, the banks in turn to "agree to reimburse the government for any losses incurred." Thus would peace of mind and assurance of pocket be the constant companions of depositors in national banks and, coming from them, bring comfort to all.

The peculiar ground upon which this scheme is open to criticism is its limited scope. It is subject to at least a suspicion of special if not of class legislation. The total deposits of the country in banks of all kinds, national, savings, state, private and loan, are estimated to amount to \$1,000,000,000. About one-third of the sum is deposited in national banks. A considerable percentage of the national bank deposits is the loose change of miscellaneous of great value.

DR. PRICE'S BAKING POWDER. So perfect in make, so simple in use that beginners may work with it successfully. It makes home baking easy, and gives you bread, cake and biscuit nicer, better and less expensive than the baker's. But to make your home baking successful and perfect you must use Dr. Price's Baking Powder.

Most of the money of the "people" is in the other institutions, for which Mr. Bryan proposes no guarantee. His disregard of this fact comes as a surprise and startles us.

We respectfully propose an extension of Mr. Bryan's plan. We suggest that the government guarantee the whole \$12,000,000,000; that it also guarantee all commercial credits, all products of the soil, the mines, the forests and the fisheries. Volume of water in our rivers and all other interests directly or indirectly subject to guarantee. It is to be understood, of course, that all government guarantees are to be guaranteed by some other guarantor. The process is amazingly simple, and there can be no doubt that it would be a panacea for all our financial and commercial woes and trials. Such a broad plan would relieve the Bryan idea of all taint or suspicion of special legislation. A weary world has been waiting long for a scheme which would give equal value to the speculations of the foolish and the investments of the wise.

POLITICAL DRIFT. The certainty that Secretary Taft will be home for the holidays already casts a shadow over the joys of the Forakerites. They have not issued a del for a week.

Makers of a new constitution for Michigan think it would be a good plan to put in jail people who neglect to vote, but the expense of providing jail accommodations caused the promoters to hesitate.

Denver offers \$100,000 in real coin for the next democratic national convention. Kansas City talks of tendering a like sum for the republican convention. Should these offers be accepted, the respective executive committees would have a fairly good start in the tall grass.

An active campaign has been started in the new state of Oklahoma to push Governor Haskell for the democratic nomination for president. Letters are being sent to influential men urging them to aid the Haskell movement, and the campaign is to be made along similar lines to those on which Haskell was elected governor.

A young literary woman who heard Governor Hughes address a meeting in New York recently, described her impressions as follows: "I do not know whether I was attracted by his cold, clear, intellectual directness, in a measure sufficient to overcome my disappointment because of his lack of magnetism; his utter inability to reach the affectionate interest of his hearers, and the impression he leaves of being altogether a brain machine."

Since the sweeping triumph of the republicans in Kentucky the silence in democratic circles has taken on the intensity of a graveyard. The young and the elders of both sexes are affected. An incident showing the depth of the grief occurred in court recently. A young woman suing a brash young man for damages for kissing her without permission was asked to explain to the jury why she did not make an outcry and attract the attention of a passing crowd. She answered, "You'll never catch me hollering during a republican celebration."

THE "PHONE BELL." Newark News.

She ran to seek his panache, And the "phone bell rang. She rushed to start the coffee, And the "phone bell rang. Breakfast he went without it, "Goodbye," they had to shout it. She would have went about it, But the "phone bell rang.

She tried to dress the children, And the "phone bell rang. She went to wash the dishes, And the "phone bell rang. The parlor needed dusting, The shining dish was rusting, And the silverware disgusting, But the "phone bell rang.

The grocer stopped for orders, And the "phone bell rang. A neighbor came to gossip, And the "phone bell rang. She thought of being busy, She could bake some biscuits tasty— Her hands with dough were pasty, And the "phone bell rang.

All day her housework waited While the "phone bell rang. No time for rest or labor, In when the "phone bell rang. At least he came to fold her, In his arms, "Poor girl!" he told her, Her second he consoled her, And the "phone bell rang.

And we think it is not excelled by any other make on the market.

Suits \$15 to \$40. Overcoats \$15 to \$50.

15th and Douglas Streets. R. S. WILCOX, Mgr. 15th and Douglas Streets.

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