

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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Charles C. Rosewater, general manager of The Bee Publishing Company

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 14 day of December, 1907

ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public

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

The Sunday closing cases in Chicago are to be tried before Judge Faka

The railroads will be compelled, probably, to put in a siding at Fairview

The city officials should take notice that Missouri river persists in working on Sunday

Blessed is the man or woman who makes a child's Christmas dreams come true

Nevada and West Virginia are the two states that never send out any news but bad news

Asbestos whickers for the home Santa Claus should be one of the first items on the shopping list

Mrs. W. J. Bryan is now at sea. Her husband is not at sea, but is enjoying a little plain sailing

It is a waste of time to discuss why Chicago won the republican national convention. Chicago had the votes

It is not too early to make New Year resolutions. Let the first one be to do the Christmas shopping at once

The problem of what to do with our ex-presidents is eclipsed by that of what we shall do for our next president

Mr. Bryan will note that the money offered by Denver as the price of the national democratic convention was all in gold

The green Christmas has little terror for the Omaha Santa Claus. His business was never brisker than it is right now

That contribution of \$100,000 will not cripple Denver, but will serve as an investment. Denver knows what to do with and its visitors

Mayor "Jim" is frank, if not politic. "The money," he said, "will be badly needed in starting the campaign," and the other democrats said "Amen"

The anti-pass law and the cost of railway transportation will furnish G. Cleveland with two reasons for refusal to attend the Denver convention next year

Colonel Cecil A. Lyon says the Texas republicans will insist upon voting for President Roosevelt again. What is the name of the other Texas republicans?

How the gods must have smiled at the spectacle of the democratic national committee men solemnly debating as to whether they would take the money!

That the Omaha police force is neither inefficient nor inactive is proven by the expedition with which the latest murderer was run down and captured

Denver is a mighty good town and has already entertained some notable gatherings. After having had the Eagles and the Elks, it certainly ought to be able to stand for the democrats

Having passed a Jim Crow car bill, the Oklahoma legislature is in trouble again. The rich Indians object to riding with the poor white trash and it may be necessary, in the interests of peace and the Indian vote, to pass a Poor 1.5 car bill

NEBRASKA AND TAFT

The interesting editor of the World-Herald professes to believe that the republicans of Nebraska have abandoned all principle and are prepared to follow any leader at any time. If he will turn back the record for just a year and read what is plain to all the world he will discover how far he has wandered from facts in his effort to create an issue. As far as Theodore Roosevelt is concerned, Nebraska gave him the most cordial and loyal support. The policies for which the president has so manfully stood have all been enacted into law in Nebraska, and these laws are being enforced by officials chosen by the people and directly pledged to the carrying out of the reforms.

Only one difference has arisen between the republicans of Nebraska and the president of the United States on a point of policy, and that is a matter of detail. Nebraska stands pledged by their platform to the doctrine of regulation of intrastate affairs by state laws and officials. The application of this doctrine is opposed to the president's theory of national control. There is room for honest difference of opinion on this point, and the stand taken by the republicans of Nebraska as expressed in the last state platform is frank and open, and in no wise can be construed into opposition to the president.

Mr. Roosevelt has reiterated most emphatically his announcement made on the night of election in 1904, when he said he would under no circumstances seek or accept a renomination or again be a candidate for the presidency. This must be taken as his final word on the topic. It is the final declaration of a man whose honesty of purpose is unquestioned. It leaves the way clear for other candidates and opens the field to all. In this choice of candidates, as well as in the matter of policy, Nebraska already stands pledged. The republicans of this state were the first to give assurance of support to William H. Taft. The platform adopted at Lincoln contains the following plank:

While not presuming to forestall the action of any future convention, we express the belief that the republicans of Nebraska recognize in Hon. William H. Taft of Ohio one whose personal character and whose long public service mark him as pre-eminently the man under whose leadership these policies would be perpetuated. Its language is plain and unequivocal. It is the best possible answer to the World-Herald's demand for information as to where the republicans of Nebraska stand.

THE BATTLE GROUND FOR 1908

Those eminent leaders of the democratic party who have taken the renounced refusal of President Roosevelt to seek or accept another republican nomination as a signal for flooding the country with predictions of a sweeping democratic victory in 1908 have evidently overlooked the fact that the political form book offers no encouragement for such result, based on the democratic record for past performances. On the contrary, developments of the last few years would indicate that the democratic party can not hope to materially better its record of 1904, when it finished the race a trailing second, only the leniency of the judges preventing the Parker entry of the party from getting the flag for being outdistanced.

Hope springs eternal in the democratic breast, but there is nothing in the outlook to suggest its fruition into anything tangible in the next national campaign. In the 1904 presidential election the republicans carried every state north of Mason and Dixon's line, and there has been no political development in any of those states so carried to justify the democrats in expecting a victory in any of them next year. On the other hand, several states that were carried by the democrats in 1904 have shown decided republican symptoms since that day, and may be reasonably counted in the republican column next year, or at least be considered as the battleground in the next campaign. Kentucky gave a democratic plurality of 12,000 in the 1904 campaign. In November last it elected a republican governor and an entire state ticket by a plurality of 19,000. During the campaign Colonel Bryan stumped the state and assured the voters that a break in the democratic line in 1907 would mean that Kentucky would be lost to the democrats in 1908. His appeal was in vain, and democratic leaders like Colonel Watterson admit that the republicans have the odds in chances for carrying the state next year. Missouri was carried by the republicans by 25,000 in the 1904 campaign. No concealment is made of the fact that much of this was due to the democratic defection against Parker and his gold-plated platform, but Missouri republicans have been active in organization and that state may be counted upon as fighting ground next year. The republicans carried Maryland in 1904 by a scant 100 plurality. President Roosevelt's popular majority over Parker was 2,545,515 and the electoral vote was, Roosevelt, 336; Parker, 140.

While the democrats may have a fair fighting chance to regain Missouri and Maryland, they seem destined to lose Kentucky and have no reasonable prospect of making gains sufficient to capture any other state that was in the republican ranks in 1904. Even in the south, so long solidly for the democratic ticket, regardless of the identity of the candidate, is almost in open revolt, and, while it is not probable that any state south of the Po-

tomac will go republican, the democrats will not have their old-time majorities nor the party its old-time support from that section. The republican selection of a candidate pledged to the support and furtherance of the Roosevelt policies will make the race next year almost as much of a walk-away as was the contest of 1904.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

Immigration officials report that the exodus of foreigners who have been working in the United States during the past year is far in excess of that of any former year, but in spite of this the addition to the population through immigration this year will exceed 1,000,000. While it is generally understood that the returning foreigners are going home because of the slack work in industrial lines, the fact remains that the number of immigrants arriving is about normal for this season of the year and that most of them are finding employment.

A new phase has been added to the question, however, by the action of several foreign governments in dealing with the returning immigrants. Germany is making special inquiry into the character and the condition of former subjects who are returning to their native land and proposes to reject all undesirable persons. Italy is also making complaint that its cities are being overrun by men out of work and poorly equipped for living through the coming winter. According to a dispatch from Rome, "the labor outlook is extremely bad. Strikes are the order of the day. Things are drifting toward a cessation of all industry. The misery and discontent springing up everywhere are causing the gloomiest misgivings as to the future." Berlin advises that trades unions are already reducing by half the allowances to the unemployed and conditions are even worse in Austria. In all of the foreign countries foodstuffs have advanced until they are almost at famine prices.

Nothing in the record supports the claim of foreign authorities that the workmen returning from America are adding to the distressing conditions. The evidence in possession of the immigration bureau, the bankers and the postoffice officials is that these workmen are returning with their pockets lined with good American dollars. They have had an exceptionally active season, with wages better than have ever been paid before in the country and they are in position to relieve rather than accentuate the condition of the unemployed at their old homes. The complaint of the foreign authorities, however, accentuates the reports that have come from time to time of the depression abroad and the excessively high price of foodstuffs. Europe has a scant crop, which compels heavy buying in this country. Its 350,000,000 people must have food and they look to the United States for the bulk of the supply. Under such conditions the ebb and flow of immigrant laborers will adjust itself. Those who have worked in this country know the conditions, both here and at home, and they will return when their services are needed. They are quite able to take care of themselves and usually do so, however much officials may worry about them and their lot.

NATIONAL INCORPORATION LAW

President Roosevelt's message suggestion for the adoption by congress of a law providing national incorporation of concerns doing an interstate business has been acted upon from an unexpected source. Senator Platt of New York has offered a bill which, so far as experts have been able to determine, is the most comprehensive plan yet suggested for meeting the president's recommendation. The amazing feature of the situation is that Senator Platt has not been in accord with the president on many public matters and is recognized as one of the leaders of the corporation interests in the senate. On this account suspicion naturally attaches that there must be a joker in the bill he has proposed, but members of the senate who have examined the bill carefully worked out in all necessary detail and seems to meet every requirement.

Senator Platt's bill provides for the creation of a bureau of incorporation in the Treasury department and permits any corporation now doing an interstate commerce business to surrender its charter, received from any state, and to reorganize under the national act. New corporations would be compelled to organize under the federal act. Corporations operating under the new law would be subject to national supervision, such as is now exercised over national banks. The bureau is given authority to revoke the charters of any concern refusing to permit examination of its books and to take charge of the affairs of any company known to be bankrupt. Corporations organized under the federal law shall not be subject to state, county or municipal taxation on account of their capital stock or bonds. States, counties or municipalities, however, would continue to collect taxes on the real estate and other property of the corporations.

The proposition that incorporation under the federal law be made voluntary instead of mandatory, so far as companies already in existence are concerned, may not meet general approval, but that is a minor point. The introduction of the measure in its rather complete and developed form brings the issue squarely before congress and furnishes an opportunity for a full discussion of it. Public sentiment, shared in by many of the larger corporations, is that some such legis-

lation is absolutely essential to the proper regulation and supervision of interstate commerce concerns. It is a needed supplemental legislation to the federal rate law and to other measures designed to check and eliminate the abuses that have grown up in the operation of great railway combinations and the commercial trusts.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS

The late King Oscar of Sweden possessed qualities superior to any contemporary ruler of a European state. Mentally he towered above his contemporaries. Possibly one measured up to his physical height, six feet four and a half inches, and every inch kingly. He was a poet, historian, essayist, philosopher and philanthropist. While other rulers cultivated the arts of war, and strenuously pressed for military and naval prowess, King Oscar cultivated the arts of peace and national content. Conquest in the material sense never tempted him. He preferred the conquest of the hearts of his people. In what other ruler has so much been achieved? While other rulers poured out in lavish measure their favors for heroes of wars and inventors of new implements of destruction, King Oscar encouraged and rewarded those whose skill and genius contributed to the well-being of his subjects. He had no part in glorying in the pomp and circumstances of vast military and naval establishments, hence he had no occasion to flourish a "matted fist" or strange a republic or tremble in fear of the bomb of the revolutionist. In all that makes for peace, for civilization and for human progress, the grandson of the house of Bernadotte was a loyal leader and before all others deserves the title of "the first royal gentleman of Europe." The separation of Norway and Sweden two years ago was a severe blow to his prestige. Less peaceful rulers would have granted no such concession. King Oscar intimated himself with a protest and faced the sacrifice of diminished empire as courageously as when on three occasions he impelled his own to save four lives, for which acts France honored him with a medal.

The new king of Sweden, Gustava, is like his father in physical proportions, and has light Saxon-blonde features. He is not unused to the affairs of state, as he frequently acted as regent during the illness and absence of his father, and has displayed great sense and ability. He is personally much liked at home and abroad. He was born in the castle of Drottningholm, and immediately after his birth was made duke of Vermeland. He pursued his studies from 1877 to 1878 at Upsala. In 1879 he traveled abroad, visiting almost all the countries of Europe. In 1889 he returned a second time to the university at Upsala. He entered the army in 1876, and in 1892 he received the rank of general lieutenant. In 1896 he served as inspector of the military schools, and in 1898 he was made a full general. Between the years 1887 and 1890 he filled the office of vice king of Norway. As a result of his persistence and strenuous efforts to hold the Swedish-Norwegian union together, he earned the enmity of the radical majority in the Norwegian Storting, and in retaliation the Storting took away from him a yearly allowance amounting to \$125,000. The storm between Sweden and Norway has been wholly calmed and each has now adjusted itself to the new order of affairs. In one respect the change of monarchs may ameliorate the relations between Sweden and Norway, and that is in the person of the new king, who now becomes crown prince, is united by marriage to the queen of Norway, Gustava was married on September 20, 1881, to Princess Victoria of Baden-Baden. Their eldest son, Prince Gustava, was married on June 18, 1896, to Princess Margaret Victoria of Connaught, niece of King Edward of England. The new king is fond of playing tennis. He is very unassuming and democratic in manner.

Dr. Robert Koch, the eminent bacteriologist of Germany, has been appointed a member of the privy council by Emperor William. This signal evidence of imperial regard comes to the doctor on the sixtieth anniversary of his birth. Dr. Koch deserves recognition not only in Germany, but also from mankind in general. In 1890 he came into worldwide prominence by his discovery of the bacillus of tuberculosis. Up till then the name of the German bacteriologist had been known only to savants. But he had held for some years an important government post and had been employed in hygienic investigations. He published in 1882 the result of his researches upon tuberculosis, which, following upon the discovery of Villemin, a French army surgeon, he proved to be due to a microbe, seen under the microscope to be a tiny rod (bacillus) or thread. The microbe became implanted in the tissue of the body, which, in consequence, became unhealthy, and tuberculosis is set up. It was claimed for Dr. Koch that he had discovered not only the bacillus of phthisis, but also a specific agent which could arrest the action and cure tuberculosis. Dr. Koch began his bacteriologic origin and composition of his remedy until its efficacy could be substantiated by experiments, but, without awaiting this verification, consumptives flocked to his laboratory from all parts of Europe. The German government threw the cloak of official authority over the discovery and the greatest curiosity was aroused for obtaining the precious lymph and testing its curative powers. The result was at first disappointing, and though it was defended by Virchow and others, a commission of doctors from the Paris hospitals reported in a few favorable terms. In America a strong controversy was aroused. Several patients after inoculation with the lymph died, and prominent medical men, after observing its operation, advised against its use or urged great caution in its application. Like the University of Bonn, Philadelphia abandoned its use. Recently the doctor went to East Africa to investigate and discover a possible cure for the "sleeping sickness," now ravaging that region.

Beer and tea are steadily supplanting wine and absinthe as national beverages of France. The taste for beer comes from across the Rhine. Ten years ago there were but few places in Paris where good lager could be had. Now it is imported in vast quantities, and the French brewers are rivalling the Germans. Indeed, during the past year or two France has matched Germany in the consumption of lager, and it is due more to this cause than to any other that the wine growers in the south are in sore straits. The fashion of drinking tea, which to the Frenchman of generation ago was about as attractive a medicine, is supposed to come from across the channel rather than from Russia. In 1850 only 150 tons of tea were imported by France, and in 1896 only 81 tons. Last year the figure crept up to 1,000 tons, which is not much to be sure, for a great country, but shows that the taste is growing.

One of the most difficult tasks is to form an estimate of the revenue of the world's rulers, partly because of the many sources from which the money is obtained and also because of the different ways in which the wealth is distributed. The London P. T. O. says that the czar is the richest monarch in the world, and probably the richest that has ever lived. His total annual revenue is about \$600,000,000, but expenses are proportionately heavy, and after he has paid for the upkeep of his million square miles of cultivated land and forest, as well as the expenses of his mines in Siberia, it would seem that he has none too much. King Edward receives \$25,000,000, but little more than a fourth of this goes into the privy purse. A stipulated sum is invariably put aside for household expenses, salaries, pensions, charities, rewards, etc. The Reichstag allows the German emperor about \$60,000,000. He has also a salary as king of Prussia,

which amounts to about \$2,907,500. He has great estates and many residences at his disposal, but his expenses are tremendous. The emperor of Austria is also king of Hungary, and, therefore, like the German emperor, draws two salaries. The amount of each, in his case, is nearly \$2,512,500. The king of Italy receives about \$3,750,000 a year, but out of this allowance are paid to the queen dowager, to the duke of Genoa and to the children of the duke of Aosta. King Alfonso has an allowance of \$1,787,500, and as provision is made for other members of the Spanish royal family outside of this, the sum quoted is practically all his own to spend as he pleases. Leopold II receives about \$675,000, but he has keen business instincts, and all the world knows of the way in which he augmented his salary to gratify his luxurious tastes.

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LAUGHING GAS

"It is a great honor for the office to seek the man of the hour, and I have been honored and no salary."—Washington Star.

"Maria, hasn't that young man of your party?" "He has, father. He confessed to me that he used to deal in futures."—Baltimore American.

"Talking of short measure," said Uncle Allen Sikes, "there are lots of people that never seem to have got their share when the milk of human kindness was handed around."—Chicago Tribune.

"It's very true," said the tireless talker, "that men, like you, improve with age." "That men, like you, improve with age," said Mrs. Waters, "and some men like you and do not improve with age."—Philadelphia Press.

"Some men," said Uncle Eben, "at close up you can't do a day's work, but a broken heart, only do a day's work."—Washington Star.

"Ladies" called the president of the after-dinner club, "there shall be no conversation at the card tables. What shall we do with the motion?"

"I suggest that we discuss it while we play," piped a shrill voice from table A, and the suggestion was adopted.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Mrs. Pinner—"You're putting nearly as much wrapping paper as beefsteak on those eggs, and making me pay meat prices for it."

Marketa—"Yes, ma'am, and I'm letting you have all that wrapping paper with a full knowledge of the fact that the price of it, owing to the soulless greed of the wood pulp monopoly, is going up right along. Anything else this morning, ma'am?"—Chicago Tribune.

POLITICAL DRIFT

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To Teach the Future Member, to Dress the Future Child

Special Offer: The Doll Department of The Butterick Publishing Co., Inc.,

THE BUTTERICK PUBLISHING CO., INC.,

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