

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

Entered at Omaha postoffice as second-class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Sunday Bee, one year, \$12.50; Saturday Bee, one year, \$10.00; Daily Bee (without Sunday), one year, \$10.00; Daily Bee and Sunday, one year, \$12.00.

DELIVERED BY CARRIER. Evening Bee (without Sunday), per month, 35c; Evening Bee (with Sunday), per month, 45c; Daily Bee (including Sunday), per month, 45c; Daily Bee (without Sunday), per month, 40c.

Address all complaints of irregularities in delivery to City Circulation Department.

OFFICES: Omaha—The Bee Building, South Omaha—22 N. Twenty-fourth St., Council Bluffs—303 Scott St., Lincoln—32 Little Building, Chicago—144 Marquette Building, Kansas City—Tollance Building, New York—24 West Thirty-third St., Washington—724 Fourteenth St., N. W.

CORRESPONDENCE: Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

REMITTANCES: Remit by draft, express or postal order, payable to The Bee Publishing Company. Only 2-cent stamps received in payment of mail accounts.

MARCH CIRCULATION 48,017

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss: Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the average daily circulation, less special issues, for the month of March, 1911, was 48,017.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested.

Are you in on The Bee's Book-lovers' contest? If not, why not?

Thus far the beef on the Texas border seems to be free from taint.

The harem skirt should not, however, be charged up to the famous David.

The trouble Carter Harrison now has to face is to make good on that promise of 70-cent gas.

It seems the only defect with the Oklahoma deposit guaranty law is that it did not guarantee.

Dr. Hyde's new trial may be put down as another triumph for the Great American Technique.

Evidently Senator O'Gorman is satisfactory to the powers, for "Boss" Murphy has not lost his job.

At any rate, Henry Clay Richmond has covered himself with iridescent and unextinguishable glory.

One Washington observer says that Bailey's fears are no longer for Lorimer, but for Bailey. Selah!

Wonder where our law-makers returning from the Holy City will take their well-earned vacations this time.

Unless Dr. Cook speaks soon one will be justified in assuming that he has slipped away on a quiet hunt for the other pole.

The most important feature of Carter Harrison's victory is that it shies another castor into the democratic presidential arena.

Banker Vanderlip of New York says money is "distressingly easy." Still, some of us are comparatively free from the distress.

Opportunity is knocking boldly, and with a show of confidence, at the door of democracy—Cincinnati Inquirer.

Sure it is not the hammer of Mr. Bryan you hear?

Omaha is to have a rock pile on which city jail prisoners will be permitted to take exercise. Graduates from the rock pile ought to be in perfect condition to resume playing golf.

Madero, leader of the Mexican insurgents, is said to be so rich he cannot be bought off. Wealth has also at times proved a great advantage in politics on this side of the Rio Grande.

President Taft's favorite pitcher, Walter Johnson of the Washington team, is holding out for more pay. No one need be surprised to see a special message sent to Manager McAleer.

It's still a quiet time in the senate—World-Herald.

What's the matter? Haven't the World-Herald editor, who now holds down a cushioned seat there, gotten his bearings?

"His calmness and agitation," says a correspondent, are signs that betray Senator Lorimer's fears of the second investigation. When a man is calmly agitated he cannot conceal his feelings.

There is none the less a gruesome coincidence in the fact that one of the men who profited by the Lorimer jackpot fixed up in a St. Louis bath room should be found dead in a bath tub.

Dr. Woodrow Wilson must have felt, as he read the Chicago city election returns, the peculiar advantage he, as a college professor, enjoys by reason of a residence in New Jersey instead of Illinois.

Senator Hitchcock's organ persists in singing the praises of Governor Harmon of Ohio, presumably just to show Mr. Bryan (that he is not the only pebble on the democratic beach. Hurrah for harmony!

"Tom" Johnson.

A "stormy petrel" was "Tom" Johnson's own description of himself, and it seems to have been a graphic one. But his love for a fight shortened his life, in spite of his assertion that it was in the heat of conflict he enjoyed life most. He was a powerful fighter, a formidable foe, and yet when defeat came to cap the climax of his long train of triumphs it fell with a crushing force.

"Tom" Johnson was a man of pronounced opinions, and it was, no doubt, his eager willingness to fight for the stakes of politics that made him believe he enjoyed life most when fighting. When lives like his are cut short it cannot but remind us that even such as they might have accomplished more to the world had they been tempered in their fiery passion. These spirits are not indomitable. They fall as easily as less belligerent ones. "Tom" Johnson only thought he loved a fight more than peace. What he loved was to win the fight. But when his time came to lose—when he lost politically and financially and nonetheless from the standpoint of principle—he lost out altogether.

The life of "Tom" Johnson reads like a romance. He was a big man. He had a big brain, as well as heart. He had a strong hand and he attained a success at the age of 17 which most men counted successful would be contented enough to reach by 40 or 45. In business and in politics he never failed to stamp the influence of his dynamic character on whatever he did. His chief fame, of course, was as mayor for four terms of Cleveland, during which he forced the inauguration of the 3-cent fare for street car service. In state and national politics he made little headway, although he had achieved a national fame.

Campaign Promise Guaranty.

The town of Alton, Ill., seems destined to fame through its mayors. A former one serving in the legislature achieves notoriety by fathering the so-called stork bill to pay cash for new born infants, and now a candidate for the office deposits \$2,500 cash in bank to bind his promise to close all saloons on the Sabbath if elected.

This ambitious patriot seems to have suggested something worth while. We do not know but it would be a good thing to exact similar security of all candidates for office. Perhaps the public would be able to realize better on their investments if the officeholder were bound by a cash consideration. It is only strange that with all the flow of statesmen in the republic it should have been withheld so long from practical test. No man who has given a thought to the nature and conditions of politics may doubt for a moment the utmost feasibility of the plan. Some of the hypocritical may fear its fruition because of the obtrusion of other less loftily inspired office seekers; perhaps that jealous city councilmen or police officials might obstruct the mayor's performance. Or some sordid soul might even say that special interests, that work "in a mysterious way their wonders to perform" in politics, might find it practicable to reimburse the mayor and let him forfeit his money.

But what use to ferret after reasons why such an ideal plan should fail? If it will add a feather's weight of actual value to the average campaign promise accept it and put it to the test.

Champ Clark's Revision Rainbow.

In that array of platitudes that constituted Champ Clark's stump speech accepting the speakership he reiterated for his party the promise of "an honest, intelligent revision of the tariff downward," at this session, and added, "Bills are already far advanced in preparation looking to the accomplishment of this beneficent end."

Nobody knows better than does Champ Clark that the moving purpose of the democrats is not for "an honest, intelligent revision" of the tariff at the present time, but that they have been forced to adopt a program because of the extra session, which they would much have preferred to have delayed until the regular session in December, and that whatever they may do in the way of tariff revision will be for political purposes only. If the democrats were honestly imbued with a desire for "an honest, intelligent revision" they would have made some manifestation of it before this. When the last tariff bill was taken up they had had ample notice of it and plenty of opportunity to formulate a democratic measure for revision downward. Had the democrats possessed any constructive ability they would have offered a democratic tariff bill as a substitute for the Payne-Aldrich bill, and gone to the country on it, but instead they contented themselves with occupying a position of negation, voting in the interval to keep the duties up on articles in which their respective constituencies were interested.

It is generally conceded that the prospect for "an honest, intelligent revision" of the tariff would have been furthered by the creation of a permanent non-partisan tariff commission charged with the investigation of production here and abroad and the presentation of facts upon which the duties could be properly adjusted and based. But the democrats in congress wanted no such tariff commission, and by their votes prevented its establishment, making necessary continuance of the temporary tariff board, which is doing the work in the best way it can. Even now while Speaker Clark refers to bills in preparation for carrying out the democratic tariff program

he makes no reference to any bill for a permanent tariff commission, because the democrats see no political prestige to be gained by them in that direction.

In view of the events here recited, too recent to be so soon forgotten, the public is apt to look with suspicion upon the revision rainbow painted by Champ Clark and to refuse to take promise for performance.

Nebraska's 1911 Legislative Harvest.

It is a little early yet to take stock of the work of the Nebraska legislative session just adjourned. Measured by ordinary standards, the record of the legislature, including acts of omission as well as acts of commission, will probably be about the average, but measured against the high watermark of efficiency and reform of the last republican legislature of 1907, it will be sadly deficient.

The members of the present legislature were for the most part elected on a straight-out issue of wet and dry, and as a consequence the democratic majority crediting their control to espousal of the wet cause subordinated everything to their one prime mission of preventing further encroachment or restriction upon the liquor interests. Incidentally the railroad and other corporate concerns, with possible exception of the stock yards, ordinarily the focus of legislative assault, have a right to congratulate themselves on having escaped from the melee with few scratches and no bruises.

In one direction the activity of the law-makers just adjourned will be notable, and that is in the multiplicity of proposed amendments to the constitution submitted for popular ratification or rejection at the polls in 1912. The initiative and referendum amendment and the home rule for cities amendment are the two that have attracted most attention, but there are several others of significant scope that will demand most serious consideration. Never before since the present constitution of Nebraska was adopted, unless in 1896, when twelve propositions were submitted, have the people been called upon to patch their fundamental law in so many places at one time.

It goes without saying that the legislative harvest going to make up the session laws of 1911 will furnish many other topics for further discussion.

Sticking the Insurance Company.

The decision of the Nebraska supreme court whereby a widow is declared entitled to insurance on the life of the husband whom she was convicted of murdering is understandable only on the theory that it is always legitimate to stick the insurance company. This may be good law, and doubtless is, or it would not be so declared by both trial and appellate courts, but to a layman it looks like putting up prize money to commit murder if a pardon for the crime can be later had. The usually accepted rule is to stipulate in the insurance policy that there shall be no claim for payment for death procured by the beneficiary, but in this case, although the beneficiary had been adjudged guilty and was serving a penitentiary sentence when released by exercise of executive clemency, the insurance company was not permitted to use the record to establish its defense.

The Bee has no disposition to debate again the guilt or innocence of the unfortunate woman involved, but it does not hesitate to disagree with the principle that a murderer may lawfully collect insurance on the life of his victim. Such a rule as laid down appears still less tenable here, where the money awarded the pardoned convict comes out of a fraternal insurance society which must, to pay it, levy an assessment on hard-working, law-abiding members whose burdens should not be made heavier just out of misdirected sympathy.

Is There a Lumber Trust?

Some months ago it was said the government would undertake to dissolve the alleged lumber trust, and now, on what seems to be reliable authority, it is reported that a federal grand jury will be set at the work, with an investigation within two or three weeks.

When Herbert Knox Smith, commissioner of corporations, disclosed some results of his late investigation tending to show the existence of a lumber trust, Edward Hines, the big lumberman whose name has since become involved in the Lorimer case, is said to have requested the president to have the full findings of the commissioner made public, to disprove the existence of a combine. An unbiased person reading the summary of report of the commissioner of corporations on the lumber industry issued under date of February 13, 1911, will have a difficult time agreeing with Mr. Hines that it tends to disprove the existence of a combine.

The commissioner himself deducts from the report these three "foremost facts" as having been conclusively proved:

1. The concentration of a dominating control of our standing timber in a comparatively few enormous holdings, steadily tending toward a central control of the lumber industry.

2. Vast speculative purchases and holding of timber land far in advance of any use thereof.

3. An enormous increase in the value of this diminishing natural resource, with great profits to its owners. This value, by the very nature of standing timber, is held neither created nor substantially enhanced.

Only forty years ago, as this report shows, at least three-fourths of the timber now standing was publicly

owned. Now about four-fifths of it is privately owned. And the price of lumber has increased with the degree of private ownership. Three concerns, Mr. Smith points out, the Southern Pacific company, the Weyerhaeuser Timber company and the Northern Pacific Railway company (including their subsidiaries) combined own 238,000,000,000 feet, or about 11 per cent of all privately owned timber.

But, as the commissioner has indicated, threatened monopoly in standing timber is not the only menace in this situation; after the timber is cut off there is the monopoly in land. The report is such as to bring forcibly to mind a realization of what a trust in timber means to the future of this country. It is therefore imperatively necessary that the government disregard what interested parties may say to the contrary and find out for itself if a trust really exists, and if so, dissolve it and bring to a fair accounting those responsible for its existence.

Army Gossip

Matters of Interest on and Back of the Firing Line Gleaned from the Army and Navy Register

It is expected that flights with aeroplanes purchased by the army will begin at College Park, Md., about May 1. Four hangars are being erected to house that number of machines. A Wright, a Curtiss, a Burgess and another machine will be used, and it is expected that two officers will be assigned to each machine for instruction. So far only one officer, First Lieutenant Roy C. Kirtland, Fourteenth infantry, has been detailed to this work at College Park. Among the work which will be conducted is the sending of wireless messages by aeroplanes. The signal corps has designed an experimental wireless set for aeroplanes, which was given preliminary trials at Washington this week.

The board of officers at Fort Leavenworth, which has been revised in connection with practical trials with troops, the tentative draft of the revised infantry drill regulations prepared at the War department by the general staff, has been ordered to proceed to San Antonio, Tex. The board will submit the proposed regulations to a practical test with troops of the maneuver division some time this month. The board consists of Lieutenant Colonel John P. Morrison, infantry; Captain Merck B. Stewart, Eighth infantry, and Captain Alfred W. Bjornstedt, Twenty-eighth infantry. Brigadier General Joseph W. Duncan and Major Clarence E. Dentler, Twenty-third infantry, who had much to do with the first revision of the regulations while members of the general staff, are at San Antonio and they will doubtlessly co-operate with the board in its field tests with troops.

Representative Bartholdt of Missouri, the friend of the army canton, is again to the fore. One of the first bills introduced in the Sixty-second congress is that which amends the act approved February 2, 1901. This is the particular section of that law which prohibited the sale of, and dealing in beer, wine or other intoxicating liquor at post exchanges or canteens or on board army transports, upon the premises established for military purposes in the United States.

There would be no special interest in this renewed effort on the part of Mr. Bartholdt—because he attempts to accomplish this service to the army every year—were it not for the intimation that there is some slight hope that the pending anti-canteen legislation will be repealed. It seems incredible that those who have worked so desperately—and so successfully—to abolish the army canteen have been led to appreciate the harm they wrought and the worse than useless legislation which remains in force.

The army medical officers have a right to be elated over the success of the measures which have been adopted and enforced as a precaution against disease among the troops composing the maneuver division in Texas. The climatic conditions are most favorable to bad health, especially in the case of troops which were suddenly sent to Texas from places where cold weather prevailed. Lieutenant Colonel H. P. Birmingham, who is chief surgeon of the maneuver division, and his assistants have been indefatigable in the installation of a system which gets rid of all the refuse of the kitchen line. The waste has and refuse is distributed along the line and sprinkled freely with crude oil and burned, thereby not only disposing of the material, but effectually destroying fly ova and larvae. As the kitchen waste—solid and liquid—is disposed of in the kitchen crematories, the fly has no abiding place, and the danger of disease is correspondingly frustrated. More than this, and nearly every officer and enlisted man not previously inoculated with anti-typhoid vaccine has been treated to that means of avoiding that disease. The effectiveness of these measures is demonstrated by the fact that there are only eighty-six patients in the hospital at Fort Sam Houston and a few cases in one of the field hospitals.

The first of what may be a series of bills in the line of democratic policy of decreasing the expense of army maintenance has been introduced in congress this week by Representative James Hay, the chairman of the newly organized House military committee. It is a measure which is bound to excite animated discussion on account of its provisions, which are incorporated under the title "to decrease the expense and increase the efficiency of the staff service of the army." It is proposed to consolidate the quartermaster, subsistence, and pay stores under a single general, with two brigadier generals. The officers now composing those independent corps will form the personnel of the consolidated branch to be known in departmental administration as the "bureau of supplies" and to form a "supply corps of the army." Those officers of the permanent personnel of the existing three departments who are not promoted before they retire, under the new consolidation, are to be advanced one grade upon retirement. This is a protection to the brigadier generals and senior colonels who might otherwise consider themselves adversely affected. There will ultimately be a reduction in the number of majors by eleven, and the number of captains by thirty-one, so that the saving in expense, according to the estimate made by Mr. Hay, will be in the neighborhood of \$500,000 a year, with, he believes, an increase in the efficiency of the service.

A Fair Fighter.

Not everybody, perhaps not anybody, could always agree with Tom L. Johnson of Cleveland, but even his critics have honored him as a two-fisted man and a fair fighter.

Cut Out Playing Politics.

If the democrats will be as prompt in ratifying the reciprocity agreement as they are in claiming to be the originators of the idea, the public will waive the question where the credit belongs.

A Lucky World, This.

Bryan declines to move to Memphis because Lincoln, Neb., is nearer the center of the United States. Thus he saves us from an upsetting of national equilibrium which no sane mind could contemplate with equanimity.

Terrible Sobs of Business.

Merchants of Washington are sobbing over the plight of the underpaid government department clerks, but through the tears we seem to see the look of conviction that if the clerks get more money it will find its way into the merchants' till.

Patriotism Before Parisianiship.

To any democrat or insurgent in congress seeking to make political capital out of the mobilization of troops near the Mexican border, only one word of advice need be given: "Don't." One reason for this advice is that there is no capital to be made by criticism of actions so completely justified by known conditions. The other is that while such criticism would have no effect at home, it would give some measure of encouragement to foreign critics, who misunderstand or misrepresent the attitude of the United States. This is an occasion when there can be no partisan division among patriotic Americans.

Black Eye for Prohibition.

The action of the Alabama legislature in enacting a county option law to regulate the liquor traffic is the most serious blow received by the prohibitionists since the wave of prohibition swept the south ten years ago. Alabama had the most drastic state-wide prohibition law in the country. The agitation since that enactment has been extremely acute, dividing the democrats into bitter irreconcilable factions. The anti finally succeeded in electing a governor, and the legislature has now passed a bill which provides that 10 per cent of the voters of any county may petition for an election to determine whether liquor shall be sold in that county by saloons, dispensary or otherwise.

People Talked About

The wife of an Omaha newspaper man, who has a collection of 163 pitchers, can't be induced to make an exhibit in Bourke's park. It is understood she doesn't need the money.

Salutations for the "lady matron" of Hunnewell, Kan., are premature. A report of the banks by unglamorous Joe pushed the hope of the sex' off the boards. Ye that have tears to shed, spill 'em now.

Victor T. Noonan, a Creighton alumnus and former contributor to The Bee, has become editor-in-chief of the Free Press-Record, a weekly published at Waverly, N. Y. Stanley R. Osborn, also a former Bee man, is doing special work on the Chicago Tribune.

The Maderos, one of whom is leading the Mexican revolution, are the richest family in the country, being worth from \$20,000,000 to \$25,000,000. The spectacle of a multi-millionaire bleeding for the "poor peons of Mexico," surely is enough to make the angels weep.

Green tea drinkers will be glad to learn that they are not to be deprived of their favorite beverage after all on the first of May, provided it receives the preferred tincture through natural processes. As we have already shown, it is as easy to cure the herb so that it shall be green as it is to make it black, but the demand for it has led to artificial coloring, and that is what is to be prohibited.

Safeguard Your Food by Always Using Dr. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER. Made from Pure Grape Cream of Tartar. Its purity, wholesomeness and superior leavening qualities are never questioned. NO ALUM—NO LIME PHOSPHATE. Alum is a powerful astringent with very decided irritant qualities, owing to which, when taken internally in sufficient quantity, it is emetic and purgative, and may soon cause fatal gastrointestinal inflammation. The use of alum and salts of alumina in food should be prohibited. Notice that all advertisements of cheap baking powders conceal the presence of alum! Therefore read the label.

POLITICAL SNAPSHOTS.

Washington Post: The horde of famished job-hunters are charged to learn that there are no salaries attached to those congressional situations they used to read of back home.

Philadelphia Record: Party makes strange bedfellows. Unless reports are erroneous, Senators Penrose and LaFollette will grin at each other across the table of the committee on finance.

Chicago Inter Ocean: Sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish. It all depends on whether they stick to the principles of democracy that won last November or tie themselves again to the corpse of Bryanism.

Indianapolis News: It seems that a report of the votes in Hunnewell, Kan., has resulted in the defeat of the woman candidate for mayor. Thus the interesting plan of trying a woman as chief of police is also frustrated.

Houston Post: Oh, we want the democratic majority to run the steam roller over the republicans every day the house is in session. It is no time for magnanimity with the sorrowful memories of sixteen weary years pressing upon us.

Washington Star: Mr. Bryan is no longer the graceful youngster of 35 slender, black-haired and bright-eyed, but a rounded old man of 51, bald, and slower-motioned. Still he remains good to see and to hear and his hold upon popular attention is extraordinary.

INVADING THE INLAND EMPIRE.

Extensions of the Harriman and Hill Lines in the Northwest. Spokanes Spokesman-Review. In the noiseless battles of the railroads one sees that peace hath its romance and stirring conflicts as well as war.

The definite contract for construction on the North Coast railroad from Spokane to Ayer Junction, involving the expenditure of approximately \$1,000,000 for eighteen miles of grading from this city to Cheney through Marshall canyon, is not only an important item in the history of development in the inland empire, but it marks another strategic move in the struggle between the Hill and Harriman interests for railroad control of the northwest.

It is interesting in this line to note that with this invasion of the inland empire comes the announcement from California that James J. Hill is to invade California, so long claimed by the Harriman interests. From the vantage point he has gained through the Deschutes valley to southern Oregon, the Gulf of Mexico is regarded as his objective point.

Interesting and not a little thrilling, this bloodless struggle for the transportation of the country, the combats with chains and tranche, the marked attacks for right-of-way here, the flank movements for a rich market there. Courage, brains, generalship, are qualities as much in demand as if prizes were battered standards and the losses in wounded and killed.

But this is a war of construction rather than destruction and the sharp struggles, competition, bring material benefits to the people. As the railroads may be considered the arteries of commerce, these railroad conflicts stimulate the commercial circulation and tend to bring the glow of health to the cheek of the land.

HARMONY.

Washington Star. We're having heaps o' harmony at Pollock on the creek. We held a meetin' so's to help the wheels of progress click. And incidentally to have some understandin' clear.

But who should get the office, as vantage, drew near. Joe Bruthers had a hatchet neatly tucked 'round his vest. Si Shilin hit the gun his father used to tote out west; And Eary Higgins, 'er to help toward 'stead at the fack. Was carry' behind his back a sharp an' shin' axe.

They looked at one another as they opened the debate. The kindness an' politeness they displayed was somethin' great. Si squinted at Joe's hatchet an' Joe peeked at Eary's blade. And Eary saw the gun that Si by accident displayed.

You should have seen us all a-shakin' hands and bowin' low; We knew 't would be a riot if the trouble once let go. I hope it may continue. Compliments is flyin' thick. The harmony is wonderful at Pollock on the Creek!

Player Piano Clubs at A. Hospe Co.'s Music Store

\$1.90 per week is all you pay.

\$290 is the price of a full size Player Piano, which plays the entire key board (88 notes).

Music absolutely FREE.

Combination Bench and Scarf FREE.

Free instruction on the uses of the devices.

\$1,000 Player Piano is no more complete than this \$290 instrument.

A. HOSPE CO.

1513-15 Douglas Street.