THE . OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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> AUGUST CIRCULATION. 56,554

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 for the month of August, 1914, was 56,554. DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me, this 3d day of Septembar, 1914. ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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

Note the striking superiority of The Bee's special war news service.

Old Pluvius reminds us once more that the rain descends on the just.

Sples are shot on the theory, no doubt, that "a dead man tells no tales."

It's a poor war that doesn't give both sides periodic occasions for rejoicing.

Another urgent need Omaha must soon look to is enlargement of its storm sewers,

"Marry me or I'll shoot," demands a Kansas City woman. Now what's the poor man to do?

Omaha's gentle ball team has gone to Denver to beard the bear in his lair and here is hoping better luck.

Sniping is just as bad by any other name; and likewise it is just as bad in a Belgium town as it was in Vera Cruz.

Well, if Bordeaux also succeeds Paris as the fashion center, it cannot do much worse by us than Gay Paree has done.

The next notable event to occur is the Mohonk peace conference, which will tell us how to put the war devil out of business.

China serves notice that, owing to the war, it will be unable to participate in the San Francisco exposition, evidently believing a poor excuse better than none.

The Baying Mr. Bey.

The good Mr. A. Rustem Bey, Turkish ambassador to the United States, evidently has been undone by the excitement of the war. The report of England's suggestion that American warships in Ottoman seas might serve to suppress apprehended anti-Christian uprisings, apparently has capped the climax of his nervous tension.

"I will permit myself to say," observes the agitated Turk, and the license he thereupon accords his discretion is really remarkable for a diplomat. He sees in it all merely a subterfuge by the wily John Bull to lure our good Uncle Sam into the war on the side of the allies. Generously he warns the unsophisticated Yankees against it. For this, of course, we are grateful. Without the warning our government doubtless would have rushed pellmell into the war. But the baying of Mr. Bey does not stop there. With the massacres that have-"I cannot, unfortunately, deny"-occurred in Turkey, he compares negro lynchings in America and the water cure in the Philippines.

The tirade of the Hon. Bey is chiefly amusing, as far as its influence goes. Turkey deserves sympathetic consideration for being represented at Washington by such an unbalanced diplomat.

Holding for Top Prices.

It is notorious that comparatively little of this year's small grain crop has been moved to the market, and that a much larger proportion than usual remains in the hands of the producers who are manifesting no haste to part with it. Our old friend, Edgar Howard, denounces grain gambling, whether perpetrated by Board of Trade operators or by farmers holding for tou-notch prices. But Board of Trade plunging is done on margins, and is gambling pure and simple, while holding the real grain on a rising market is at worst merely a business speculation. If somebody is going to make a snug profit out of the increase in value, the farmer who raises the crop is certainly entitled to take his ahead of the elevator man or grain broker, if he can get it-and this time he is in position to get it.

A Spur for the Simplified Life.

The Bee commented the other day upon the effect of the war's stoppage of foreign imports, forcing fashions in wearing apparel to conform to simpler materials. Along the same line Collier's Weekly suggests that cutting off many foreign drugs and edibles may make for saner eating and exercise and less medicine. "The war may be for many of us," it says, "a valuable compulsory discipline in personal hygiene, a start toward better living."

This is merely another way of expressing the same thought-that the agitation for a return to the simpler life has enlisted a new and powerful advocate and will help people to carry out good intentions which they could not before quite bring themselves to. It is well to remember, however, that the simple life does not mean hoarding or deprivation, or even spending less money, but in spending it on things that give comfort and enjoyment rather than on crass display, freak fashions and over-indulgence conducive to discomfort and physical suffering the morning after.

Diversified Farming for the South.

The latest scheme for relieving the cotton situation of the south is known as the "buy a bale of cotton" movement, launched at Atlanta. Three hundred public spirited Georgians started the campaign by buying a bale apiece, to set the example for as many persons as will in every town and city of the south buy a bale a' 10 cents a pound direct from the planter and store it in a warehouse for one year. So far as it goes, this may prove a palliative, but after all, it is in no sense a cure. The paralysis in which the cotton industry of Dixle finds itself was produced, immediately, by the war of Europe closing up the channels of export trade, yet other underlying causes enter into the conditions with which the southern people have to deal. They have raised this year one of the biggest cotton crops on record. Normally prices would have been good, but, abnormally, everything is against them.



Brief contributions on timely topics invited. The Bee assumed no responsibility for opinions of correspondents. All letters subject to condensation by editor.

THE BEE: OMAHA, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1914

Enfranchisement and Disfranchisement.

OMAHA, Sept. 7 .- To the Editor of The Working men would be ready to Hee: fight if they were told, seriously, that they should make an effort to secure their own disfranchisement on the grounds that the ballot is of no value to them. Working men regard as the sheerest folly the idea that their employers, who profit long hours and low wages, are more capable of representing working men than working men are capable of representing themselves. Should any lawmaker have the temerity to propose that the ballot be taken sway from men and men be placed in as belpiess a position as working women, the result would be that after the next election the lawmaker could not be found-his epitaph would be: Buried by the "Ballots of Free Men." The twenty-nine corporation lawyers and corporation henchmen who have organied to fight women are afraid to meet women on an equal footing; they want to reserve for themselves the strongest and most powerful weapon-the vote.

A gallant band of brave men fighting vomen with both hands while women have one hand-their voting hand tled behind them. VIOLA KAUFMAN.

A Bohemian Viewpoint,

WILBER, Neb., Sept. 7 .- To the Editor f The Bee: In a communication sent by me to one of our Nebraska editors a few days ago, 1 stated that a soldier of any nation, who is fighting in a battle against the enemy and who is sent to kill his fellowmen, is no "tenderfoot" and himself facing death at all times, is apt to resort brutality and atrocities which in time of peace he would resent and abhor to the Your correspondent, Mr. Matt Spader, states that he regrets that the German soldier is pictured in the newspapers of today as a savage and deplores the unnamable lies that slip in print about the atrocities of the German army and he calls such statements trash coming from lying England and France.

I could not help to think how easily his statement is refuted by the article on the first page of The Bee headed, "Louvain Horrors Told by a Victim,' to say nothing, of all other eye witnesses. It is useless to try to shield a soldier of any of the warring nations in such a war, and it is pitiful to have a man call others llars when he himself is overcome with race prejudice and fails in his statement to adhere to truth. Mr. Spader says America should be grateful to Germany for furnishing her quota of men who fought valiantly for the preservation of this union, but he forgets that all other nations were represented in the line of battle for this same just cause. Further let me call attention to a correspondence in same issue of The Bee, signed D. S. This man, whatever may be his name, says, among other things, that there is a strong national feeling among the Slavs against Austrian, Hungarian and German governments, under which they live, but he fails to explain why such feeling exists. He either does not care to explain or is ignorant of the facts In question. Perhaps he does not know for instance, that the once kingdom of

Short Ballot Talk

Stanton Register: We hope the legislature will give us the short ballot at the next session of the legislature. We only need to elect a governor, Heutenant governor and supreme judge. In the county we ought to have a county clerk and manager and let those two men run the county, and if they didn't do their work hang a recall onto them so we could easily get rid of unfaithful public servants. The present ballot is a nuisance, caused by the multi-

tion shows most conclusively that the cities and towns select the candidates for the various parties, while the country districts have little or no say in the distribution of the plums. In the local tickets the county seats and villages decide the question, it being shown conclusively that the country vote will not come out. What is the remedy?

Waterloo Gazette: One thing that the primary renot the letter, of the law, for it is intended that each comes to election one has a right to vote for the

Loup City Times-Independent: The short ballot roposition is going to receive a lot of attention from the hands of the legislature this winter. The proposition will be to do away with most of the state officers and have them appointed by the governor, and enact the recall on the governor. Then, instead of voting for a lot of candidates on the state ticket of which we know nothing, we have to vote for only a governor, and if he fails to come up to the standard we can recall him. The president appoints his cabinct, and what a mess it would be if they were elective, the same as our state officers. No one would approve of our cabinet being elected, neither is there one who thinks it would be an improvement. The

Bridgeport News-Blade: That Nebraska's garbled primary law is ponderous, foolish and difficult to understand all will agree who had anything to do with the last election. In addition to its general vicious aims, the law makes it difficult for the average voter to cast his ballot intelligently, and the judges and clerks of election might be able to explain its workings to the voters if they had a few weeks' daily practice. Voters in different precincts in this county thought they had found something crooked when ballots were handed to them which were blank as to county officers. The trouble was the election boards had mixed the regular bailots with the "voting by mail" ballots, and the voters, who were no more familiar with the new provision of the law, did not notice the line 'voting by mail ballot" at the head of the ticket. It is safe to say that not a precinct in this state, outside of the large cities, was equipped to handle the election supplies which were piled up at the voting places, and as a result nobody knew exactly what to do. It would be useless to attempt to improve the present primary law by amendments. The same thing for the coming legislature to do will be to repeal the entire measure and permit the differont parties to conduct their primaries in the good old way.

Bellwood Gazette: You have noticed, perhaps, that the political bosses and the daily newspapers in the eastern part of the state are all defenders of the primary law, and there is a reason for it. They knew that under its workings there is about as much chance for a western candidate to secure a nomination as there is for a rnowball to preserve its identity in hades. How long will the rank and file of the voters of both parties permit themselves to buncoed?

Three Bee Lines

David City Banner: The Omaha Be suggests the placing of a pretty girl with a banner at every railroad crossing to keep auto drivers from running into trains. Might as well run into the train as in the ditch.

Nebraska City Press: The Omaha Bewonders what has become of the oldfashioned country boy who used to take his best girl out riding behind a pair of grays, and then queries if he is driving a six-cylinder car. There is no old-fashioned country boy these days and if anyone is driving a six-cylinder car it is probably his hand at the throttle.

Newman Grove Reporter: It is claimed that the workmen's compensation act will

to work up damage cases. The Omaha Bee sagely remarks that contingent fee lawyers will find plenty to do even if this source of revenue is cut off. Few people are able to avoid the wiles of the lawyer who really sets his mind to the task of developing business. The laws are so

numerous and complex and the judges so dominated by the letter of the law instead of the spirit of justice that the ordinary citizen has little chance to get away from the trape that can be prepared for him by an unscrupulous at-

papers, will almost certainly have its

has given \$125,000 to the Prince of Wales

relief fund. William will be a lord yet,

Troy Times: Some way or other the

United States just can't keep out of any-

thing. The wife of the victorious admiral

in the Helgoland battle is an American.

if his liberality holds out.

torney.

Turkey gets in.

woman's page.

time's changes.

Americana.

PERSISTENCE.

Thomas F. Porter, in Boston Globe. One thing at least is fixed and sure: Should you doubt me, one wiser ask; He who would most success secure, Must never waver at his task.

The object he must cull and choose From all the others he would gain; Then in himself ne'er courage lost But that he will the end attain.

And doubts tomorrow if 'twere wise Will only flit his powers away And but to small achievements rise

small



SAID TO BE FUNNT.

"When does Maud expect to get married?" "Oh, every season."-Boston Transcript, "Did the doctor limit you to any par-ticular diet?" "No, but his bill did."-Birmingham Age-Herald.

Robinson-Say, but you're looking fine.

id man! Robertson-Yes; I don't feel as if I'd had any vacation at all'-Puck.

"What are the European nations fighting for, anyway-commercial ascendency "No-commercial descendency."-Life.

Golfer (playing his second round in the day)-Into this beastly bunker again, Caddie! Caddle-No, S'. This is the one you missed this morning.-Funch.

Caller-Is your daughter an eques-

that the workmen's compensation act will largely reduce the work of the courts by making it impossible for thrifty lawyers to work an end of the courts by fusing. don't you know.-Buffalo Express.

"What ye reading about there. Hiram?" "A small farm." "Gosh, my hired man oughter do well in that line of work."-Seattle Post Intel-

Igencer.

"Why, Johnny," said his mother, "I do believe you're teaching that parrot to swear!" "No, I'm not, mother," the boy replied, "I'm just telling it what it mustn't say." Ladies' Home Journal.

Kind Old Lady-While you were gone, little girl, a bad boy came up to the porch and ran away with your licorice babies. Little Girl-Oh, I don't care much. "But he ate them all up." "Then he'll be sorry, 'cause they wasn't licorice babies. I made 'em out of tar." -Kansas City Star

Uncensored Opinions

Kansas City Star: There will be a further confusion of appeals to Heaven it San Francisco Chronicle: There are

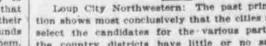
hearts left even in London walters, who have united in refusing tips from stranded New York World: History, in its next asue, taking its cue from the daily

Who sets his course one way today,

Detroit Free Press: Alfred Dreyfuss, jr. officer in the French army, has been The hours of life too quickly fly: Our puny hands are far too sma A dozen things each day to try. So we would only fail in all. promoted for gallantry. A reminder o Chicago Herald: William Waldorf Astor

By neither doubt nor fear he awayed, Nor from wise counsel turn aside; But since life's game by each is played, One ought to choose himself as guide.

To all false lights close tight your eyes; To timid souls your doors close fast; Strive with all power that in you lies, And lo! the goal is yours at last.



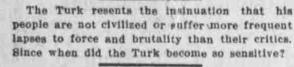
plicity of names. Loup City Northwestern: The past primary elec-

sults locally reveal is that it is about as easy for members of one party to control, or seek to control, the nominations of the opposite party under the primary system as under the old plan. The principal is the same, and both are a subversion of the spirit, if party shall nominate its own candidates. When it man, but in the primary each one is supposed to vote

that public officials-barring a few higher up-can be picked by experts better than they can be chosen

short ballot would be a remedy for the primary law,

for his party ticket. Kearney Hub: The short ballot faddists assume by the people. How about it?



As the Boston Transcript suggests, the most patriotic thing the London militants could do now would be to go on a hunger strike. But there is the perversity of womanhood, you know.

Considering the circumstances, the country is getting along tolerably well without those reserve banks, and perhaps it would be the part of wisdom to avoid injecting a new element of uncertainty by taking plenty of time before putting them in operation.

The war is a seductive subject for letterwriters, and we welcome their contributions to our letterbox. But still space limits require abbreviation, so we again ask our correspondents to make their letters short and to the point, and not to try to put everything on their minds in one letter

Colonel Roosevelt devoted his speech in New Orleans exclusively to Mississippi river improvements. He said nothing about over-weighted southern representation in progressive party national conventions, nor about the disfranchisement of the blacks by poll taxes and grandfather clauses. There's a reason! The progressives in Louisiana are trying to make themselves a lily-white party in flagrant defiance of the principle of no color discrimination, which the colonel has been preaching all his life.



The special attraction of the state fair was a speech by General Benjamin F. Butler. The guest was met at Council Bluffs by a committee of the peoples' party consisting of Colonel E. F. Smythe and Dr. F. Lewis. He was then the candidate of the labor party for president

One of the monkeys from a sideshow at the fair grounds got loose, and in the evening paid a visit to the residence of J. D. Rustin.

Daniel E. Bandmann presented "Hamist" at the Academy of Music. He was supported by Miss Louise Daudet.

The women of the First Methodist Episcopal church gave a sociable in honor of their pastor, Rev. C. W. Savidge, Mrs. E. C. H. Lounsbery, Mrs. Hawver, Miss Edith Dann and Miss Robinson contributed musical numbers. The congregational also adopted resolutions asking the conference "to return Brother Savidge to serve us another year."

It took a ten-inning game for the St. Pauls to pull out a victory over the Union Pacifices by 5 to 2.

In the new roster of the Knights of Pythias grand lodge are these Omaha names: E. E. French, grand kaeper of the scal; August Boohme, grand inner guard; J. J. Monell, Jr., and J. S. Shropshire supreme rapresentatives.

While it might not effect a complete cure for cotton growers over night the solution of the trouble, it seems to us, is simply a greater diversification of farming. Let the southern planter learn a lesson such as northern farmers have learned and turn attention to some supplementary crop besides cotton. To be sure, the south has increased its corn production somewhat of late, but not enough; nor has it increased its production of fruit and other staples as much as it might. The south has rather too readily yielded to the old temptation just to

Bumping Price Boosters.

raise cotton.

Under conditions now existing throughout the world, capitalization of misfortune and oppression of our own people by the arbitrary increase of the prices of foodstuffs, are so peculiarly reprehensible that, whenever convictions can be obtained, the government will insist upon sentences of imprisonment-no fine or civil remedy will be deemed adequate.

This statement by the new attorney general in prosecuting charges of price-fixing under the Sherman anti-trust law, will find a responsive echo from every fair-minded man in the country. It is interesting to note the indictment by a federal grand jury of thirty-one accused food price manipulators at Washington.

What the consumers are interested in is in seeing, for once, the law seriously enforced against conspiracies to advance the cost of living by artificial means. The statement could not be put in more succinct form than the above by Attorney General Gregory. The capitalization of misfortune and oppression for personal profit is simply not to be countenanced if it can be prevented.

The highest vote cast for any one of the three constitutional amendments printed on the recent primary ballot is in round figures 54,000 and the lowest 45,000. But being majorities in each instance the amendments will go on the official ballot in November with the benefit of the party label, and will be counted in by force of the party circle votes. In other words, three more amendments have been written into the Nebraska state constitution by less than 20 per cent of the voters.

The herculean task of modern warfare is for the field censor and the official press agent at

and that in Prague, the capital city of Bohemia, for over a century the Bohemian language was forbidden to be spoken in public and that all schools and

public affairs were conducted in the German language, and that it was not until after a prolongeu protest and hard national struggle that the Bohemian language was lukewarmly reinstated in the Austrian courts.

Bohemia was forced by prolonged wars

with her enemies, and after the loss of

the best blood of her nation, to involun-

tarily become part of the German Austria.

Mr. D. S. also states broadly that in the same city no German signs or notices are tolerated. In the year 1871, when I last visited the city of Prague, there were more German than Bohemian signs in the city and the American visitors returning from that city in recent years will undoubtedly testify that German signs and literature is still pientifully found in this Bohemian capital. I personally know that all postoffice and all official seals and many of the legal documents are expressive of both of the languages.

Let me kindly ask Mr. D. S. how the Russian, Bohemian or other Slavic signs and literature would fare in Berlin or any other German city, and would he have the courage to explain how the majority of the Germans love the Slavs? I do not wish to entertain any race prejudice and all men living under the neutral stars and stripes of united America should bury race hatred promptly. I number among my friends many Germans and think as much of them as I do of my friends of all other nationalities, but I cannot calmly read assertions wrongfully published against any man, men or nation

Mr. D. S. Truthfully states that the ancient Slavs were people mostly devoted to agriculture and averse to war, but when he says that the Slavs were the last people to enter the sphere of modern civilization he is laboring under a delusion and misapprehension, unless he considers the modern warfare and sharp practice as such a sphere. I may only quote that history shows that the University of Prague, Bohemia, established in 1545 was considered one of the greatest and foremost schools of learning, and being magnificently endowed, brought foreigners to it from every part of the world and it was here where the Germans and other nationalities obtained their beneficent early education.

Neutrality of the American people in these conflicts should be upheld in the greatest measure. The correspondents on these subjects should be honest and bring a "square deal" judgment in their utterances for all nations and above all let us uphold our government in its great efforts for peace and good will toward all peoples of the earth. JOHN F. SPIRK.

Walt and Sec. Houston Post.

"Is this free America, or is this Russin ?" asks the Omaha Boe. We are in possession of information that would enable us to answer this query accurately. but we can not, can not violate a sacred confidence. We refuse to answer.

> Consoling the Stricken. New York World.

Automobile tires will cost more by reason of the shortage of crude rubber due to the suspension of imports. Motorists have come to regard life as one d- charge after another. But at least the American motorist runs no risk of having his car requisitioned for military uses.

Ord Quiz: If you voted you know just what the trouble with this system is-you did not know anything about one quarter of the candidates on your ticket outside of the county. Yet you were expected to select the best men for the various state offices. What did you do with the cases where you did not know one of the men named? You made a dab at one of them or passed the lot up altogether. .Well, you are like ninety-nine out of every hundred other voters who went to the polls. You might just as well have put the names in a hat and pulled out one of them and let him have your vote. This, then, is the remedy. Carry out the idea of the primary ballot as far as the county ticket is concerned. That is, let the primary elections be held as now, but let the elections be only for township and county offices and delegates to the county conventiones of the various parties. Make the primaries and the county conventions of all parties be held on certain days. Let the county conventions organize for the campaign and elect delegates to the state, congressional, judicial and other conventions. A primary election held like that would eliminate the boss just as effectually as the present state-wide primary is doing, and it further will permit the voters, to vote intelligently.

Fairbury News: The Omaha Bee believes an emergency exists as a result of the imperfections of the primary law that is a severe handicap to popular government and that should be dealt with by the coming legislature before the election of 1916. It points out that in the past primary a voter was required to make fifty-four crosses on a five-foot ballot in order to intelligently exercise his right of franchise. Prodigous as this may seem, it shows that in 1916, when we have presidential electors to select and a full set of state, county and precinct officers to fill. the ballot will be twice that long and require in addition to a considerable amount of intelligence and information, some skill and ingenuity to vote it. The Bee proposes a remedy by shortening the ballot. While it is very evident that something must be done to simplify the ballot, it is a question whether a "short ballot," according to the accepted definition of the term, making a majority of the officers appointive, would not entirely destroy the purpose of the primary. The primary was instituted for the purpose of bringing the government closer to the people, or establishing what is known as a popular government. With the appointive power in the hands of one man, it would seem a most affectual way to remove the government from the people and establish a reign of "boss" rule that would be more powerful than was ever contemplated when reactionary legislation had full sway. The Bee's idea of abolishing some of the minor state and county offices might be good, but it is not probable that the cause of popular government could be enhanced by taking the elective power away from the people and giving it to one man.

Columbus Telegram: Yes, the primary election law in Nebraska is defective in some respects, but with all its faults it is better than the old convention plan, under which the corporations manipulated the nominations in all state conventions. It is true that a great crime was committed at the recent Nebraska primary, when thousands of men voted primary ballots of a political party with which they are not affiliated. But the primary law did not commit the crime. The crime was committed by cowardly primary election officials who did not enforce the law. We frankly admit that the Nebraska primary law is marked with a few spavins of fault, and a few ringbones of weakness, but still it is a better plan for making nominatious than the old convention system The Telegram is in favor of making the primary law better by amendment, but is steadfastly opposed to its repeal.

No "Water" in **Bell Telephone Stock**

Even the most radical enemies of "big business" admit that there is no "water" in Bell Telephone stock. The Bell organization last year paid less than a 6% dividend on actual physical valuation of the property.

In a recent speech in New York, Congressman Lewis, of Maryland, in advocating government ownership of telephones, said:

"Be it said for the Bell System, that it is the one great corporation in our country that has not issued tons of counterfeit capital. Its stock and bonds today represent the actual contributions of its shareholders in money to a great common enterprise, and we will not have that unfortunate circumstance to deal with in the valuation of their properties."

Private enterprise and initiative have made American telephone service the cheapest and most efficient service in the world.

NEBRASKA TELEPHONE COMPANY



not a sale unless all concerned are satisfied.

Our tenants are better satisfied because we give them the best there is in service, location, attention, cleanliness fresh air and plenty of light.

A TRIAL IS ALWAYS A SALE IN THE BEE BUILDING The building that is always new OFFICE ROOM 103.

headquarters to make their accounts tally.