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FEBRUARY CIRCULATION.

#### 51,700

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, as.
Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee
Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the
average circulation for the month of February, 1915,
was 51,706.
DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager,
Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before
me, this 3d day of March, 1915. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to beforme, this 3d day of March, 1915.
ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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

#### Thought for the Day Selected by Hattie L. White

Neither a borrower nor a lender ba, For loan oft loses both itself and friend. And borrowing dulls the edge of husbandry; This above all-to thy own self be true; And it must follow, as the night the day. Thou canst not then be false to any man. -Shakespeare.

Clear the track for Greater Omaha!

Well, Mr. Groundhog, we're ready for your reappearance.

By all outward indications, Omaha real estate never looked better to far-seeing men with money to invest.

To a hungry Nebraska democrat: "The Long Way to Tipperary" is a short cut beside the road to the ple counter.

The workmen's compensation law will best serve the ends of all interested by allowing time for a practical test of its merits.

The abolition of the coroner's office will answer the old question as to whether the job. by rights belongs to an undertaker or to a phy-

Omaha has a few discarded voting machines it could readily dispose of to Indiana towns, where they seem to know better how to use

With an accumulation of over \$325,000 in the Water board sinking fund, a real reduction in water rates ought to be at least within hailing distance.

Despite the long and wearying delay in the distribution of federal provender, it is confidently believed the fortunate few will be able to

take the nourishment. The fitneys are rendering a real service to the public, but this service would not be im-

paired in the slightest if the cars were kept a little cleaner to make them more inviting. More aliens are leaving the country than are coming in. Persons whose slumbers have been disturbed by the alien bogey may now tuck the

covers in and snore in peace. If the Rock Island paid Brother Venner \$250,000 for Nebraska Central franchise terminal rights in Omaha, it might not be a bad idea for the city to start an inquiry as to just what the sale included.

The new premier of Greece urges the natives to observe neutrality. Equally potent in that fine is the queen's Teutonic kinship and a cash donation from the allies. A shift from neutrality's path will upset some grease.

The Western Pacific railroad from Salt Lake to San Francisco is spiked to the rocks with a bonded debt of \$80,000 a mile. Suppose rates were pushed high enough to net investors ? per cent, where would the company get enough business to produce it?



It is Friday, the thirtsenth, this time. The call is out for a citizens' meeting tomorro to nominate James E. Hoyd as the people's cambidate for mayor, a petition signed by 1,000 voters being presented to him by this committee of twenty citizens before he assented: S. E. Locke, Henry Pundt, John Collins, Herman Kountze, James Kitchen, F. Col-Hamilton, Henry Livesey, M. Ittner, Milton Rogers, P. E. Her, A. J. Simpson, S. S. Shears. Will King, Sam Orchard, M. Helman, J. O. Cortry Ben Wood, Max Meyer, A. S. Patrick, John Brady, Low W. Hill, & L. Stone, Chris Hartman, D. T. Mount.

The Horseshoe Lake sportsmen's house is being put into shape for the coming season. The ice is going rapidly from the river. Very soon the frozen fringes along the bank will be gone, the

A new electric light was on exhibition in a bose ment between Dooglas and Dodge. It gives a heautiful light, and is said to be superior to any other

Quite a building boom is in prospect for Omaha. sel houses and churches and a large number of Mrs. Briggs and her son, Henry, will visit at New

fromds and relatives in York, Pa.

M. O. Maul is tark from a three weeks trip to

An Invitation to Team Work.

With Greater Omaha consolidation assured, inless something slips a cog in the final stages, we may voice the hope that the people of the annexed territory will at once join with us for team work in pushing the enlarged metropolis still further forward.

The best part of the campaign for the consolidation bill has been its comparative freedom from criminations and recriminations or manirestations of ill will, calculated to create lasting antagonisms. While those engaged in the fight on both sides have put in their best efforts to persuade the lawmakers to their way of thinking, the crossfire has not gotten further than to charge one another with being animated by selfish motives. But conceding the sincerity of the opponents of the merger, it will devolve upon them to accept the situation and make good on their protestations of devotion to the welfare of their respective communities through a co-operative effort for improvement all along the line. With every one pulling on the rope at the same time, the wheels of progress for Greater Omaha must move steadily faster with corresponding benefits to one and all.

#### Wheat Crop of the World.

The International Institute of Agriculture has just sent out from its headquarters at Rome a preliminary statement on the area sown to winter crops (including wheat and rye) in the northern hemisphere countries, and crop returns for the southern hemisphere countries. The showing is very encouraging. According to the figures given the United States data in hands of the institute, an increase in area sown in the northern hemisphere over last year is generally reported, especially in the United States, with an increase of 22 per cent in acreage, and in India, with an increase of 11 per cent. Plenty of moisture has fallen in all the countries, and some report an excess, but no damage to the prospective crops.

The good reports on the crops in the southern hemisphere are confirmed by the bulletin, especially the wheat yield. Argentina, Chile Australia and New Zealand report a yield of 68-213,151 quintals, or a trifle under 114,000,000 bushels, an increase of 6.3 per cent over the 1913-14 crop. The yield of other crops in the southern hemisphere is also large.

The significance of this showing of the world's production of wheat and other foodstuffs is, that even with the continuance of the war in Europe, there is little likelihood of the world's going hungry. Some planting will be done in each of the countries engaged in the war, so that an ample supply of food seems as-

#### Merchants' Week a Success.

While the bringing of retail buyers to Omaha for the purpose of making spring purchases is not a novelty, the present event has been the most successful of its kind ever undertaken. It has seen a larger number of buyers than on any previous occasion, and the spirit that has prevailed is proof that the advantages of buying in Omaha are fully appreciated by the Merchants doing business in the smaller towns. Hospitable entertainment mingled with the facility for doing business has cemented more firmly the friendship between the business men of the city and of the country, and means a continuation of the pleasant relations thus established. Omaha's as a distributing center for wares and goods of all kinds is steadily growing, and its supremacy in its territory is no longer questioned. The spirit that has marked "merchants" week" is the spirit that will make Omaha a still greater market town.

#### Significant.

Observers of the political kaleidoscope should not overlook the significance of the change recently announced in the chairmanship of the bullmoose national committee, by which former-Senator Joseph M. Dixon of Montana is eliminated by the resignation route, and is succeeded by soon-to-be-former-Congressman Victor Murdock of Kansas. The reason given for the Dixon resignation is inability to look after the duties of the position without sacrificing private interests, but no one would imagine Senator Dixon giving up command if he thought the bullmoose sun were rising instead of setting.

Equally significant is the concealment of the source of authority which has commissioned Mr. Murdock to be the new chairman, for ordinarily a committee meeting is necessary to take such action. So far is known, however, no such meeting has been held, except possibly of the handful of bosses-no, leaders-supposed to be in possession of the remnants of the party machinery.

#### Gentle Spring Approacheth.

The first meadow lark of the spring is reported to have been sighted in Elmwood park, but Robin Redbreast, sure precursor of the season of "ethereal mildness," lingers somewhat behind his schedule. Nor do the snowbanks bear an earnest of the immediate pendency of the new birth of nature. Soon, however, the venturesome crocus will be found peeping up through the frosty sodden sod within the woodlands, while the householder, apprehensive from past experience, already looks ahead to the turmoil of spring cleaning, with its discovery of the forgotten debris of a long and snowy winter. It will not be long until the swelling buds will burst into leaf and flower, and the deep greensward that makes the beauty of local lawns will be spangled with the yellow blossoms of the perennial pest, and the war against the dandelion will be on once more.

Nor can the change come any too soon; mankind in general is bored stiff from a surplus of dull, drab or weeping skies, and the weather man may turn off the winter spout as soon as he likes, for Omaha bas had enough.

The gamiest old bluffer in all Turkey, former Sultan Abdul Hamid, is said to have been set free by the young Turks, who seized the government six years ago. In the interval Turkey has been stripped of Tripoli and three-fourths of the empire in Europe, besides engaging in a war which imperils the Turkish capital. It is hardly possible that Hamid can "come back" at the age of 73, but his liberty will enable him to observe the great improvement in the ultimatums of the allied fleet over the diplomatic ultimatums with which he fattened the sultante wantehanket

#### The Political Caldron

WILL the Greater Omaha merger be put through with the emergency clause, making it effective ahead of the impending municipal election? And if it does go through in a form immediately operative, enlarging the political way arena, what changes will it make in the political map by which

the candidates must guide themselves? These are the new questions suddenly brought home to the city campaign stategists by legislative developments at Lincoln. Whether the emergency clause will or will not stay on the bill is purely speculative, but there are reasons to believe that it When the measure went through the senate, it did not have enough votes on passage to make it an emergency law, but several of the opponents changed their votes, at the same time inserting the explanation into the journal that they did so because they beleved, if merger was to come, it should be expedited to permit the voters of the annexed cities and towns to have a voice in choosing the municipal officers. elected this spring to administer their government for the ensuing three years. The same reasons would apply equally to the procedure in the house-that is to say, if on final roll call a safe majority is recorded for consolidation, enough of the votes on the other could be readily transferred to prevent the elimination of the emergency clause, and give the ambitious statesmen of South Omaha, Dundee, Benson and Florence a chance to throw their hats into the city commissionership ring if they want to

A revised political map, adding at least 20 per cent to the total vote, and bringing in groups of voters who have never before participated in our city politics would necessarily inject several elements of uncertainty into the situation. It will be natural for South Omaha to demand one of the seven elective places in the city half-whether it can enforce that demand depending upon its ability to present candidates with qualifications that appeal to the voters here in Omaha. Giving South Omaha a commissioner ship, however, would leave Omaha with only six. which number might still be further diminished if some one from other annexed territory should succed in capturing one of the places. Whatever combinations may be made for either primary or election will have to take into consideration the alignment of the new votes. Judging from previous elections, it goes without saying that the sentiment in South Omaha is predominantly wet, in Dundee dry, and in Benson and Florence more evenly divided, but the total vote of South Omaha is twice that of all the other suburbs. As between different Omaha candidates, the suburban vote may easily be the deciding weight in the balance.

It is hinted that several chronic candidates are holding back their announcements to file because of fears that they may be adjudged insane, one candidate already having been cited to appear before the

Just what is it in the way of qualifications or promises that is wanted of the place hunters? One andidate announces that if he be elected he will enforce all of the mandates on the statute books, a feat which has not been accomplished since Moses and the prophets tried their hands at law making. Another vouchsafes the information that he was born in Omaha and lived here fifty years, and, therefore, he should be elected. Another man recites the fact that two years ago while serving in the state legislature he was interested in a certain bill for Omaha, which should entitle him now to be connected up with the payroll. "Safety first," is the slogan which still another candidate has adopted for his campaign cards

The last day for registration for the April primary will be Friday, March 26, and the last day for filing petitions will be the same date.

#### Twice Told Tales

There Was a Resson.

At a dinner party in Washington the conversation turned to old-time customs and this little story was told by Mrs. Leigh C. Palmer, wife of Lieutenant Commander Palmer of the navy: ' One afternoon Mrs. Jones paid a visit to her

friend, Mrs. Smith, in a distant part of the town, and on her return she proceeded to impart to Husband Jones the more important incidents of her call. "And there is another, Hiram," remarked the good woman, as the recital flowed on. "I don't believe the

Smiths are as religious as they used to be." "They ain't!" responded Hiram, with a surprised expression. "What makes ye think that?" Well, it's just this way," returned Mrs. Jones.

For more than twenty-five years that big Bible of theirs was on the center table in the parlor, and now

it has disappeared. "That ain't because of their religion, Mary," smiled Husband Jones. "That's because of the ages that's wrote in it. Them Smith girls is gettin' pretty well along."-Philadelphia Telegraph.

#### A Common Language,

An American traveling in France was delayed at a small country station and, wandering about, lost his Pearing to miss the train, he made a desperate effort at his almost forgotten college French and ad-

"Pardonnes-moi," he misprenounced. "J'ai quitte le train et maintenant je ne sals pas ou le trouver snoors. Est-ce que vous pouvez me montrer le route

"Let's look for it together," said the stranger. don't speak French either."-Everybody's Magazine.

Mr. Picklelilly came home from his club one morning about \$ o'clock. He entered his happy home, crept up the stairs softly, so as not to awaken his spouse, then felt for the switch to turn on the electric light. He could not find it, and in the darkness stumbled over a chair.

What's that?" came a voice from the bed. "Where in the deuce are the lights in this house?" snarled Pickielilly, trying to put a bold face on the

"Lights!" cried Mrs. Picklelilly scathingly. "Pull up the blinds!"-Judge.

#### People and Events

Back in Indiana the democracy of the corncob pipe said to have banished the tall slik tile from the pulsing crowns of the great. As both symbols of joy would not pull together. Hoosiers chucked the tile and hitched up with the cob,

John Bunny, the moving picture artist and magnate, has had his pay envelope fattened from \$40 a week up to a figure that rivals President Wilson's salary. Edison's movie apparatus was the instrument but Bunay's was the face that lured forfune's amiles.

W. L. Euykendall, an old timer of Wyoming and the Rockies, is dead at his home in Denver, aged 10. Mr. Kuykendall was a factor in mining camps tampedes in Wyoming and the Dakotas and was foreman of a volunteer fire company in Deadwood in the days of

The legislature of North Carolina proposes to limit the family stock of stimulants to six gallons of rum and 130 gallons of bear per annum. Lawmakers believe the quantity named is sufficient for all needed intercourse between Carolina governors and others. Regular tanks will be obliged to tighten the

De. James Brier Cochrane of Dover, Ma., believes he is the only man living in Maloe who ever heard Daniel Webster make a speech. Dr. Cochrane also recalls that he cast his first presidential ballot while a student at Bowdoin college, walking the entire dis-tance from Brunawick to his home in Fayette, fifty miles, to vote for Abraham Lincoln.

Booth Tarkington writes all his story manuscripts in pencil. Can't stand the clutter of the typewriter. In the study where he works he arranges on the table in front of him thirty or forty well-sharpened pencils. When one of there impressive vehicles of thought loses its edge it is cast saids and a fresh one taken up. Thus he continues the grind until the day's work to



Pacific Main System Tip-Top. OMARA, March 12.-To the Editor The Bee: In your editorial captioned Change Control of the Missouri Pa-

cific, you remark.

system much run down . . Not only is the main system of the Missouri Pacific not run down, but on the contrary it is in splendid condition, a great deal of money having been spent in creating this first class condition since Mr. Bush becam e president. Inquiry from any competing line will verify my statement with reference to the splendid physical condition of the main system of the Missouri Pacific Railroad com-pany. J. A. C. KENNEDY. General Attorney...

Information is Asked For.

BROKEN BOW, Neb., March 11 .- To the Editor of The Bee: I notice in The Hee's letter box a letter from W. J. Mc-Eachron on municipal light plants would like to know who Mr. McEachron is and what official position he occupies that he would have this number of reports from light and water plants. would like to have him answer this if possible and if not will you give me such information as you have at hand? CUSTER ELECTRIC COMPANY.

C. S. MARTIN, Treasurer.

Enterprise. OMAHA, March 12-To the Editor of

The Bee: I am always glad to note anything especially enterprising connected with your paper. Such I regard your offering prominent space in which reasons may be given why tourists should stop in C. F. HARRISON

Bridge Building Graft.

NORTH LOUP, Neb., March 12 .- To the Editor of The Bee: The people of Nebraska have been talking about economy in state government. I have picked up an editorial from a Hamilton county paper on a subject of enormous importance to the taxpayers:

Last year a forty-foot steel bridge cost Howard county \$1.946.08; this year the bit for the same is \$980.64. Last year a sixty-foot steel bridge cost \$2.921.76; this year the price will be \$1.508.60. The saving on just these two bridges will amount to \$2.380, and it shows what commissioners may accomplish if they are always alive to every opportunity to do their best for the people they serve.

Let me suggest to the editor that there is another factor which he has overlooked; that factor is the authority vested in the State Board of Irrigation by the legislature, which has full power in the department of state engineering. Who furnishes the specifications for the commissioners? Take your pencil and figure the amount your county bridges cost annually. Notice the steel bridges of your community and about 95 per cent of them are allowed to stand for years without paint. The rust will destroy them in thirty-five years, whereas if they are properly constructed, inspected at regular times and painted they should last indefinitely. It is water that destroys the steel bridge, but that water is watered stock in control of the state department. It is in the interest of the steel bridge trust that the roads and bridges of Nebraska are so managed. Ask someone as to the members of the Board of Irrigation, and then recall the economy talk of the last campaign. With respect to this subject, a member of the present legislature writes me:

I appreciate the truth of all you say relating to the graft in bridge building in Nebraska, and also realize the fact that many of our public officials are very derelict in the performance of their duties, the fault of the people's own care lessness in elections. We elect too many policy men. I am unable to keep track of all such games being sprung from different quarters of the legislature. WALTER JOHNSON.

Burden of the Welfare Bill. OMAHA, March 12-To the Editor of

The Bee: We have heard a good deal of superficial or thoughtless talk about the so-called public welfare bill now pending in the legislature, but we have heard practically nothing about the extraordinary burden it would impose upon Omaha taxpayers, with little or no promise of bringing practical results.

From the taxpayer's point of view, there are so many reasons why this bill should be killed that I cannot expect any newspaper to give space to them. At this time let me make a quotation from a letter written by the head of one of the biggest wholesale jobbing houses in Omaha to one of the state senators, copy of which was handed me today:

of which was handed me today;

It is my sincere hope that your good judgment will not support House Roll No. 137, providing a board of public welfare for Omaha. We have too much theory and too little horse sense in matters of this kind, and the result is a great number of well-meaning individuals and boards who spend file to secure 10 cents worth of benefit for the needy, thus making a burden on the taxpayers at large without any corresponding benefit to those in need. There is, to my mind, greater necessity for general education in this line, rather than impractical legislation.

Certainly the taxpayers of the city cannot ignore the enormous and, at the same time, needless burden this bill would impose upon them. J. B. HAYNES.

Divorce Due to Misguided Schooling. AMHERST, Neb., March 12.-To the Editor of The Ree: One seldom picks up a paper without reading of one or more divorces, family rows, or separations of some kind, and I presume it is the same throughout the states.

Most people reading of a divorge, remark that the man is a beast or some-thing similar, and proceed to forget about it, unless it be in the family, then it is awful to have the family broke up. I believe the achool is responsible for

the demon divorce to a great extent. The child of today commences school between the ages of 5 and 7. The law compels them to attend two-thirds of the term of from seven to nine months until 15 years of age. The child that takes interest in his studies will probably go the full term, and study evenings and mornings This leaves them three months vacation.

It is only natural for a child to che occupation of his father for his or her life work. Of course there are exceptions in all cases. Then the boys and girls have three months of the year to learn their life work. They have so arted themselves the nine months previous that this time should be spent in resting up for another term, and often is. Then comes the eighth grade graduation between the ages of 12 and 16. This genarally inspires them to teach or attend

After attaining this much education and experience, a great majority of rural pupils are ready to go back to the farm and settle down. A man under these conditions would hardly be able to run a piece of machinery or manage a farm. but he must cat, Here is another drawback. His wife could probably repeat a dozen poems or the revolutionary war word for word, but where did she learn to cook, to do her duty as a housewife. About this time this young couple begin

of grain in a bin.

many cases separation.

ment.

I doubt whether one-half of the rural

teachers in this state can solve either of

to make a cup of coffee let alone a loaf

of bread. I doubt whether one-half of

the feminine rural teachers could do as

The education these pupils receive is

as millstones hung about their necks. If

books. Our schools are great institutions,

but still have much room for improve

Composition Gems

The following are authentic gems from

"Another thing which distinguishes him

(Irving) a great dear from other authors

"Pedantry means the study or care of

espoused) the cause of the people.

school children's compositions:

is that he was a thinker.

the feet,"-New York Sun.

about it yourself?)

W. O. JAMESON.

He-Perhaps you'll mest someone you to realize they have never been taught like better when you are away. She-If I do, dear boy, I'll let you know. -Philadelphia Ledger. to fill. Who is to blame? Surely not they. The boy has attended school twelve

SUNNY GEMS.

years and in all that time has been taught "If those lines are printed from that things officer than he liss to contend with address. I will make the author est his It is doubtful if he could figure the num-ber of tons of hay in a stack or bushols them 'pi' lines."—Baltimore American.

The Fallen One-Officer, did you see me

teachers in this state can solve either of those problems without the aid of the arithmetic.

The girl has attended the same length of time and probably doesn't know how was me?—Harvard Lampoon.

#### A SONG OF SHOPPING.

much, not wishing to start any argu-Clinton Scollard in Judge. ment. After contending with each others Oh, giad am I with her to go
Where apple blooms are dropping
And merry birds are hopping on the mistakes comes the row, and in a good

But it produces vertigo When she proposes shopping. No shopping with my little love for mat the compulsory attendance law is right I believe we should have a change of text She lingers over fussy things,

Il satiny and silky-like:
I really think she'd haggle half a day,
c leaves a heap of mussy things,
ill mercerized and milky-like,
And spends an hour to purchase applique!

he loiters over hosiery
In manner that is shocking:
It doesn't seem to bother her a bif,
thatters my composure-y
To see so much of stocking;
I fell as though I'm like to throw a
fit!

ne dotes on haberdashery; She wants to buy me all of it. At last she gets a flaming necktle.

the takes me to a hashery
(Alas, the awful pall of it!)
And lunches me on cocos and "Julius Caeser chaperoned (not "A revolting deak chair is just in front Oh glad am I with her to go Where apple blooms are dropping And merry birds are hopping of the deak." (Do you ever feel that way

lea;
But it produces vertigo
When she proposes shopping.
No shopping with my little love for me;



# Baking's a Joy

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