

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR
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An auto going eighty-five miles an hour is sure going some.

The "Miss Raffles" chestnut is, we observe, not too stale for Denver.

Speaking of standing pat, how about the president on his "Watchful waiting"?

In nine cases out of ten it is the contingent fee game that first puts the lawyer to the bad.

Oh pshaw! What's a promise not to be a candidate for another term between friends, anyway?

The secretary of state to the governor of Texas: Keep your feet warm and your head cool.

Lieutenant Becker may now carve another fortune by breaking into the magazines or chautauquas, or both.

Uncle Joe Cannon may have joined the Young Men's Christian association just to show that he is still young.

A Chicago woman has discovered that Mrs. Hettie Green is a relative of hers. Yes, well, let's see the lady connect.

Filled out your income tax return yet? Or have you been able to whittle yourself down below the exemption point?

The United States is unable to find Carranza. Could it be that he, too, has done something to offend the sensitive Villa?

Eight fair candidates for the council in the Chicago city primaries failed of landing. Must still be wearing hobble skirts.

And here comes a noted anthropologist ridiculing eugenics as a "joke." But what does an anthropologist know about it as compared with a latter-day law-maker?

Why should deposits be required from tenant water users any more than from those who are occupying their own premises? Whatever rule is adopted should treat all alike.

Those looters who failed to get anything out of the Iowa state treasury should have scanned the history of Nebraska for a less boisterous and more successful method of attack.

The Auto show has overtaxed Omaha's hotel accommodations and produced an overflow besides. It is a safe prediction that our new million-dollar hotel will not be ready too soon.

Omaha has had women members of its School board heretofore, but with no appreciable difference in the management of school affairs. But perhaps it is time to try the experiment again.

Though W. R. Hearst could hardly be expected to speak a word in praise of former Senator J. B. Foraker of Ohio, the two men stand shoulder to shoulder on at least two issues—canal tolls and Mexico.

Our august United States senators have suddenly discovered that proceedings of their secret sessions are not kept secret as the rules of that body enjoin. Those senatorial Rip Van Winkles should pinch themselves and wake up.

It is computed that the purchase of the Auditorium by the city at \$200,000 will return to stockholders 40 per cent of what they paid in. But as the public has had the free use of the money for more than ten years, as a matter of fact the stockholders would be getting about 4 per cent interest on their money in exchange for the entire principal.

Why Not a Real Audit?

Omaha is now completing the second year of ownership and operation of its water works plant. Our experience in this undertaking, and the results accomplished, are bound to be cited constantly as object lessons for our guidance, and are already being held up to re-inforce proposals to take over other public services.

Not a single financial exhibit, however, has so far been made that has not been challenged, or that does not contain items admittedly open to dispute. The accounts are not subject to the city comptroller or the county auditor, and have not been audited except by a so-called auditor appointed by, and merely carrying out the directions of, the Water board.

We suggest that the Water board arrange for a real audit by some set of expert accountants acting entirely independent, and without axes to grind for themselves or for anyone else. When the city wanted to get the facts about the gas company for its dollar gas litigation it employed a firm of Chicago accountants to do just this work. The city of St. Paul not so long ago engaged the New York Bureau of Municipal Research, not only to make an audit, but to submit a survey upon which to reorganize the management of its water department was reorganized with material increase of economy and efficiency. An expert and independent audit of our water plant's operations would let us know where we are at, and save the Water board from suspicion of twisting the figures. It would give us something tangible to start from in computing possibilities of taking over other municipal utilities.

We realize that this suggestion, coming from The Bee, is not likely to appeal to the Water board as much as if it came from some other source, but the common sense of it ought to carry with common sense men.

"Let There Be Light."

Senators dealing with international affairs complain at the evident leaking-out of information from their star-chambers, despite the agreement of all to observe the ancient rule of executive sessions. Who is doing the squealing, we wonder? Is it some obtuse zealot who has taken his chief too severely at his word when he says in the "Let There Be Light" chapter of "The New Freedom," "Publicity is one of the purifying elements of politics?" Has the president failed to make himself clearly understood on this point? In this manual of modern democracy he demands the "open door" process of transacting the nation's business.

What are the right methods of politics? Why, the right methods are those of public discussion; the methods of leadership open and above board. If there is nothing to conceal, then why conceal it? If it is a public game, why play it in private?

But, some will say, there is a difference between our own domestic politics and international affairs. Possibly. It seems easy to conceive of a situation affecting a foreign policy where premature publicity might be fatal. But again "The New Freedom" speaks out:

If, for one, have the conviction that government ought to be all outside and no inside. I, for my part, believe that there ought to be no place where anything can be done that everybody does not know about.

A Speed-Race Triumph.

De Palma's victory over Barney Oldfield and the rest of his rivals at Santa Monica was worth achieving. Oldfield came down the stretch of nearly 300 miles only a minute behind the winner, while the other fourteen men had left the track entirely many laps before. De Palma elypted something off his own former record, though not that of the track.

But all this falls short of the real triumph. It was speed-racing that won the day, not De Palma. Speed-racing proved that Vanderbilt cups could be won without the sacrifice of life, without, in fact, even a single serious injury, that to break records it was not necessary to break bones. In this lies the real triumphant occasion for applause.

De Palma's average was 75.9 miles an hour. It is possible, then, to make even these cyclone contests safe. Let us observe how it was done on this occasion and conserve the experience. For, of course, auto racing is here to stay, but it must stay on the "safety first" principle.

The Mississippi legislature adjourned to let the pages go out and enjoy the new experience of a snow-ball fight. Let the Nebraska boy try to imagine himself somewhere where skating and coasting are completely unknown.

A Chinese is said to be the best of mimics; he can imitate anything. Let him try making a noise like Uncle John Rockefeller's pills.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

FEBRUARY 28.

Thirty Years Ago—Lawrence Barrett in "Francesca de Rimini at Boyd's gave Omaha theatergoers a treat. He was supported by Marie Wainright and Louis James.

The Union Temperance band met at the City Mission and organized by adopting a constitution prepared by W. McAlester, P. S. Huhn and J. B. Jardine. N. W. Merrill presided and N. J. Nichols acted as secretary.

The skating rink was the scene of a particularly jolly roller skating masquerade party.

Hobbe Brothers received a dispatch bearing the sad news of the death of a sister, Mrs. A. P. Potter, at Syracuse, N. Y.

The coroner's jury investigating the powder magazine explosion, took testimony, but did not conclude its work. S. W. Spratlan, for the firm of Steel, Johnson & Co., testified that between six and seven tons of powder was stored in the building, the property of Laflin, Rand & Co., for whom his firm was agent.

Omaha letter carriers addressed a petition to the Nebraska delegation in congress asking for thirty days' leave of absence each year with pay.

Ben King, the "Midnight Bard," and other guests gave an entertainment for the benefit of the "Open Door" at the Young Men's Christian association.

Mrs. Mabel Moore, one of the bright young women employed as stenographer by the Union Pacific, tendered her resignation to her superior, Chief Clerk Schumacher, of the freight department, effective April 1, having capitulated to his eminence, Master Cupid.

Dr. R. M. Stone returned from Lebanon, O., whither he went with the body of his father for burial. The father, an aged minister, died at the doctor's home in Omaha.

William R. Hearst, the energetic young proprietor of the San Francisco Examiner, passed through Omaha enroute east.

Mrs. M. J. Dwyer died at the family residence, 322 South 16th street. The family planned to lay her at rest in Holy Sepulcher cemetery, with funeral services at St. Philomena's cathedral.

A man called at the home of Detective Tom Hayes, 95 Castellar street, and in the kitchen door and being the wife of an astute detective, sniffed a mouse. She view his ware, and said, "I don't need eyeglasses, but maybe my husband would care to look at them." So stepped into the front of the house to inform his highness, the detective. "Well, well, selling things, eh?" pleasantly remarked Hayes. "We can't keep a good man down; suppose you come to the police station with me." Whereupon a well known crook nearly fainted, but "went along."

Ten Years Ago—Friends of Charles E. Ford, formerly of Omaha, learned that he had bought a handsome Chicago residence at Forty-sixth street and Drexel boulevard.

Physicians attending Dr. Gilmore said his condition seemed slightly improved, but the crisis was not passed. "The Personality of Christ" was the subject of the first of a series of Lenten lectures at St. John's church by Rev. F. A. Blackmore, S. J., of Creighton university. He defined as the essential difference between Catholicism and Protestantism the former's exaltation of the mother of Jesus Christ, together with its worship of the saints.

President Joseph F. Smith of the Mormon church, together with Apostle Francis M. Lyman, Andrew Jensen, church historian; Hiram Smith and half a dozen other elders, passed through Omaha going from Salt Lake City to Washington to testify before the senate committee on privileges and elections in the case of the Rev. Reel Smoot, an official of the Mormon church, to a seat in the senate. President Smith and his brethren declined to be interviewed on any subject whatever.

Brigadier General E. H. Crowder, judge advocate of the United States army, arrived in the city from Washington, enroute to San Francisco, where he was to embark for Japan, whither he was sent by the federal government as its official witness of the Russo-Japanese war. The general decided to spend the night here with friends.

People and Events

Besides the humiliation of the word "obey" in the marriage service, Miss Fola La Follette says women are scandalized because they take their husbands' names. To shorten her name, Amelia Zupauskaitis was married recently in Rockford, Ill., to Antanas Zuzauskius. The minister faltered several times in performing the ceremony.

Virgil White of Osage, N. H., came to Newport last week with his automobile adapted for winter use by having the forward wheels mounted on runners. He used two sets of rear wheels.

Master Car Builder William Garstangs of Ohio has retired after a half century of active service in the car shops. A newspaper mentions that sperm candles still lighted the passenger car at night when the half century began.

Miss Sarah Purser of Dublin was last week appointed guardian of the national gallery of Ireland by the earl of Aberdeen. The position is considered one of the most important in the art world. This is the first time a woman has been so honored.

Colonel Goethals threatens to dodge the Panama canal celebration on the spot. "It will be a great show," he said to a New York reporter, "but I hope I won't be there. You know I don't like celebrations and never did. When they have this one I think I shall go away for a time and not come back until it is over."

The Bee's Letter Box

Ask Helpful Criticism.

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: On behalf of the express companies I desire to assure you that we believe it essential to the public good that we be advised as to present conditions affecting their interests and the express service is one of such matters.

It is unnecessary to consider the express companies of yesterday—that is history. It is the express companies of today, and their usefulness, which should be dealt with, and on which judgment should be passed.

The continuance of an efficient express service is now admitted to be vital to the interests of the mercantile world, and to its continuance, the express companies must be permitted to operate under conditions and schedules which will enable them to exist and earn a fair profit.

We shall always welcome your helpful suggestions and friendly criticism, while passing through a reconstruction period, and adapting ourselves to changed conditions. FRANCIS S. STAGG, First Vice President Adams Express Co.

If You Are Not Appreciated. WAHOO, Neb., Feb. 27.—Editor of The Bee: After four decades of experience and observation, the writer has come to the conclusion that the Rev. Dr. Crano is quite a philosopher.

There is no denying the fact that the "thinker," the "philosopher," the "philanthropist," as well as the "worker," is up against a hard, cold proposition. Social as well as religious and moral conditions are not what they should be. This is an effect, or condition, and is attributable to a great underlying cause, or perhaps, to a combination of causes.

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In Other Lands

Big Problem in Germany.

The problem of subordinating military to civil law in Germany, growing out of the Zabern incidents, is not speeding toward solution. The Reichstag has affirmed the principle of the supremacy of civil law in times of peace, but the Reichstag is not the instrument of law enforcement. That rests with the ministry; the ministry is the creature of the emperor and the emperor upholds the army.

What I want, said the colonel, is a useful man—one who can cook, drive a motor, look after a pair of horses, clean boots and windows, feed the poultry, milk the cow and do a little painting and paperhanging.

Excuse me, sir, cried Murphy, what kind of soil have ye here? "Soil," snapped the colonel, "was't that got to do with it?"

No one, looking at the president's cabinet en masse, would give it credit for uttering the words of wit accredited to it. Even the secretary of agriculture has a slender joke attributed to him.

A little girl, believing that the secretary of agriculture must be versed in the lore of the forests, asked him one day, indicating a huge tree: "Did somebody tell me right when he said that that tree was the very oldest one around here?"

"Yes, my dear, that is quite true." "But how can it be?" persisted the child. "That isn't an oak, and they used to tell me that the oaks were the very oldest trees anywhere."

The secretary saw himself tottering on the precipice of self-betrayal, so he ended further questioning by saying: "Yes, that's so, too. The oaks really used to be the oldest. But you see, that was before the elders were planted."—Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph.

Turkey's Cooling Down.

Turkey's cooling temperament, whetted by the rupture of the Balkan allies, suffers a sudden cooling by the tightening of the pursestrings of Europe. When the young Turks, restored to power, repudiated the treaty of London and re-occupied Adrianople while the Bulgarians were scouting for Greek scalps, the act of dishonor did not increase their popularity among the powers. Nevertheless the powers could not agree on measures of forcible dispossession. Presuming to act on their own, the allies and the disagreements of the powers, the Turks began preparations for war on Greece ostensibly for possession of the Aegean islands. A dreadnought was purchased from Brazil and renamed Sultan Osman I. and an army of 60,000 men assembled near the seacoast. The abortive secret expedition to Avlona, in Albania, was part of the strategy. With a suddenness that jarred the Turkish diplomats the bankers of Europe shut down on Turkish loans and served notice on the Sublime Porte to seek war finances elsewhere. Instantly the young Turks changed front and assumed a peaceful disposition. They needed money as badly as a Coney hobo, but there was nothing doing at the banks until the security definitely provided against war.

An interesting feature of the hobbling of the Turkish war horses, cleverly worked in by the bankers, is the unhorsing of the German army commission as actual commanders of a Turkish army corps. The commission remains in Turkey, however, mainly as a training body.

Indignant Peers.

The British House of Lords has decided upon an official inquiry into the Marconi scandal, so far as it concerns the speculative operations of Lord Murray of Elphinstone. Before Lord Murray was ejected into the peerage he held the important post of liberal party whip in the House of Commons and achieved distinction as one of the ablest political wirepullers of this time. He managed that important office during the two general elections which resulted in reducing the House of Lords to a condition of legislative impotency. Consequently the lords do not love him a little bit, and if they can stain his lordly robes without soiling their own they will be one of sweet revenge.

Lord Murray frankly admitted his speculative plunges in American Marconia and the use of party campaign funds in the venture. In supplying the fuel for the fire started by the offended peers Lord Murray has little fear of a contraband, or that party capital can be manufactured out of it. It is impossible to dig deep in peerage soil without impaling the integrity of some of the lords now clamoring for Lord Murray's scalp. The latter may be provoked sufficiently to demand an inquiry into the published charge that titles and peerages are being bought outright by contributions to party funds. That would be very uncomfortable, if not dangerous, to the dignity of the peerage.

Home Rule and Ulster.

Despite the fighting front maintained by the Caronites of Ulster and the talk of civil war by the Tory opponents of home rule, there is testimony by unbiased observers showing the affair to be organized political bluster. Sydney Brooks, London correspondent of Harper's Weekly, supports that view, while admitting the probability of Orange rioting as usual on or about the 12th of July. A private letter to the editor of the Springfield (Mass.) Republican from a member of Parliament identified with the more radical and yet broad-minded element in the liberal party says of the Ulster situation: "There is much honest, frothy nonsense talked, but I don't believe for a moment that there will come anything remotely like civil war. The business forces of Belfast are against it. They cannot afford it. The conscience of Belfast lives in its purse pocket and its ledger, and a provisional government would empty both. A few weeks ago a home-rule friend was talking business with a dour old Orange farmer and, without revealing himself, said at last: 'Well, what is all this you are up to? Have you signed this covenant of Carson's?' 'I have.' 'Well, you'll have to do something then. What you fight?' 'I shall not.' 'Well, what will you do?' 'I'll just take what comes.' That quite fairly represents the attitude of many who have been swearing the loudest and the deepest. It is quite possible that some concession will sooner or later be made which, without weakening the principle of the Irish bill, will save Ulster's face."

Fish in Carter Lake.

OMAHA, Feb. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: Where have the black bass gone in Carter lake? Ever since seining has been allowed under pretense of taking out the buffalo and carp, the same fish are becoming less every year. Carter lake is seined night and day as soon as the ice is off until it freezes. I was employed last year under Mr. Hummel and watched the seining. I told Mr. Hummel about it, and he wrote to the assistant game warden, but received no answer. I fished an hour every day for four months, and caught over 500 small bass, and only one large crappie. The carp is the poor man's fish. Stop the seining and in two years Carter lake will have the best fishing in the country. This should be a game warden employed by the year for Nebraska and Iowa, and they should work together. Carter lake should be turned over to the park board and Mr. Hummel be allowed to appoint the game warden. He knows what is needed, and will stop the seining at Carter lake. JOHN F. BEHM.

Here and There

Nearly two-thirds of the total number of spinners in the silk industry are women.

In England there are at least three farms devoted to the cultivation of butterflies and moths.

The leaf of the Ceylon talipot palm, which grows to 100 feet in height, is so wide that it will cover twenty men.

In this country there are about 37,000 acres, sufficient to support 3,000 cattle or 5,000 sheep, now worthless because of the prairie dogs.

The erection of an extensive aerial station midway between Berlin and Vienna is expected to lead to regular aeroplane service between the two cities.

In the United States cities there was last year one bank to every 5,700 people, and in Canadian cities one to every 2,100 persons. In the United Kingdom there are 27,000 banks, or a bank to every 2,077 persons.

GRINS AND GROANS.

"What made you think Mr. Lovewet had been drinking?" "Why, when the chariot race was set before him he tried to blow off the foam."—Boston Transcript.

"What's the matter with your wife?" "She has fretted herself into a sick headache over her paper for the 'Don't Worry Club.'"—Baltimore American.

"She tried this Parisian fashion of dyeing the hair blue." "What does she think of it?" "She says it had one good result. Her husband stopped drinking."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"That man is a denizen of the underworld." "I'm sure he doesn't look like such a character." "His character's got nothing to do with it. He's a miner."—Indianapolis News.

"Fig—Do you believe in metempsychosis?" "Fog—Come again, please!" "Fig—It's like this. According to that doctrine, my soul after I get through with it may inhabit the body of a jackass." "Fog—Well, I don't know any place where it would feel more at home."—Boston Transcript.

"There is a machine that can be graduated to measure the millionth part of an inch." "I know," said the weary youth. "They use 'em in making ham sandwiches."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

THE NEW OFFICIAL.

Washington Star. We've got a new postmaster down to Pencil on the creek. We guess he'll be a credit to the body politic. 'Cause he's had a special train for the place that he has got.

He used to be an editor, an' that sure means a lot. It's been his habit to read everything that comes his way. He kin figure out addresses without serious delay. Of course, it's when he's writin' that he's really at his best. But even editors sometimes deserve a little rest.

We're sure that he'll experience a glorious relief. A-sellin' postage stamps an' answerin' questions, clear an' brief. Instead o' writin' columns 'bout the tariff an' the banks.

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Advertisement for FAUST SPAGHETTI. A Tasty Spaghetti Dinner at 10c. A Porter-house at 40c? A lot of folks would decide to take the steak, judging at the conclusion that it makes the more nutritious meal of the two. That's not so. A 10c package of Spaghetti—enough to make a substantial meal for seven people—contains four times more nutrition than 1 pound of meat. FAUST SPAGHETTI is a food very rich in gluten—the bone- and muscle-building element. One of the main reasons why housewives don't serve Spaghetti is because they don't know the great variety of rich, savory dishes that can be made of it. Our free recipe book will open your eyes to its many uses—write for a copy. 5c and 10c pkgs.—buy to-day. MAULL BROS. St. Louis, Mo.

Everybody knows where The Bee Building is. Can you have a better address for your office? For offices apply to the Superintendent, Room 103, The Bee Building Co.

WIT has a place in Advertising, but that place is on the back step, not on the front seat. Advertising designed to sell goods may show cleverness, but shouldn't parade it.