

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR. BEE BUILDING, FARNAM AND TENTH. Entered at Omaha postoffice as second-class matter.

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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 November, 1912, was 49,805.

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Ready to turn over a new leaf? A good resolution is not all that is necessary.

In the race of time old 1912 is just nosing in under the wire.

Many a man has wished that bills came in as slowly as remittances.

The next question to be asked is, Where will the waist line be in 1913?

For the Commercial club of Omaha 1912 will always be a red letter year.

The man who came from Europe in a milk can must have been a clubber-head.

Too many a good man gets his Christmas spirits confused with the Christmas spirit.

You can not convince some of those waiting democrats that it is not a very cold, bleak winter.

Disagreement and delay are often the weapons by which corrupt interests whip a laudable movement.

The newest woman's dress is said to have but two hooks. Slowly but surely man is getting his rights.

If President-elect Wilson is itching for a fight, let him knock that chip off President Madero's shoulder.

Russia gets three-fourths of its typewriters from the United States. Pretty good for a nation that is so sore at us.

All the judges of our district bench will retain the same assignment for next year. No theory of rotation in place applies here.

Watch Mr. Hearst turn on Dr. Wilson the minute it becomes clear that Mr. Bryan is to be the president's preferred adviser.

A German prima donna has gushed out, evidently on hearing from the box office, that New York is the summit of an artist's ambition.

It is a philosophical axiom that two things cannot occupy the same space at the same time, as, for instance, graft and the limelight of publicity.

The lawyers who make a business of 50 per cent contingent fees in personal injury cases are quite willing to keep the present hit or miss system of workmen accident compensation.

If you can't wipe all your old debts off the slate, pay up the little ones, is the advice of Edgar Howard. We might add that you also prove good intentions by reducing the big debts, too.

If not careful Mr. Bryan will be subjecting himself to the interstate commerce laws. He has a home in Nebraska, a farm in Texas, a winter resort in Florida and may land a job at Washington.

One Weak Spot. The government is about to inaugurate a party post whose measure of success will depend upon the volume of business transacted. At the outset a great deal of publicity will be accorded the new departure, but in ordinary course parcels post will soon be regulated to the same plane as other branches of the postal service, and left to go by its own momentum.

If this colossal enterprise were being undertaken by a big private corporation, it would be exploited and pushed by an advertising "campaign" and possibilities. A private concern promoting parcels post would set aside an advertising appropriation of a million or two million dollars as the first requirement, and would not let the people overlook the new service or forget to make use of it.

A newspaper making the suggestion will, of course, be under imputation of a selfish interest, yet we do not hesitate to say that the weak spot in parcels post is its lack of an advertising fund: An appropriation by congress for this purpose would be, not only money well invested, but returned many times in increased postal revenues.

The Turk's Little Joke. After Rechad Pasha had submitted Turkey's extraordinary proposal of peace, terms at the London conference, reports say, he turned, stroked his beard and smiled. The tradition which says the Turk is dull to humor, is hard to believe in the face of these propositions, which, if granted instead of being rejected with a dull thud, would have given the Moslem "little more than" they might have hoped for by winning on the battlefield. It is not a bad thing, though, to interject a bit of humor into so solemn a proceeding as a concert of nations deliberating on the settlement of a war.

Good Job to Push Along. The new county court house square will be one of the beauty spots of Omaha when the site of the old building is converted into a graceful, grass covered common. It will greatly enhance the appearance of the new building, itself an architectural ornament. The county commissioners will, of course, hasten the work of demolishing the old structure and removing its debris, so that the finishing process may take place without unnecessary delay. All this demolition should be done before the end of winter, so that the work of beautification may begin in early spring and have the benefit of summer to make the square blossom like a flower.

Wilson's First Real Task. The people generally wish success and prosperity to President-elect Wilson and the new administration soon to assume charge of the government, but no rational observer can be insensible to tangible conflict already dividing leaders of the democratic party. It is not merely a conflict of personal differences, but a clash of principles and policies with which President Wilson will have to deal. If it were only personalities, the task might not loom so large. The president-elect says he expects to consult freely with Chairman Underwood, also with Mr. Bryan and he has signified his desire to counsel with Champ Clark and such men as Josephus Daniels of North Carolina.

Whether any one or more of these men occupy places in the cabinet, their harmonizing will test the chief executive's diplomacy. Mr. Underwood and Mr. Bryan, for instance, are not only far apart personally, but they represent almost political antitheses. How it will be possible for a president to counsel with both these men, say on the tariff, or on finance or on nearly any other paramount issue, and avoid conflict it is difficult to tell. Mr. Bryan says men cannot afford to be courteous at the expense of great principles or the country's service. And Mr. Bryan and doubtless Mr. Underwood will be as tenacious as those words signify. Then there are Clark, Hearst, Waterston, Harvey and all the rest.

Mr. Rockefeller told the school managers to have their parties if they would be as he is. His fortune is roughly estimated at \$60,000,000. The school managers find it right interesting during their holiday vacation to figure out how long it would take them to make their spare pennies aggregate this sum.

Nevertheless and notwithstanding the promise of a strictly business management of state institutions, Governor-elect Morehead is not called upon to confess inability to find capable democrats to draw the salaries that have been going to republicans.

Mr. Bryan calls the recognition of precedence in legislative bodies the "blight of seniority." To prove his willingness to destroy the old rule without fear or favor, he waves all claim to special favor by reason of being the senior living democratic presidential candidate.

Illinois' most famous mathematician, Benjamin H. Davidson, also has the distinction of being the oldest survivor in that state. Elected county surveyor of Woodford county in 1863, he has been re-elected every four years since, and was chosen in the recent election in November, regardless of his protests and his desire to retire. He is now in his eighty-seventh year, having been born in New York in 1825.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

DECEMBER 31

Thirty Years Ago—The Bee prints more than a column of announcements of New Year's receiving parties to be held in the various homes of society people and different churches.

Among those listed are: Miss Nettie Collins, at her home, Nineteenth and Capitol avenue; Mrs. W. E. Copeland, at the parsonage, Seventeenth and Cass streets; Mrs. and Miss Summers, at their home, 1821 Chicago street; Canon and Mrs. Loherty at the Brownell Hall rectory on Sixteenth street; Mrs. A. Murphy at her residence, 116 Jackson street; Mrs. Kitchin, with many awaiting, at the Paxton hotel; Mrs. H. H. Hines, at her home, Twenty-second and Chicago streets; Bishop and Mrs. Clark, at the bishop's residence on St. Mary's avenue; Mrs. John Mathieson at her home on Eleventh street between Dorcas and Center; Mrs. M. Hellman, at her residence on Twenty-third and St. Mary's avenue; Mrs. George A. Hurland, at her home on sixteenth and Howard streets; Mrs. John B. Purdy, at Nineteenth and Cass streets; Mrs. E. E. Brook, at her residence, 1615 Chicago street; Mrs. G. W. Ambrose and Miss Ambrose at 124 Farnam street; Mrs. William C. St. Barnabas rectory; Mrs. Owen McCaffrey, at her residence on Harney and Twenty-first streets; Mrs. E. K. Tait, at 324 Webster street; the ladies of the Hermonia society at the Hitchcock residence on Dodge and Twentieth streets; Mrs. J. M. Woolworth, at Cortland at St. Mary's avenue; Mayor Boyd at the City Hall; Mrs. P. D. W. Cooke and daughters, at their home on Twenty-fifth between Dodge and Douglas; the Young Men's Christian association ladies at the rooms, southwest corner Fifteenth and Farnam streets; Mrs. P. L. Perline, 120 Dodge street; Mrs. E. P. Peck, at her residence, 1274 Davenport street; Mrs. Samuel Burns, at her home, corner Eighth and Dodge streets; Mrs. James E. Boyd, at her residence, 1903 Davenport street; Mrs. T. L. Kimball and daughters, at her residence, 1303 Park Wilde avenue; Mrs. I. W. Miner, at her home, 176 Davenport street.

Christine Nelson, the Swedish nightingale, and her party, are at the Millard. The Omaha Elevator company has removed their office to rooms over the First National bank. The Omaha-Lincoln telephone line is now open for business. The day was celebrated in nearly all of the churches with services appropriate to the passing of the year. At First Methodist Episcopal, Rev. Charles W. Savidge the topic was "The Old Year"; at Unity chapel, Rev. W. E. Copeland gave a review of the old year; at the Congressional church, Rev. A. F. Sherrill spoke on "The Old and New Year."

Twenty Years Ago—The appointment of W. B. Andrews as chief clerk of the Millard hotel was announced. He became the successor of C. C. Hulet, who bought in as one of the proprietors of the Merchants. The members of the Omaha Wheel club smoked the old year out and it went amid some dense clouds, too. Among the members and guests present were: E. G. Wagoner, Dr. and Hale J. A. Cavanaugh, W. A. Pixley, O. E. Epeneter, A. L. Root, Roy E. Thomas, W. D. Townsend, Wallace Taylor and many others. Beginning at midnight the Adams Express company began to operate the express business of all the lines of the entire Burlington system. Mrs. J. M. Gillan of Clifton Hill, who had been dangerously ill with typhoid fever was reported convalescent. Mr. Stuart of Denver arrived as the guest of Dr. and Mrs. S. D. Mercer. Miss Laura Fisher of Florence, Wis., was visiting her sister, Mrs. A. M. Pinto, 333 California street. Fourteen couples obtained licenses to wed at the Douglas county court house, enabling Cupid to start the New Year off right.

Ten Years Ago—The Burlington, under the Hill management, ordered the abolishment of the advertising office in the Omaha headquarters after January 1. P. P. Fedrea, assistant to Advertising Agent Charles S. Young, who accepted a place in Chicago with the Milwaukee, was ordered to report for duty in Chicago as assistant to the general advertising man of the Burlington system. What little advertising work left to the Omaha office was to fall to General Passenger Agent Francis and his force. At a special meeting of the city council an ordinance issuing \$200,000 funding bonds for the city was given its first and second reading. Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Medlar entertained informally at a musicale at their home on Capitol avenue. The guests were Mr. R. P. Stone, Miss Stone, Miss Weber, Mr. Stone, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Weaver and Miss Weaver. Mr. and Mrs. John A. McShane entertained seventy-five guests at six-handed euchre at their home in the evening. The Misses Buckingham entertained informally. The old year was watched out by a number of parties, many of which were held in churches.

We have always believed and proclaimed that our government should be so run as to confer the greatest good on the greatest number. If this be true, then the producers should oppose with all their power the contemplated reduction by congress of the tariff on agricultural products and provisions. Congress will convene in extra session immediately upon adjournment of the present congress. With one exception the present ways and means committee of the house will hold over. They will hold public meetings through January, giving two to four days to each schedule, I am told. The schedule on agricultural products and provisions hearing is set down for January 28, and the stock growers of our state should certainly be represented there. The final test will, of course, be in congress, but the fight will be begun in the committee. Already the manufacturers, the citrus fruit growers of California and everyone interested are organizing for the fight. The stockmen and farmers should be brought to bear upon congress from the manufacturing centers of the east to reduce the price of farm produce. Their arguments should be met by the producers, who can easily show that everything considered prices of agricultural products are not abnormally high. It is not in the interest of the majority of our people to reduce them. The campaign is now over, politics should be forgotten and the producers should unite in solid phalanx to protect their interests. F. M. CURRIE.

The Bee's Letter Box

Warning to Beef Producers. LONG BEACH, Neb., Dec. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: As a stockman interested in the stock business of Nebraska, I desire to sound a note of warning to my fellow beef producers of our state. It is a condition and not a theory which confronts us. Sixty or 65 per cent of the population of the United States still live on farms and are directly interested in the price of provisions. Any assault upon the price of provisions, therefore, will affect directly and adversely at least 65 per cent of the population of the United States and indirectly a far greater number. We have always believed and proclaimed that our government should be so run as to confer the greatest good on the greatest number. If this be true, then the producers should oppose with all their power the contemplated reduction by congress of the tariff on agricultural products and provisions. Congress will convene in extra session immediately upon adjournment of the present congress. With one exception the present ways and means committee of the house will hold over. They will hold public meetings through January, giving two to four days to each schedule, I am told. The schedule on agricultural products and provisions hearing is set down for January 28, and the stock growers of our state should certainly be represented there. The final test will, of course, be in congress, but the fight will be begun in the committee. Already the manufacturers, the citrus fruit growers of California and everyone interested are organizing for the fight. The stockmen and farmers should be brought to bear upon congress from the manufacturing centers of the east to reduce the price of farm produce. Their arguments should be met by the producers, who can easily show that everything considered prices of agricultural products are not abnormally high. It is not in the interest of the majority of our people to reduce them. The campaign is now over, politics should be forgotten and the producers should unite in solid phalanx to protect their interests. F. M. CURRIE.

People Talked About

St. Louis belles are becoming flat-footed from excessive joy riding.

Australia is a warm member. A December heat wave scored 122 degrees in the shade, which is going some in Santa Claus time.

The most popular reform for the new year bluntness hope in New York. It is proposed to make landlords pay the rent and authorize tenants to do the collecting.

A number of Santa Claus impersonators throughout the country who disregarded the fire warnings are ready to join the sanitation for a safe and sane celebration hereafter.

Miss Mary Colman, a lawyer of Harlem, divine evidence before the New York police investigators, was asked the question: "Are you a lady?" "I am an American woman," she answered. "We have no ladies in this country." What do you think of that?

Illinois' most famous mathematician, Benjamin H. Davidson, also has the distinction of being the oldest survivor in that state. Elected county surveyor of Woodford county in 1863, he has been re-elected every four years since, and was chosen in the recent election in November, regardless of his protests and his desire to retire. He is now in his eighty-seventh year, having been born in New York in 1825.

HARFORD UNITED BROTHERN CHURCH

By Rev. M. O. McLaughlin, Pastor.

The east Nebraska annual conference of the United Brethren in Christ held at Gresham, Neb., in September, 1907, voted to take steps to establish a church in Omaha to co-operate with other denominations in the work of city evangelization. The question of finding a man to undertake the work was delegated to Bishop W. M. Weekley, D. D., of Kansas City and Rev. W. S. Lynde, presiding elder of the conference at that time. These men began correspondence with the writer, then in his senior year at Union Biblical seminary, Dayton, O.

After several letters had passed I agreed to come to Omaha on June 1, 1907, and undertake the enterprise. From June 1 to November 1, I made a canvass of the city, finding seven places where I deemed a church might be located to advantage, but finally settled on the Universalist church building at Nineteenth and Lothrop streets, which had stood vacant for nine years and was known to the boys of the community as "the haunted church." My judgment was concurred in by the bishop and elder and the building was purchased November 12, 1907, from the Universalist general convention for \$6,000.

Another \$6,000 was raised to put the building in repair and provide furnishings, and an average of \$200 a year has been expended in constructive work in the city for the four years the church has been organized. I raised the money for repairs among the United Brethren farmers of the state. The local congregation has reduced the indebtedness on the building to \$1,374. The pastor did part of the repair work himself during the winter of 1907-8 and the first service was held May 24, 1908. A Sunday school of six members was organized, three of whom were members of the pastor's family. After a few weeks thirteen persons became members of the church and constituted the charter members. The net membership is now 121. Two years ago the church was rededicated by Bishop Weekley and was named in honor of Mrs. Lillian R. Harford for the great work she has done in the United Brethren denomination for the last forty years.

At present there is a men's brotherhood of forty-three members, a woman's class of forty-one members, a women's missionary society of thirty members and a Sunday school enrollment of 200. Early in the spring of 1909 several of the members of the athletic team of the Lothrop school asked for the use of the school room for the use of their practice meets. The privilege was readily granted, but the request awoke the pastor to a sense of the need of a community gymnasium. Plans were immediately laid for the construction of a gymnasium under the auditorium of the church. The boys worked after school and the men evenings in excavating 80 yards of earth and wheeling it out of the basement windows in wheelbarrows. The brick work was done by the men of the church and the floor was laid in one evening by the carpenter force of E. G. Smith, contractor. For the last two winters four gymnasium classes a week have been held. The first winter the work of direction was done by G. W. Wagoner and Miss Bess E. Ross. Last winter in the absence of Mr. Wagoner, who had moved to Fremont, the classes were conducted by Mr. Hedlund and Mr. Noble of the Young Men's Christian association under the direction of Mr. Maxwell, physical director of the Young Men's Christian association. Mr. Wagoner has returned to Omaha and has taken the leadership of the boys in the Sunday school and will assist in the gymnasium work this winter.

To provide for the summer sports the church equipped a playground south of the church building for tennis, basket ball, volley ball and horseshoe games, as well as a merry-go-round for children. Electric lights were provided for evening games, and the grounds have been used with enthusiasm and good results for the last two summers. This summer a swimming class was conducted every Tuesday evening during July and August by Jesse Mapes and E. G. Smith, workers of the congregation. The attendance has ranged from twenty to fifty and a number of people have learned to swim as well.

Among others who have helped make the United Brethren church what it is in Omaha are: Bishop W. M. Weekley of Kansas City, Mo.; Dr. R. E. Marble, D. K. Gillespie, J. B. Good, E. G. Smith, L. Roy Matousek, B. F. and A. W. Bohren, H. H. Smith, L. L. Hall, Jesse Mapes, C. G. Edmonds, F. L. Moyer, F. J. Hale and A. H. Olmstead. These men and others contribute money just as willingly for playgrounds and gymnasium equipment as they do for Sunday school supplies and pastor's salary.

One condition that has facilitated the work of the church is that perfect harmony has prevailed from the start. The pastor has been careful to encourage no one to become a member of the church except such as he believes to be morally upright and of good report before God and men. This fall shower baths will be installed in the gymnasium and the outside playground will be flooded and converted into a community skating rink. In order to give the pastor more time to engage in constructive work, the members of the church board have each offered to add \$5 a month to their already heavy offerings, and employ an associate pastor. Rev. Elbert J. Nickerson, in his senior year at the Presbyterian seminary, has been employed as such associate and has begun active duties. He will assist in the pastoral work, take charge of the worker's meeting on Wednesday evenings and preach one of the Sunday sermons.

EDITORIAL SNAPSHOTS.

New York World: What degree of "respect for the courts" is shown by governors who pardon or commute the sentences of convicts, mostly life-terminers, in batches of eighty, "with the compliments of the Christmas season?"

Springfield Republican: It will take some work for the United States marshal to put a paper wrapper stamped "colored by sweating" on each of the 450,000 oranges seized at Chicago, which are to be sold by order of Judge Landis and the proceeds turned into the United States treasury. But the sale will serve to warn the public against this new fraud.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: We are certainly a great people. We sell tons of barbed wire to Mexico, and then we sell the government thousands of clipper cuts to cut it with. We also sell Mexico thousands of guns and millions of cartridges, and are now talking of having our army go down there to see if the Mexicans know how to use them. No trouble to demonstrate goods.

Springfield Republican: Mr. Loeb has been a good watchdog for Uncle Sam at the custom house, and the people's collective pocketbook has profited thereby. The Guggenheims will get a good man when he joins them in an important executive capacity early next year. The people's pocketbook may or may not be another matter; we are not yet permitted fully to know about such things.

Old Year Smiles. Goose—My dear Mrs. Hen, the papers are certainly making a great fuss about you. Doesn't it make you proud? Hen—Of course, it doesn't. They only do it to egg me on.—Baltimore American.

What is your idea of the custom of hawthorn? "Well," replied Senator Scorking, "I am rather in favor of it. Hawthorn is the only way I know of to keep a crowd of constituents interested without involving a risk on your part of saving something you'll regret."—Washington Star.

Missionary—If you are about to kill me, let me sing a hymn. Cannibal—No, sir-ee. No music with meals in this joint.—Life.

What is your opinion of war? "Is a war," replied the old fellow, "is a

bad investment. The poor man goes out to fight, and then, if he doesn't get killed, he has to come home and help pay the debts."—Detroit Free Press.

"There goes a man who has the advantage of most of us when he gets out of a spree." "Who is he?" "It's the husband of a snake charmer."—Baltimore American.

"They say that Mrs. Newrich was a kitchen maid before she married." "That accounts for her ability to cook up stories and roast her neighbors!"—Judge.

THE PARTING GUEST.

Edmund C. Stedman in the Century. Who are the good things promised me By the Old Year that's dying? And what care I how ill he be? Who was so given to lying? A comely youth, he sought my door And tarried till his locks were hoar; Who swore to give me of his best; Who pledged himself a true year; But he was then—the New Year.

Where are the silver and the gold Ere now should fill my wallet? What mean these scanty clothes and old? This attic room and pallet? The purse he dangled in my view Betwixt his juggling hands slipped through.

Where are the poor, he left me poorer; But now a richer friend, and surer, Awaits me—in the New Year. Where are the poet's bays he said My dulcet song should gain me? The wreath that was to crown my head, The applause that should sustain me? Alack! round other brows than mine I see the fresh-worn laurels twine; Still, for the music's sake, I sing: The world may listen, yet, and fling Its garlands—in the New Year.

Where is the one dear face to love His golden months should bring me? Whose smile a recompense would prove For all the ills that sting me? My heart still beats in loneliness; There is no darling hand to press; But oh, I dream we yet shall meet, And trust to find her kisses sweet, And win her—in the New Year!

Where are the works in patience wrought; The grace to love my neighbor; The sins left off, the wisdom taught Of suffering and labor? The fuller life, the strength to wait; The equal heart for other fate? Well may I speed the parting guest, And take this stranger to my breast! Be thou, indeed, a true year, O fair and welcome New Year!

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