

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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CORRESPONDENCE. Address communications relating to news and editorial matter to Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

54,751 MAY CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss. Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that average daily circulation for the month of May, 1914, was 54,751.

DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 5th day of June, 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.

Old Sol knows when it's up to him to warm up.

Remember that the left-over firecracker is most dangerous of all.

All right, Mr. Sioux City, we'll expect you to reciprocate Ak-Sar-Ben week.

That good sister reformer who advocates cheap divorces must know that she is pulling for the market.

Nebraska is a fundamentally progressive state—look at its corn, mostly "laid by" a week before the Fourth of July.

It turns out that the pops who voted to continue a separate party organization are all democrats. It's a great game.

No serious accident in the Sioux City auto races despite all the widely advertised preparations to take care of the victims.

Villa and Carranza might do worse than to get a couple of well-seasoned manzanilla clubs and go out and settle it between themselves.

Tearsa Pitches Great Game and Giants Win—Headline.

The strong-arm boys are the ones who count.

The man who succeeds Coburn in Kansas may be ever so excellent an official, but it will take him some time to fill the place of old "Alfalfa."

Perhaps we need not wait for the last of the anti-fly crusade to begin a vigilant warfare on rats. It is always safe and sane to slay a rat whenever opportunity permits.

Let the suffrage women talk in the parks if they want to and comply with the rules requiring a permit. Free speech and free press are the safeguards of free institutions.

Forty sacred Hindu bulls are said to have been sold on the Kansas City market the other day. If they command more sacred prices as meat to Mr. Ultimate Consumer, may the Lord have mercy.

A minister has reported the theft in Chicago of 104 Bibles. Try not to get them back for they may be seen soon on good ground. Remember the text: "My word shall not return unto me void."

President Wilson pounded with his fist on the table on which the immortal declaration was signed. Pretty good workmanship in those tables made by the founders as well as in the documents they produced upon the tables.

Like the war-time humorist who was willing to sacrifice all his wife's relations to his country's call for soldiers, Senator Hitchcock is ready to trade off Congressman Maguire's Lincoln postmastership in the interest of party peace.

Samuel Gompers, official head of the greatest body of organized labor in the United States, has put his O. K. on the fight against the grafters posing as "business agents" and causing strikes only to sell them out for their own greed and profit. With honest capital and honest labor combined it ought to be possible soon to do away with this insidious enemy to both.

Governor Stoneham of California passed through the city on his way to Chicago to attend the democratic convention.

Rev. T. C. Hall of the Southwest Presbyterian church is leaving for a somewhat extended trip to Europe.

Mrs. John A. Horbach, who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Burke, in Arizona, has returned. Her son, Paul, who has been studying in the Polytechnic in Troy, is also back for his vacation in September.

Mr. and Mrs. George C. Bassett are mourning the loss of their little son, George C. Bassett, Jr.

The traveling men flock to Omaha these days to spend Sunday. From the east, west, north and south they come until the Millard and Paxton hotels are filled to overflowing.

Miss Minnie Megath, who has been on a visit to Baltimore, is again in Omaha, the guest of her uncle, James Megath, on Georgia avenue.

A number one butcher and sausage maker can get a job with Joe Bath, Palace market.

At Patriak has returned from the west.

Miss Debra Johnson of the high school teaching force, goes to Xenia, O., to spend her summer holidays.

Initiative and Referendum.

The coming Nebraska election this year finds the initiative and referendum for the first time operating in this state. The period has now elapsed during which petitions may be filed to place measures on the ballot for direct legislation, so we may safely take a survey and make a complete inventory.

The official ballot at the November election will contain seven state-wide propositions on which the voters will be called upon to pass, three of them constitutional amendments submitted by the legislature, one constitutional amendment proposed by initiative, two measures enacted by the legislature upon which a referendum has been demanded, and one measure which it is difficult to designate properly, being an alternative proposition adopted by the legislature contingent upon a referendum vote. The list is as follows:

- I.—Constitutional Amendments Submitted by the Legislature: 1. Raising the salary of the governor and other state executives. 2. Eliminating the rule of uniformity in taxation. 3. Permitting three-fourths jury verdict in civil cases. 4. Giving votes to women. 5. Workmen's compensation for industrial accidents. 6. Appropriation to construct an armory at Nebraska City. IV.—Alternative Referendum Ordered by the Legislature: 7. Consolidation of state university and agricultural college on suburban site at Lincoln or continued separation by retention of downtown campus.

It must be admitted that for a start this is a sparing use of the initiative and referendum, commendable to our self-repression, as a number of other proposals which were to have been launched either were withdrawn or did not materialize. The game, however, is young yet, and the experience of other initiative and referendum states has been that it is a habit which grows.

How About Williams?

As premier of the present administration, Secretary Bryan disclaims responsibility for the indiscretion of George Fred Williams, American minister to Athens. He refuses to put the State department under the onus of the rash Albanian utterance. But how can either Secretary Bryan or President Wilson arbitrarily disclaim responsibility for the minister himself? It is not surprising that they desire to shirk the burden of Williams' undiplomatic interference in a matter that concerned neither him nor his government. But there is only one way to throw off responsibility for the man behind the utterance. Instance Lord Sackville-West and his elimination for writing a foolish letter.

It is not surprising to those familiar with the political record of George Fred Williams that he should be mixed up in his present difficulty. Mr. Bryan, as a political and personal friend of Williams for many years, undoubtedly procured his appointment, although he must have known his lack of qualification for the position.

Admittedly, the United States needs greater prestige in the realm of diplomacy, but it is not to be had so long as diplomatic posts are handed out as pie-counter provender.

In Minnesota.

The Bee has just received a copy of the official publication showing the vote cast in the primary election held in Minnesota last month. The total vote for governor in the three parties in which the nomination for that office was contested is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Party and Votes. Republican 130,202; Democrat 42,775; Progressive 2,874.

In the 1912 election the vote polled in Minnesota for the presidential candidates for the same respective parties was:

Table with 2 columns: Candidate and Votes. Republican (Taft) 64,584; Democrat (Wilson) 104,426; Progressive (Roosevelt) 126,886.

Folks interested in political arithmetic will find material here for figuring.

State Banks Still Out.

While preparations for inaugurating the federal reserve bank system are going on, it is with reluctant acceptance on the part of the authorities in charge of a situation that leaves the state banks, with few exceptions, remaining out. Practically all the national banks have qualified as reserve bank members, but comparatively few of the state institutions have taken steps to come in. The point is made by banking experts that without them the system will lack completeness, because the preponderance of banking power in this country is with the state banks. Recent compilations show resources of state banks of about fourteen billions as against resources of national banks of about eleven billions. Already the talk in Washington foreshadows amendment of the law to make it more attractive to state banks by permitting them also to hold reserves and by exempting them from capitalization requirements. But as there is no likelihood that the proposed changes will be considered at the present session of congress, the beginning will have to be with the national banks alone, and with the state banks occupying the role of "watchful waiting."

The next Nebraska legislature will start out with a definite bill of particulars for its own internal reform. What the lawmakers will want first, however, will be a diagram informing each just how it will affect his patronage perquisites in the distribution of doorknockers, committee clerks, coat hangers and cuspidor cleaners.

Millionaire flower gardeners of San Francisco have been "stung" on a lot of perfumed onions which they bought for orchid bulbs. Now, down in Texas they would prefer the onions—without the perfume—to the orchids. It all depends on the kind of odor one is used to.

"You really cannot say what you would like to say about men, holding the position I do under this government," says Secretary Bryan to The Bee's Washington correspondent. Perhaps he would like to knock somebody into a cocked hat, who knows?

If Colombia has any important projects in hand depending upon receipt of that twenty-five million dollars from Uncle Sam, we would advise making other arrangements without delay.



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

The Ousting of Bernstein.

OMAHA, July 4.—To the Editor of The Bee: Hereafter I have had something to say about the ill considered action of the school board in important matters. The decision of the board, with reference to Prof. Nathan Bernstein is, to my mind, dishonest. It is evidence of the fact that the board holds its contract obligations lightly. It is notice to the corps of teachers on the permanent roll that any of them may at any time be dismissed, no matter how efficient in the school room they may be. Nobody has ever alleged that Mr. Bernstein is not efficient. As a matter of fact, he is distinctly a teacher who has the power to impart instruction to young men and women. He makes an impression upon the student, and he makes it easy for the student to comprehend the subject in hand. He has been of very great service to the Omaha High school.

Mr. Bernstein was deposed because he talked too much out of school, it is said. He criticized the policy adopted by the board with reference to the Commercial High school, but his remarks were mild in comparison with those made by one of the ablest teachers in the Central High school not long ago, namely: "This generation will not be able to outlive the injury done to the public school system by the Commercial High as it is conducted."

When the board violates principles of good faith and deposes a teacher, as in this case, it does a positive injury to the schools. It sets a bad example to the students. Moreover, the best teachers in the school will take notice of the unfair and unlawful treatment accorded Mr. Bernstein and take the first opportunity to look elsewhere for engagements to teach. A school board which disregards its contracts with the teachers cannot expect to retain the best grade of instructors. J. B. HAYNES.

More Pay for Meat Inspectors.

SOUTH OMAHA, July 5.—To the Editor of The Bee: The meeting referred to as "secret session" held on the evening of July 1 was attended by 130 employees of the bureau, and secret meetings are not ordinarily held at library hall. Your article in The Bee would lead the public to believe that all employees of the Bureau of Animal Industry receive salary of \$1,500, when as a matter of fact not more than one-fourth of the bureau employees are receiving a salary in excess of \$1,200 per annum, the remainder ranging from \$50 to \$1,500. We cannot believe that anyone will be deceived by the comparison between the laborer in the packing-house and the employe of the government whose work is such that the people of the United States have confidence in the legend, "U. S. Inspected and Passed." These employes all have their positions by reason of having passed competitive civil service examinations, which require among other things that the veterinarians be graduates of accredited schools; the meat inspectors practical experience of not less than five years in the curing and handling of meats, the assistants and stock examiners not less than three years practical experience in the handling of stock, in addition to an education test for all classes. Clerks in the Bureau of Animal Industry are required to pass a first grade examination. Congressman Lobeck was selected by the executive committee of the National Association of Bureau of Animal Industry Employees to father this bill for the reason that he represents a district containing one of the largest packing centers in the United States, and we believe that his selection was a honor to him, to Omaha, and the great state of Nebraska; Furthermore, this bill met the approval of the house committee irrespective of party lines, and bureau employes expect this bill to stand entirely on its merits.

There are over 150 Bureau of Animal Industry employes at this station who as citizens live and spend their salaries in Omaha and who are interested in the community, and they protest against being made the target of the press on account of political sentiment against Congressman Lobeck. M. H. C.

Roosevelt's Popularity Abroad.

FOLKSTONE, England, June 24.—To the Editor of The Bee: I take the liberty to send you clippings from the London Times about the Roosevelt lecture and the enthusiastic welcome accorded him. I have not seen a word of adverse criticism in any London paper. N. MERRIAM.

Republicans, Old and New.

SOUTH OMAHA, Neb., July 5.—To the Editor of The Bee: As one old time republican who was present at the "get-together" republican banquet, June 22, I want to say that I do not approve of some things Senator Kenyon said in his speech. It is time the talk by pretended republicans about ex-Senator Foraker, Senator Penrose and Joseph G. Cannon be stopped. They are not and never were honest.

The real bosses of this day are such fellows as La Follette, Cummins, Roosevelt, with Kenyon, Norris and Bristow as smaller bosses. The primary system has done more to bring forth such fellows as the ones I have named than any other one thing and the primary system has tended to disrupt the republican party as I predicted would be the case when the agitation was first started for this "rich man's system." None but rich men can afford to run for office for they are compelled to make two campaigns and a man of moderate circumstances cannot afford to make two campaigns in order to win.

The banquet made men who were there feel like they were at an old time republican convention when the speaker was contagious and many said they wish the old time convention system was in vogue again today as it would tend to rouse old-time enthusiasm.

It will become some of these western upstarts to denounce men who have made the republican party and the party that has made them. If Kenyon wants to heal up the sores of the past, he had better quit rippin' them open by denouncing men of the republican party who are simply republicans without any "progressive" foolishness about it. The men who have stood by the party through thick and thin are just as loyal citizens of this republic as are those who have come to surface by way of the rich man's system of primary nominations and they are better republicans. F. A. AGNEW.

Good Old Days and Now

High Prices and High Living Discussed by Frederick S. Dickson in Yale Review.

When Our Grandfathers Ate Beef.

When the increased cost of living is discussed today, the complainant usually begins by quoting the prices of rib roast or sirloin steak. In 1740, the best beef sold in Boston at 12 cents a pound, but from colonial days down to a very late period meat was supplied in a most primitive manner. As late as the '70s everybody, even in considerable towns, kept chickens, and nearly everybody a pig and cow, and all this live stock was permitted to roam at will through the streets. Pigs were butchered in the back yards of private residences, and the carcass hung from a convenient apple tree. The butcher bought what cattle he could and at times the meat was excellent in quality, but more often the carcass was that of a cow that no longer gave milk, or of a bull that had lost his bloom, or of a steer whose work under the yoke was no longer efficient; and invariably a steak for dinner was heralded by the vigorous pounding with the potato masher wielded by the stalwart arm of the cook. The average quality of beef was so poor that pork was rightly preferred as food, and was sold for double the price of beef. In 1787 Francis Filkin notes a sale of "twenty pounds of boui beef" for 75 cents, which would be 34 cents a pound; cheap enough for "bife," but it ever so "boul."

Change in Cattle Raising Methods.

In the '70s the sportsman joined forces with the Indians and with repeating arms these two classes of savages exterminated the buffalo. This slaughter cleared the plains for the stockmen, and in a few years these free public lands were occupied by over 50,000,000 cattle. These vast herds gave the packers their opportunity to absorb the meat trade of the country, and they set the price to be paid for the live cattle as well as the price demanded from the consumer. Of late years the best of these public lands have been bought and fenced in by the farmers so that the acreage of free land open to the cattlemen has yearly become smaller and its average fertility also less. Hence cattle that sold on the hoof at 14 six years ago, brought \$30 in 1913. We can scarcely look for a reduction in price as the result of importations, though an advance may for a time thereby be checked. When the cattlemen is compelled to own his grazing land the price of beef will naturally advance until it equals or exceeds that of the '70s, but we cannot expect to return to the careless, unsanitary methods of the old days, and it is expensive to be sanitary.

Hen Fruit and Various Other Fruits.

The growing scarcity of beef sufficiently accounts for the increase in price of mutton, pork, poultry, fish and eggs, and other things that the housekeeper would naturally strive to substitute for beef. In the eighteenth century in New York eggs sold for 9 cents a dozen. They sold for 6 cents a dozen in Mississippi in 1892. There is one compensation today; for, with the high prices and cold storage, we get stale eggs very rarely. Twenty years ago stale eggs were common. Wheat sold in New York in 1720 at from \$2 to \$1.50 a bushel. In London in 1737 it sold at from \$2 to \$1.50 a bushel. Eighteenth century prices for apples were \$7.50 a barrel in Scotland and \$1.50 in New York. Oranges cost twice what they do now, and lemons three times as much. Our grandfathers never saw a banana and our fathers paid 10 cents a piece for them. Now the corporation that brings them to our doors at 10 cents a dozen should in the judgment of the very wise be taxed out of existence.

Side Lines that Used to Be Scarce.

Our eighteenth century ancestors paid three times as much as we now pay for cloves, allspice and chocolate, four times as much for cinnamon and pepper, ten times as much for washing blue, eleven times as much for rice, twelve times as much for coffee, and thirteen times as much for sugar. That can be bought today for 5 cents a pound sold in the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries at from 10 to 25 cents. Although the sugar people seem willing to acknowledge that they are the most disreputable trust in the lot, we must realize that they have done their full share to reduce the cost of living. Tea was brought to England early in the seventeenth century as a curiosity, and sold at \$50 a pound. During the balance of the century, with increasing imports, it sold at \$15 a pound. In 1733 the importations were 4,000,000 pounds annually, and the average price was \$5 a pound. In 1763 the American colonies consumed 1,500,000 pounds of tea, and paid from \$1.50 to \$15 a pound. In 1743 Francis Filkin exchanged two pounds of tea for a load of hay. Today we pay 50 cents a pound for a quality of tea that cost \$1 in 1900, and \$5 in colonial days.

Water Flows Up Hill in Price.

In one item, at least, the cost of living has been increased out of all reason—pure water. Our fathers found it everywhere, to be had for the taking; but modern sanitation has befouled every stream, poisoned every well and rendered every spring an object of suspicion. If there be a "mosa-covered bucket" left anywhere, it would have to be sterilized before using. Untold millions have been spent to give cities and towns pure water, and after we have paid the resulting taxes we are warned by boards of health to boil the water before drinking. The fever we get in the autumn we are told we brought with us from the country, where the water is only less dangerous than the milk. Usually a city draws its water from the same stream in which it deposits its sewage, with a shrug for the towns below and a curse for those above. In the summer of 1913 a fish, by some mischance, found itself in the Passaic river and tried to escape by jumping. The event was so extraordinary that it was soberly chronicled on the front pages of the New York papers. Yet there was a time, not so many years ago, when this stream supplied much of the food of the people who lived on its banks. We pay for a modest pedigree, but a high class certificate of purity costs us 40 cents, if we return the admirer for his Yankee shrewdness, while the man who supplies us with refined kerosene at less than a third of this price is deemed worthy of fine and imprisonment. The war tariff of 1864 put a duty on mineral waters, but this tax was taken off in 1872. The McKinley bill of 1890 restored the duty, but the democratic bill of 1894 made mineral waters free again. The Dingley bill of 1897 restored the duty, which the Payne-Aldrich bill again increased, while the Underwood bill reduced the tax, leaving it at about the level of the McKinley tariff. How this was accomplished those that know are not likely to tell.

Twice Told Tales

Wouldn't Spoil Sport. H. G. Wells tells a story of a deaf old fisherman who was out rowing in his boat one day when a motor boat near him sprang a leak and almost immediately sank. To the great indignation of the unfortunate occupants of the motor boat the old man took not the slightest notice of their plight, but rowed calmly along, puffing serenely at his clay pipe. They shouted, but he was too deaf to hear. Finally, they managed to swim to his boat and scramble on board. He seemed surprised to see them, and was still more taken aback when one of them yelled indignantly at him: "Confound you! Why didn't you lend us a hand? Didn't you see we were sinking?" "Lor' bless yer!" he gasped in reply. "I saw ye right enough, but I thought you was one o' them newfangled submarines!"—Pearson's Weekly.

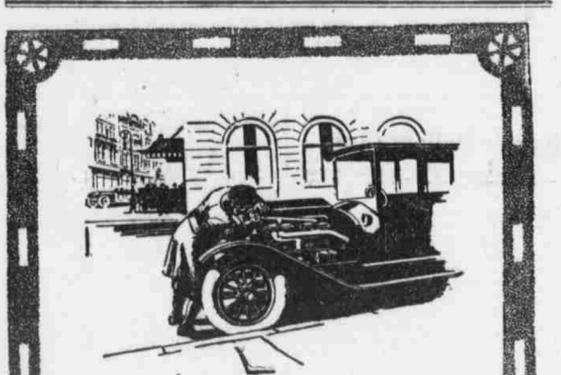
Statistical Notes

There are 14,756,677 females in Austria. India in 1913 sent to the United States 182 students. China last year sent 594 students to the United States. Canadian sturgeon catch for 1913 was 1,614,500 pounds. Gibraltar in 1913 imported nine American automobiles. In 1913 nearly 800 steam vessels entered the port of Salonika. Australia yearly imports 2,500,000 gallons of whiskey from Ireland. Servia this year will spend \$18,800,000 on its military establishment. New South Wales mineral output for 1913 was valued at \$3,969,738. Irish agricultural exports in 1913 amounted in value to \$14,274,500. Britain in 1913 imported \$7,893,154 pounds of linen yarn, valued at \$5,442,518. Bavaria last year exported to the United States goods valued at \$2,938,851. Belfast, Ireland, in 1913, sent to the United States linen goods valued at \$13,496,394. Londonderry, Ireland, last year shipped \$1,800 worth of whiskey to the United States.

MIRTH FOR MONDAY.

Dyer—Why did they make Highbee a delegate to the peace congress? Dyer—He's such a good fighter.—Town Topics. "What's 'Clancy doin' now, Mike?" "He's got some kind o' political job. Game warden in Madison Square or something."—Life. Fairfax—What kind of a plant is the Virginia creeper? Harrison—It isn't a plant; it's a railroad.—The Club Fellow. Aged Uncle—I've insured my life for \$5,000 in your favor. What else can I do for you? Nephew—Nothing on earth, uncle.—Living Star. "It takes two to start a quarrel," said Mrs. Gabb. "Oh, no it doesn't," replied Mr. Gabb. "A man and his wife are one."—Philadelphia Ledger. "Jane had her fortune told yesterday." "That so? What did she learn?" "That a stylish woman in a purple wig is going to make trouble for her."—Detroit Free Press. Knicker—Did Smith borrow money to buy an auto? Borker—No; he is a higher financier. He bought an auto to borrow money.—New York Sun. Dyer—What do you think has been most influential in shaping your career? Ryer—Work.—Judge. "Think of the poor people who have no roofs over their heads!" "I'm willing to be sympathetic. But don't ask me to feel sorry for people who sleep out of doors this kind of weather."—Washington Star. "How beautiful it is! How beautiful!" "Yes, it is beautiful. It is from this point that no tourist has ever been able to view the scenery without giving me at least a dollar tip."—Paris Le Rire. The servant girl in a suburban family was taken to task for oversteering herself. "Well, ma'am," she said, "I sleep very slow, and so it takes me a long while to get a good night's rest."—Boston Transcript. "The best of us have to be hypocrites at some time." "How now?" "I was just now confiding with my neighbor over the loss of his graphophone. It got smashed last night."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

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Lubrication Logic The idea that every make and model of motor car has to have its own particular oil is an idea that the hard-headed mechanic who knows automobile engines won't listen to. He knows practically every automobile has an oil feed that he can regulate. He looks for a lubricant of high, uniform quality—and then regulates the feed to give his car the right amount of it.

Polarine will lubricate perfectly any make of motor car now on the market. About the only complaint we get is from the man who has been feeding his car twice to much of it. A tremendous amount of money and pains is spent in making Polarine a clean, carbon-free lubricant of the highest efficiency. Polarine is stable at high temperature, will feed freely down to zero and is absolutely uniform. Be sure you get Polarine. If in doubt send us a sample for analysis.

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