THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietor.

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APRIL CIRCULATION.

58,448

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 April, 1914, was 58,448.
DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager.
Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 5th day of May, 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.

Now, Mr. Weatherman, have a heart.

Still, if congress should adjourn, the business affairs of the country might survive.

Alliteration is not the only glowing virtue to be found in coeducation and campus courtship.

No wonder the Chicago Grand Opera company lost; it paid Mary Garden only $1,800 a night.

"What is a sniper?" someone asks. Among others, the anonymous writer of threatening letters.

It will hardly be advisable, however, to report the discovery of that new river to the king of Denmark.

"The flowers that bloom in the spring, tra la" have nothing on the candidates that blossom out in the spring.

Iowa seems to have its university and school troubles, too, though not yet quite so bitterly personal as Nebraska's.

The water works are the whole works in the Vera Cruz situation.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Ah, there, Vera Cruz. Must be much like Omaha.

Jim Hill says he never expects to see rivers used for transportation to any great extent. A case, no doubt, where the wish is father to the thought.

Mark it down that Omaha has more art appreciation today than it ever had, widely as its art lovers may disagree on the question of a temple of art.

More than 30,000 Shriners are in attendance upon the conclave of that order at Atlanta. That is a meeting Omaha ought to gather in one of these fine days.

Certificates of membership in the Kansas City reserve bank will be issued in Omaha. We are not quite sure whether that is rubbing it in on Omaha or on Kansas City.

President Wilson also takes occasion to note that there is no difference in the Americanism of the war victims because of their varied foreign ancestry. The accident of birthplace is no test of patriotism.

The second heat in Alabama's primary results in the defeat of Governor Comer for renomination. That is what usually happens in these elimination contests—the friends of all those eliminated in the first round join to eliminate the strong man in the second round.

The Atlanta Constitution observes that our imbroglio with Mexico has developed the fact that the American diplomatic corps contains two men of rare and impeccable discretion, Nelson O'Shaughnessy and John Lind. Wow, what a wallop at the head of the State department, and from a good democrat, too!

Thirty Years Ago This Day in Omaha

COMPILED FROM BEE FILES

The big news is the bare knuckles bout between "Jim" Fell and "Jack" Hanley. Fell is a miner of Rich Hill, Mo., and Hanley a local boxing and gymnastic figure. Pools were sold and a special train used, and all kinds of money changed hands. There were twenty-two rounds, which lasted sixty-eight minutes, and an award made to Fell on a foul. On the homebound trip a free-for-all fight took place, with revolvers fired, and three men wounded.

The Nebraska Medical society convened in Falconer's hall, with Dr. Shipman of Sterling presiding. Omaha physicians attending included Drs. Charles A. Wilson, E. A. Kelley, J. T. Armstrong, E. W. Lee, R. M. Stone, W. O. Bridges, William P. Wilcox, M. A. Rebert, John C. Jones, P. Hostetter, John C. Davis, May C. E. Gydison, P. S. Leisenring, L. F. McKenna, James Carter, J. B. Ralph, George Ayres, A. S. Leisenring, J. M. Swetman and L. A. Merriam.

The council passed an ordinance making it unlawful to keep more than three barrels of kerosene or other oils with a standard of over 100 degrees.

Miss Lizzie Calderwood is back from Fremont, where she sang at an entertainment in behalf of St. James' church. Misses Gilbert and Armstrong of Brownell hall also participated in the program.

The family of L. T. Hessler, 714 South Eighteenth street, is receiving congratulations on a new arrival, which weighs ten pounds.

St. Philomena's witnessed the marriage of E. F. Morearty and Miss Susie Lynch. Father O'Connor tied the knot and the couple were attended by Miss Mollie J. Morearty, Miss Aggie Clarey, P. C. Hoafey and F. Duffy, and a reception followed at the new home, 1414 Jackson street.

Japan Sets High Value on Our Canal.

The excuse offered by the administration democrats for nullifying the free tolls plank in the Baltimore platform is that it conflicts with another platform declaration proclaiming opposition to the principle of subsidy. But while we are disputing over the policy of encouraging our own shipping industry, there is one country that is not only not afraid of subsidies, but is alive to the opportunities which the opening of the canal will present.

Word from Japan is to the effect that the Japanese Diet has passed a bill designed to promote a new steamship service by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha between Japan and New York through the canal. By this bill provision is made for payment of a subsidy of $50,000 a voyage for seventeen voyages a year. This steamship line is now maintaining regular service between Japan and the Pacific coast, and what is contemplated therefore is an extension direct to New York. It is fair to infer that the $50,000 which the Japanese government will pay for each steamship voyage will more than reimburse the tolls exacted for passage through the canal and no one will set up violation of any treaty obligation.

True, this has nothing to do with our American coastwise shipping, but it must make us rejoice that Japan appreciates so highly the value of the canal built by American ingenuity and enterprise.

Seven-for-a-Quarter Hung Up

By the issuance of a temporary injunction against its enforcement, Judge Sears has hung up the seven-for-a-quarter initiative ordinance indefinitely and the street railway company wins the first skirmish in what will probably be a long-drawn legal battle. In other words, if we understand the present ruling correctly, the court holds that the ordinance was properly initiated and adopted, and that the city has authority to regulate street railway charges, notwithstanding the company's claim that it is under the sole jurisdiction of the State Railway commission—but, on the allegation that the proposed fare reduction is confiscatory, suspends the operation and penalties of the ordinance until representatives of the city prove that seven-for-a-quarter would afford adequate returns to the capital invested.

The presumption is that the lawsuit will eventually go on to trial on the merits, the speed of lawsuiting in such cases being none too fast. But this is what the people voted for, and evidently want. Whether the city win or lose, a judicial determination of legitimate earnings, based on thorough investigation by experts will, as already pointed out by The Bee, let us know what, if any, concessions we are entitled to from the street railway company. Seeing we are into the litigation, the thing to do is to get through with it as soon as possible.

Anxious Fence-Builders.

The president and Chairman Underwood seem to have agreed on July 1 as the date of adjournment of congress, but if the pending program urged by the president is anywhere near completed it will be much later than that when the session ends. Among the big bills on which action is demanded are those regulating the trusts, issuance of stocks and bonds, rural credits and canal tolls, to say nothing of the administration's presidential primary bill, which the president seems willing to have go over provided the others are passed. If this grist is ground out—and there is the Mexican situation to complicate matters—it may be September or October 1, instead of July, when congress adjourns.

Altogether, the prospect is a dreary one for the chautalkers and fence-builders, particularly the democrats, who are up against the task of squaring issues with the people largely on account of their new tariff law, with which the country as a whole seems to be much dissatisfied. So far as the chautauquas are concerned, they may have to go without the larger part of their congressional supply of speakers, for while chautalking and political fence-building have in many cases become one and the same thing these days, the necessity of making previous engagements will militate against booking many members of congress liable to be held in their places at Washington by the party whip.

Possibly the president has the idea that it will not take much time for his partisans to put their fences in order. Or has he concluded that the dilapidation is so complete that the less time the better?

Our Country Abroad in Movies.

According to export figures, the fiscal year will show shipment of 195,000,000 linear feet of moving picture film from the United States to foreign countries—more than 35,000 miles in all. Only about 7,000 miles of the film are exposed pictures setting forth stage and real life in America, however. That, of course, is enough to give a very extensive idea of what we are and what we are doing here in this country. The ordinary business concern that relies largely on advertising for results would unhesitatingly pronounce that a fairly good measure of publicity.

But what of the quality? That is the question for our country. Are these 7,000 miles of film about such as we see in the average moving picture place in the United States, portraying he harrowing scenes of wild west life, Indians and cowboys in battle, bandits robbing trains and stages and otherwise terrorizing the natives. If this is the character of advertising we are getting through this channel of publicity, then so much the worse for us. As it is, a good many people, not only in distant lands, but in the eastern part of our own country, imagine that the western half of the United States is still a land of wild and desperate life.

The suggestion has been made that the National Chamber of Commerce should look into this wholesale exportation with a view of censorship, if necessary, and it strikes us as a mighty good suggestion.

Tammany offers to send a regiment of volunteers if they are called for. There are many old-time warriors on this side of the Rio Grande ready to testify to the fighting qualities of those Tammany braves.

If the free tolls plank was "smuggled" into the Baltimore platform, perhaps some other things were also "smuggled" out of it.

The Bee's Letter Box

Letters from a Political Heathen —Mexico.

SOMEWHERE, May 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: It is not my purpose to write a history. I shall only touch on such things as concern the United States and such other matters as are necessary to a proper understanding of the situation.

The third president of Mexico was Vincent Guerrero, a mulatto, the man who set on foot the insurrection which finally culminated in the independence of Mexico. This man had been born a slave; and, on becoming president, he freed his race. So, in a certain sense, he was the Lincoln of Mexico.

Mr. Editor, I am now entering upon a sketch of the darkest chapter in the history of our country. That part of the Mexican state of Coahuila south of the Rio Grande had been settled by adventurers from the United States. They were nearly all from below the Mason and Dixon's line; and Samuel Houston, the squawman; James Bowie, the inventor of the knife which bears his name, and David Crockett—who needs no introduction—were fair samples. These people believed in and practiced slavery. They rebelled against the edict of emancipation. Mind you, this was not the secession of a state from the Mexican federation. It was the rebellion of an undefined portion of a state against a constitutional law. Owing to the remoteness of the district, afterwards called Texas, and to internal troubles in Mexico, these outlaws succeeded in keeping up the semblance of an independent government for a few years. In the meantime Mexico had gathered her wind and was preparing to reconquer the rebellious province. Then Texas—as she called herself—turned and whimpered for admission to the American union. This meant war with Mexico, and this was the issue in our presidential campaign of 1844, when Henry Clay of immortal fame went down before the intellectual bantam weight, James K. Polk—the third person in the trinity of mediocrities who have occupied the White House, viz: Monroe, Pierce and Polk. Oh, tell it not in Gath, neither publish it in the streets of Askelon. John C. Calhoun—the ablest and most unscrupulous statesman America ever produced—was the manipulator of the senate. Consistency required us to deal with Texas as with an independent government. How could one annex her without a treaty? A treaty required a ratification by a two-thirds vote of the senate. But more than one-third of the senators were opposed to annexation. Then this man Calhoun—the strict constructionist of the constitution—this political chameleon, with the intellect of an Aristole and the conscience of a snake, bethought himself of the expedient of a joint resolution of both houses of congress. And so it was done. Calhoun and everybody else knew this act was unconstitutional.

DER HEIDE.

Seen Tracks of Standard Oil.

NORTH LOUP, Neb., May 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: Can the fact be established that the present democratic administration is playing into the hands of associated corporate wealth? Let us take a look at the subject and find by the cold legal facts.

Last year a news note was published through the Associated Press reports to the effect that a new method of giving away our natural resources had been devised by Secretaries Lane and Houston. The news note reads:

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 29, 1913.—A new policy in granting water power permits was begun today when authority for development of an electric project, with an ultimate capacity of 350,000 horsepower, on the Pend d'Oreille river, Washington, was granted to the International Power and Manufacturing company. The grant may run perpetually, and can be revoked only for violation of its terms or the provisions of the general regulations.

At the time this news note appeared I felt certain that the Baltimore resolution in kindly omitting Standard Oil from condemnation had a far-reaching effect, and I, therefore, sent to Washington for a copy of the franchise. In studying its provisions I find many legal phrases carefully masked by a multitude of words—a sure indication of Standard Oil methods. Here is one provision:

Section 8. No compensation for the permission (franchise) given will be required prior to the year 1923; but on or before February 1, 1924, the permittee (holder of the franchise) shall pay, by certified check, to the order of the secretary of the interior. * * * * *

At any time not less than ten years after the date for the first payment under this section or after the last revision of the rates of compensation the secretaries may revise such rates after application by notice to the permittee and impose such new rates of compensation, under a rule which shall be uniform for all permittees under like conditions.

Under the above provisions the reader may readily see that no change of rates for electric energy can be effected prior to the year 1934. In another place in the franchise the following provision occurs:

The maximum price at which electric energy developed by or transmitted from the power project may be disposed of to customers and consumers shall not exceed 8 cents per kilowatt hour, and the maximum price at which such electric energy in excess of 2,000 kilowatt hours per annum with an average annual delivery of more than 35 per cent of the connected installation within the year may be disposed of to customers and consumers shall not exceed 2 cents per kilowatt hour.

Under these provisions any consumer of electricity must use 2,000 kilowatt hours per year in order to obtain the price of 2 cents, which would amount to $40 per annum. Now, how many thousands of families cannot afford to pay $40 per year for light? If they cannot pay that amount for light annually they are subject under the franchise to a price of 6 cents per kilowatt hour. Hence the 6-cent price is intended for Mr. Common People, and the 2-cent price for the man who is able to make a political noise.

There are not many people who realize the fact that 350,000 horsepower has a greater efficiency than all the product of the oil fields of Kansas, in the event such product is burned in the locomotive boiler, computing the efficiency at 8 per cent, which is better than a locomotive can do. The price of Standard Oil in a democratic national campaign comes high.

WALTER JOHNSON, Engineer.

They Should Worry.

Washington Post.

A Washington lecturer says the women of Finland would feel insulted if men flirted with them; if the few photographs seen are at all representative, they should worry.

Heaviest Item in Coal Cost.

St. Louis Republic.

When Americans boast of their cheap coal they forget to include the heaviest item in the cost. Anyone who does not understand this remark should read the news from Eccles.

Rural Credit Legislation

Project Halts Because of the Large Difficulties that Present Themselves

Complicated Problem in Finance.

National legislation designed to facilitate farm development through loans at lower interest rates than now obtains, owing to diverse views and vast difficulties goes over to the next session. The Washington correspondent of the Boston Transcript, in an extended review of the subject, says the question is a much harder nut to crack than many persons expected when it was commonly said that a bill once prepared by competent authority could be passed without much debate. Two commissions, one authorized by the United States government and another sent by the Southern Commercial congress, had visited Europe to study the subject of agricultural credits. Their reports were carefully prepared and voluminous, and it appeared not a wild inference that when these had been digested and embodied in the form of a bill, the most authoritative word had been spoken.

But the prophets of quick legislation did not take into account the size of the United States; the fact that a system which might work admirably in a country like Germany or France might disclose grave defects in a country where one state alone is larger than Germany and France put together. Moreover, the people of the United States do not take as naturally to federal aid in their affairs as the people of Europe, and often see an embarrassment in federal intervention where Europeans would see only a help.

Incubating a Land Bank Bill.

Thus the rural credits bill did not emerge readily from the congressional incubator. Several bills were introduced, notably one by Senator Fletcher of Florida and Representative Moss of Indiana, embodying the conclusions of the United States commission. No bill has been reported yet by the banking and currency committee of either house. On the contrary, the two committees side-stepped the whole subject, to a certain extent, by appointing a joint subcommittee charged with the duty of preparing a bill back of which the Wilson administration would be willing to stand.

Now it develops that serious differences exist among the members of both branches over fundamentals. Senator Hollis, for example, would have a national land bank capitalized by the government, while Representative Moss and men of his school of thought give cogent reasons why private capital should be employed. Representative Bathrick has introduced a bill making the postal bank funds available for use by the land banks. This is a detail, although probably an important one, and may form a separate subject for serious discussion.

Is Private Capital Best?

The Fletcher-Moss bill provides for the incorporation with private capital of national farm land banks through the office of a national commissioner of National farm land banks, such banks to be established to the extent of one or more in the various states, according as the necessity for their existence shall be proved to the satisfaction of the commissioner. A principle upon which all are united is that the mortgages taken upon farm property shall be used as the basis for an issue of negotiable bonds which shall be non-taxable.

It is pointed out that this plan presents advantages over any other, inasmuch as it would put up squarely to every community the responsibility for its own transactions. In the middle western states, like Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and others in the corn belt, the land bank problem is relatively simple, because the farm lands have a quick market value, which would warrant free capital in organizing and supporting a bank devoted solely to farmers' loans. In this region interest rates are relatively low, because almost any farmer can raise money easily, as his security is sound and practically fluid.

Farmers May Not Like This.

No valid objection could be made to this plan if it would cover only states of the character named. But it is said that if banks with private capital are to be organized and then federated in great districts covering several states the stockholders in the popular states will soon be some dissatisfied at receiving a rate of interest one-quarter or onehalf less than the banks in another state may be paying because of the risks and delays incident to loans in virgin territory. In other words, it is prophesied that if, say, eight districts should be created throughout the United States the lack of uniformity in profits due to varying interest rates would bring about dissatisfaction that might cause the collapse of the whole system. It is said also that farmer capitalists will be unwilling to subscribe their money for a land bank in Indiana, for example, to be loaned out upon lands of which they know nothing, away up in Montana.

The government, by supplying the capital, of course, could provide a uniform rate of interest—although upon that point it may be remembered that in the federal reserve bank system uniformity of interest rates in the various districts is not prescribed by law. The practical farmers of the middle west are said to be doubtful as to the expediency either of borrowing government money with which to finance the land bank system, or of extending the operations of any individual bank beyond the territory of which it is the more or less immediate center.

Some States May Reject It.

Representative Moss, who is also a prosperous farmer, summarized this middle west sentiment in about these words: "In my country we have what is known as the 'gravel road' system, which, to my mind, represents the essence of what a land bank system should be. Suppose we want to build a road costing, say, $7,000. We get our estimates and apply to the county commissioners for a bond issue covering the cost. Bonds are then issued and sold, and the contractors go to work. I obligate myself to pay a certain amount a year for twenty years. If I fail to make my payments the state has the right to step in and sell my farm.

"In other words, we capitalize our own improvements; and that is what I think should be done under the proposed land bank system. Let the banks be organized with private capital to operate in a certain limited territory. If the people of Montana want money to develop their land, let them raise it. They know better than anyone else whether their lands are worth developing and will make good security. If they have not money enough in their own community there is no objection to their going to Chicago or St. Louis or anywhere else and raising it for their capital stock, but they should not take the money of one farming community to pay for the development of another, nor should they have appraisers traveling away up from somewhere in the middle west to look over their farm lands whenever they want to make a loan. If some such plan as this is not adopted, I am very doubtful whether the scheme will prove attractive in many states."

People and Events

Say not farewell, David. Dry your tears and whisper "au revoir."

"On to Panama!" shouts Colonel Henry Watterson in the Courier-Journal. "On with the Panama!" is the slogan of the corn belt.

The estate of the late George F. Baer, Pennsylvania's coal king, is estimated at from $5,000,000 to $15,000,000. As Jim Hill once remarked, there are no pockets in a shroud.

In three hours by the alarm clock the prize winner at a beer drinking fest in Munich stowed fifty-three pints of the fluid under his vest, and not a button exploded under the strain.

Clara Kerwincio of Milwaukee, who masqueraded as a man for eight years, deserted one "wife" and married another wife last March, told the police she preferred men's clothes because she earned more money in male regalia. The "bride" of six weeks whispered through her sobs: "I had no suspicion that he was not a man. I did not know it until the police told me."

SAID IN FUN.

"Pop, when the soldiers get to Colorado, will they let the strikers keep their legs on?"

"What are you talking about, child?"

"Well, this paper says they are going to take all their arms away."—Baltimore American.

"We want your little girl to take part in a patriotic spectacle. The children will dress in red, white and blue, and form a human United States flag."

"Can my child take a leading part?"

"Sure; she can be one of the stars."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Mr. Sapleigh—No, I'm not feeling very well. You know, I've thought once or twice lately—

Miss Keen—Good gracious! And then you wonder why you are ill. You should not do such reckless things.—Boston Transcript.

"What is all the trouble out there in Colorado?"

"The mine owners don't recognize the union miners."

"Then why don't somebody introduce them?"—Washington Star.

"You don't mean to say your garden is already a success!"

"Yes, sir."

"But a garden is not supposed to produce so early."

"Mine does. I have dug six cans of the finest fishing worms I ever saw."—Baltimore American.

Goodheart—I've got you down for a couple of tickets; we're getting up a raffle for a poor man of our neighborhood.

Joakley—None for me, thank you. I wouldn't know what to do with a poor man if I won him.—Christian Register.

"What's that crowd of men after?"

"You mean the tough mob over there?"

"Yes."

"They're trying to get into our new uplift jail."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Miss Wyse—And I may really keep this photograph of you, Miss Simpkins?

Simpkins (flattered)—Delighted. I'm sure.

Miss Wyse (later, to her maid)—Marie take this photograph and whenever the original of it calls, tell him I'm not in.—Boston Transcript.

Ted—Is his wife going to sue him for alimony?

Ned—I shouldn't think so. You know, he works for his father-in-law.—Judge.

"The last time I saw the man you have just engaged, he was the principal in a light-fingered transaction."

"Good gracious! Was he picking pockets?"

"No; he was carrying a torch in a night parade."—Baltimore American.

THE SWAN SONG.

So we must say, "Good-Bye,"
For surely it is useless, quite, that I
Should take my pen in hand
And try to make B. N. T. understand,
For if against her will
A maid is of the same opinion still,
And never more, I think,
Will we be victims of her pen and ink,
Or mind, or tongue, or hand.
Life's mysteries are hard to understand,
We'd scarcely met, and then
We're parting now to meet no more again
Forever. I'd have no fear
If 'twere but for a day, a month, a year,
'Tis but a tear and smile
For those whose ways diverge but for a while,
Though parting still is sorrow
If one but parts to meet again tomorrow.
My very soul doth cry
Since 'tis forever we must say "Good-Bye,"
"Good-Bye," the saddest word
By far that David's ear has ever heard.
No tongue or pen can tell
The pathos and the sorrow deep that dwell
Within the sound. My heart
Grows heavy, the tears unbidden start
An outward sign of grief
That seems to give my burdened heart relief,
E'en though I weep alone.
A strong man's tears should melt a heart of stone.
To solace my old age
I'll flaunt my woes upon the printed page
In sentimental verse.
That failing, Lieber Schwann, pray call the hearse.

—DAVID.

Omaha.