

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR. The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietor.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily and Sunday. By carrier. By mail. Send notice of change of address or irregularity in delivery to Omaha Bee, Circulation Department.

REMITTANCE. Remit by draft, express or postal order. Only two-cent stamps received in payment of small accounts.

ADVERTISING. Omaha-The Bee Building. South Omaha—223 N. Street.

FEBRUARY CIRCULATION. 54,328 Daily—Sunday 50,639

Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the average circulation for the month of February, 1916, was 54,328 daily and 50,639 Sunday.

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

Small doses of spring are welcome, and large doses in proportion.

Verdun phonetically pronounced sounds like "We're done." But which side?

The Bryan-Hitchcock go to a finish promise to crowd "standing room only."

Real money looks good in Mexico, and the feel induces native conversation.

Seeds that grow—dollars carefully planted in well chosen Omaha real estate.

The more hands on the Union Depot rope, the sooner will Omaha pull it across.

It would seem that "thing of ingratitude" is working overtime in both rings of the democratic circus.

Steadily increasing traffic on the business crossings impressively marks the growth of Greater Omaha.

That discontinued coroner's office must be a juicy one or the undertakers would not fight to resurrect the corpse.

The rule requiring a year of conversation before hostilities was not intended by Mr. Bryan to apply to a political "casus belli."

Judging from the signs of activity, the "Who-is-He" candidate for the democratic nomination for governor must have opened another "barl."

Peaceful Mexicans have been so thoroughly stripped and skinned by revolutionary looters in the last five years that the projected official looting of the churches will not surprise onlookers.

Periah the thought of Britain taking undue advantage of rivals to fatten its trade. Lord Cecil's refutation of the charge would be fairly conclusive if it could be shown that the trade sought was too hot to hold.

Cleanup week embraces all the health-giving reforms usually put up in separate packages of advice. For that reason it should command general observance. Resulting benefits are sure to equal the energy expended in making home surroundings neat and tidy.

Omaha is steadily forging forward in bank clearings and is tightening its hold on fifteenth place on the list. New Orleans, Minneapolis, Omaha and Los Angeles are running a neck-and-neck race for leadership, leaving Milwaukee, St. Paul, Louisville and Atlanta in the dust of the back stretch. Boost and keep on boosting.

That water works audit says the taxes which the plant would have paid last year, if in private hands, would be about \$126,000. Then, the tax it would pay this year, with the rate boosted nearly 30 per cent, would be at least \$150,000, figuring the occupation tax as stationary. For this contribution in taxes, the water users are entitled to get something back in the shape of lower meter rates.

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Writing in the Name of Hughes.

TEKAMAH, Neb., March 29.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am heartily in accord with the suggestions of The Bee, and many other republican newspapers of the state, that the republicans favoring the nomination of Charles E. Hughes for the presidency write in his name on the blank line specially prepared for that purpose on the ballot, but if the plan is to succeed, The Bee and all other papers favoring the move must at once start a campaign of education, instructing the voters how to write in the name, and what name to write in.

I have just finished the reading of your editorial on this subject in The Bee of this date, and have also read the articles from numerous other state papers in the same issue of The Bee, under the heading "How to Get Hughes," and in none of the articles mentioned does the full name of Justice Hughes appear.

Now, the electors of the state of Nebraska can nearly all read and write, thanks to our educational system, yet a very large per cent of them are poor spellers of family names. If Charles E. Hughes receives more votes in Nebraska than any of the persons who are named candidates, and whose names will be printed on the ballot, then the republicans favoring him must be educated how to spell the name Hughes, and what his full name is.

If an elector writes in the name Charles E. Hughes, and another Charles E. Huse, and another Charles E. Hews, and another—not knowing the full given name—writes the name Justice Hughes, then three of those electors have thrown their votes away and have failed to express themselves as that their votes will be counted for their preference, Charles E. Hughes.

Would suggest that you consider the advisability of using a rubber stamp for the purpose of getting the name right—the rubber stamp and stamp pad to be passed from one voter to another as they go to the booth to cast their ballot.

The expense for the rubber stamps and ink pads could be easily met—see Hughes men all carrying an extra dollar in our pocket for the purpose of meeting necessary expenses.

Some might question the legality of stamping the name on the ballot, when the statute says write, but I do not believe that any court would so consider it.

This remarkably lucid letter, which comes from a friend who does not care to have his name disclosed, is one of a number received of like tenor emphasizing the difficulty of getting the voters to write in the name of Charles E. Hughes correctly on the primary ballot so as to make it count as their preference for president.

We realize the magnitude of the task and yet we have such faith in the intelligence of the republican voters of Nebraska that we feel sure all that is needed is instruction "how," and that the voter, who undertakes to write in the name, will do it right. We are altogether too prone to dwell upon the "ignorant voter," but the average voter is not ignorant when he knows what he wants and is told how to get it.

The suggestion of a rubber stamp or a pasteur has come from more than one source, but we are disposed to doubt its availability. The Nebraska election law plainly says "write in" and it is for that purpose that the blank line is left under each office heading, while the use of a rubber stamp or a pasteur might be regarded as intended to circumvent the requirements of the law with reference to filing and printing. On the other hand, while the possibility of mistakes in spelling or abbreviating the name, or omitting the cross from the square in front, is ever present, yet it should not be serious for the intent of the voter should govern the election officers who count the ballot. The primary law, itself, expressly declares that it should be "liberally construed" and we have a multitude of court decisions giving the benefit of the doubt to the voter. Vice President Marshall has just taken his name off the printed ballot, but if any Nebraska democrat should write in the name "Marshall" for vice president, no one would have any doubt as to whom he referred nor would there be any excuse for not counting the ballot as intended. The same applies in our opinion, to the republican ballot, for though the safe thing is to write it out in full, "Charles E. Hughes," still a ballot marked simply "Hughes" would manifest the intent just as plainly and should be so counted.

This discussion, however, is helpful for it is bound to focus attention on the real point involved, namely, that it is up to the individual republican voter of Nebraska to make it known that he wants Charles E. Hughes for president, by writing in the name when he marks his ballot at the primary.

Doing Away With a Nuisance. The Board of Governors of Ak-Sar-Ben, announcing a determination to do away with the use of confetti at future carnivals, will find they have struck a popular chord. At any rate, they have reached a wise decision, one that should have been made long ago. The tossing of confetti in the course of carnival sport, was harmless enough in its original application, but it has developed into a positive nuisance in later years. Instead of being the sportive exchange of a handful of bits of colored and sometimes perfumed paper, expressive of the mischievous mood of the season, it was turned into a torment by rowdies and unruly persons who took advantage of the license of carnival time to abuse the confetti custom in many ways. The little bit of money taken in is not enough to compensate for the damage done. The suppression of gambling, at the request of The Bee, did not harm the show last fall, and it will be found that the confetti will be missed, but not regretted.

"Father and Son." The "father and son" idea of the Young Men's Christian association is bringing to the fore a phase of our social life that may be as serious as the promoters of the get-together plan believe it to be. If it is so that the demands of business and the devotion to social affairs have destroyed the intimacy that should exist between father and son, a remedy should be found. No man is warranted in giving to his business attention that properly should be given to his home, where his chief business in life is to be found. That many boys are neglected, or not given careful guidance, is perhaps true. Each father should answer this question for himself, and be proud to be man enough to assume the responsibility that is naturally his, and see to it that his son gets enough of his society to at least provide the guidance and counsel a father can give better than any other agency. "Father and son" should be a feature of home life first of all.

Texas are reported yearning to "clean up Mexico." If the matter of consent was put up to congress, conditioned on Cyclopedia Davis leading the parade, the popular body would be tempted to grant permission and amen.

Behind-the-Times Courts

"His" in American Magazine.

HUNDREDS of thousands of men in this country have an idea that the government (city, county, state or national) is wasteful and inefficient. Pin a lot of these men down, and you will find that they got that idea from personal observations made when called to do jury duty. That is about all they know about the government—but that is enough to disgust them.

I was recently called as a special juror on a case here in New York. About seventy-five men were called on the case. Out of the seventy-five, twelve were to be selected. That is all right and necessary, but when we seventy-five men gathered—coming distances ranging from a block to ten or fifteen miles in the midst of a busy Monday morning—it was discovered that the attorney for the defense was not in court. He was sent for, and when he appeared it developed that he had not been notified that the case was to be called. He and the judge and the district attorney agreed to an adjournment for a few days—and back we all went to our offices, having wasted from two to three hours apiece. Remember this, however: Each of us will get \$2 for that day's jury duty—although we did nothing. That makes \$150, to say nothing of the time of the court and the officers and the rest.

A few days later we gathered again—seventy-five men from all over New York City. Another adjournment. More time wasted. One hundred and fifty dollars more to be given us—for no service—to say nothing of the money value of the time wasted by all concerned.

There was another beautiful little illustration: The clerk who called the roll sat at a desk fully thirty feet from the first row of jurors. He growled because he could not hear us answer our names. Did it occur to him that he might move forward to a position where he could hear better? Of course not. He has the habit of doing things thus and so, and probably nothing could induce him to change. He prefers to sit where he is, about his own lungs out and strain his ears. The whole performance was so silly that it was mildly enjoyable. I think every man in the room was guilty of inward contempt of court.

Consider this additional fact: When we in the jury panel come finally face to face with the defendant, we shall very likely see a poor, flat-headed, mentally sick person, more in need of a doctor than he is of Sing Sing. Personally I hope he will turn out to be a good, healthy, first-class, upstanding crook. Then there may be some satisfaction in taking him in hand. Punishing sick folks isn't much fun.

Why Not Split with the Judge? OMAHA, March 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am much interested in your expose of the fee grabbing grafters in our million dollar county court house.

It would seem to me if the naturalization fees are to be graftered there should be "fifty-fifty" split on the half that our Uncle Samuel does not get. The district judge who hears and decides these naturalization cases in all fairness is entitled to a cut up. The judge has his regular docket of cases and the final hearings of these naturalization cases are really extra work for him and his salary from the state is \$1,000 per annum less that received by the court clerk, who brazenly pockets all the fees not to be remitted to the government, and the honorable court is left to "hold the sack."

If the court clerk is to retain these fees he should hire a room in an office building and conduct his naturalization work outside of the court house, and without the assistance of county employees, or the use of county furniture, stationary, etc. "Deacon Bob" should be fair with the court and not hog it all.

Twice Told Tales

While He Waited. An excited looking man burst into the doctor's surgery, where several patients were waiting.

"I say, doctor," he began hurriedly, "I—"
"Pardon me, sir," said the doctor coldly. "It is not your turn."

"But—"
"You must wait," said the man of medicine coldly, as he conducted another patient into his consulting room.

The caller took a seat near the window and waited for thirty minutes with obvious impatience. Then the doctor, having dismissed all his waiting patients, turned to him condescendingly: "Now, my man, your turn has come. What can I do for you?"

"Oh, nothing special," was the calm reply. "I only called in to tell you that Farmer James' three cows had broken into your garden and were smashing everything down. But I see they have been caught again."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

Perpetual Motion. Alderman Curran of New York City worked his way through Yale college. During his course he was kept very busy by the various jobs he did to help with his expenses. On graduation he went to New York and was even busier than he had been in New Haven.

After some months of life in New York, a friend met him and said, "Henry, what are you doing?" "I have three jobs," replied Mr. Curran. "I am studying law, I am a newspaper reporter and I am selling life insurance."

"How do you manage to get it all in?" said the friend.

"Oh," replied Mr. Curran, "that's easy enough. They're only eight-hour jobs."—Youth's Companion.

Retaliation. A singer who recently passed an evening at the house of a lady stayed late. As he rose to go the hostess said: "Pray don't go yet, Mr. Basso; I want you to sing something for me."

"Oh, you must excuse me tonight; it is very late, and I should disturb the neighbors."
"Never mind the neighbors," answered the lady, quickly; "they poisoned our dog yesterday."—Kansas City Journal.

Another Matter. Mr. Babcock had just been telling his wife of an old friend.

"And he said he knew me when I was a little girl," interrogated the wife.

"No," said Babcock, "he didn't say anything of the sort."
"But you just said he did," said Mrs. Babcock.

"No," said the man, "I didn't."
"Why, Charles?" exclaimed the wife. "What did he say, then?"

"I said," replied the brute, "that he said he knew you when he was a little boy."—New York Times.

People and Events

Various charitable movements for war victims bring liberal contributions in Chicago, but the appeal of the United Charities organization for home poor brought so little that the society was obliged to borrow to meet pressing needs.

Three young sons of Meredith Copinger, a Missouri farmer, named William, Jennings and Bryan, recently ran away from home to enlist and fight the Mexicans. The eldest is only 16, but they have no regard for peace doves and puffs.

The Bee's Letter Box

The Trouble in Mexico.

BEATRICE, Neb., March 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: I would like to answer Mr. Pope's letter which appeared in Monday's paper about our causeless war with Mexico. In the first place we are not at war with Mexico, as he stated; we are simply running to cover some murderous bandits with the Mexican government's permission. If we were at war with Mexico we would have to fight government troops.

He also stated that if we were to kill seventeen Mexicans it would not bring our soldiers any more American back who were killed at Columbus. No! That is true, too, but it will prevent a recurrence of the murderous act. If we were to chase Villa just across the border it would not be a week before he would again cross the border and do the same thing again. If Mr. Pope thinks this would not have happened had we not went across the border, I don't see the reason why, because it isn't the first time Americans have been killed on American soil. The only mistake we made was putting it off as long as we did.

Have you been killing Americans for the last four years or more? Isn't the government of the United States supposed to protect its citizens in another country? I wonder what our friend, Mr. Pope would say were he living in New Mexico, and had seen the acts of murder being committed at his door for the last four years and without the least possibility of it coming to a close. I think he would take a different look at the situation. We hope he will change his mind before long. EARNEST LANGDALE.

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LAZYBONES.

Judd M. Lewis in Houston Post. I guess I'm wakin' for the spring— I don't want to do anything, go. Way out where the alders grow And out myself a slender pole. I'm in the fields, I sit on the wall, And see the buds burst in the spring. And see the buds burst in the spring.

That's ever' thing I want to do: I ain't got the ambition to dig a worm, or I might go. Way out where the alders grow And out myself a slender pole. I'm in the fields, I sit on the wall, And see the buds burst in the spring. And see the buds burst in the spring.

Tips on Home Topics

Pittsburgh Dispatch: Disputes about the merits of the respective army bills will be overlooked if they don't delay an increased army too long.

Pittsburgh Dispatch: Among other reports that must be held as awaiting confirmation is that telling of Bryan turning down \$100,000 for lectures.

Washington Post: Evidently the old-fashioned congressman who interspersed his remarks with Latin quotations has given place to a successor who can't.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Every day brings us one day nearer the end of the war," announces Mr. Bryan. That's cheering, of course—but every day brings us one day nearer to rent day, tax day and our own funeral too.

Louisville Courier-Journal: The Omaha Bee publishes an article headed "The Nebraska Hog," but as it is about the profits and not the price of the hog, the Nebraska hog the subject is not what you might infer from the headline.

Philadelphia Ledger: Senator Stone is going on a hunt for the underground influences in our Mexican troubles. Well, few know better than the senator from Missouri what "underground influences" are and what they amount to.

Chicago Herald: The proposal to repeal the free sugar clause of the tariff law finds the democrats and republicans for the first time practically agreed on tariff legislation. Only how the democrats do hate to have to be agreed on it!

Boston Transcript: The white-whiskered night-blooming nutcracker guacharo is evidently an insectivorous night-hawk caught by the intrepid naturalist. It will be noted that its food consists of beetle nuts.

Boston Transcript: President Wilson already claims credit for the Hay bill. With the lesson of the federal reserve act fresh in his mind he probably figures that the senate republicans will whip it into satisfactory shape when they get hold of it.

Baltimore American: A Colorado justice declares that the telephone has made women bold. Those throughout the land in daily subjection to central's autocracy would agree with him if they dared. The inference in his own case is that he is not a subscriber and so has no reason to care whether the line is defiantly busy or not.

Springfield Republican: Amos Pinchoat finds in pacifism much to admire, so much indeed that he is proud to call himself a pacifist. But he has his own definition, like most people. Few would quarrel with Mr. Pinchoat when he says: "I am not ashamed of being a pacifist, but I am not a peace-at-any-price pacifist. I believe in an efficient army and navy, and I am a pacifist because I believe that

Nebraska Editors

Rev. F. C. Wilson has purchased the Courtland Sun from Frank Wyme. The transfer was made Monday.

Ray Howell of Rock Valley, Ia., has purchased the Creston Statesman of Ray Burch. The new proprietor took possession of the plant last week.

The Holdrege Progress has been enlarged to a seven-column paper. The publishers announce that increased advertising patronage made the change necessary.

The Geneva Signal, Frank C. Edgcombe, editor, has been enlarged to a seven-column paper. It was printed for the first time last week on its new No. 7 Standard Babcock press.

Arthur E. Clark, editor of the Gordon Semi-Weekly Democrat, is getting out a special industrial and stockmen's edition. Mr. Clark is editor of the Democrat instead of the Journal, as erroneously stated last week.

SMILING LINES.

The Brooklyn bridge is getting old.

"The Brooklyn bridge is getting old. I don't understand that it would be 87,000,000 worth." "Cheap enough. Wonder to me some movie company doesn't buy it and wreck it for a picture."—Baltimore American.

Auto Agent—Of course, you understand, that if you fail to meet the first note, we will take the car away from you." Jones—But you fellows will promise anything! Just put that in writing!—Puck.

"Did you hear that Miller has run away with Duncan's wife?" "Confound it! Miller owes me \$10." "Poor Duncan—was so upset that he committed suicide!" "Oh, then I come out square, I owed Duncan the same amount."—Boston Transcript.

DEAR MR. KABIBBLE, I'M AN HEIRSS AND A COUNT IS CALLING ON ME. DO YOU THINK HE LOVES ME? YES—I THINK HES SIMPLY MONEY MAD OVER YOU!

Crawford—It seems a pity that the war correspondents were not allowed to see anything of the conflict.

"What is your boy Josh doing now?" "Well, he's dyin' the higher mathematics," replied Farmer Corntassel. "An' I guess we're goin' to need 'em around the place if the price of grain keeps goin' up."—Washington Star.

"Now, Dorothy," said the teacher to a small pupil, "can you tell me what a panther is?" "Well, 's mam," lisped Dorothy. "A panther 's a man that makth panth."—Chicago News.

Willie—Pa says he wishes you'd make haste and propose to sister." "Then he is willing to let her marry me?" "Willie—Taint that. He says you're likely to keep comin' here after his hands you the mitten.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Patience—Peggy says that her face is her fortune.

Patience—Well, it's a good thing it's the kind of a fortune she can't leave to anyone when she's gone.—Yonkers Statesman.

LAZYBONES. Judd M. Lewis in Houston Post. I guess I'm wakin' for the spring— I don't want to do anything, go. Way out where the alders grow And out myself a slender pole. I'm in the fields, I sit on the wall, And see the buds burst in the spring. And see the buds burst in the spring.

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