

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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

OCTOBER CIRCULATION 54,744. State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss: Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the average circulation for the month of October, 1915, was 54,744.

DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me, this 24 day of November, 1915. ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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

Thought for the Day. Selected by Harriet Eddy. We are not damned for doing wrong, but for not doing right. —Robert L. Stevenson.

To auto speeders once more: Slow up and be careful.

Taking the tariff out of politics has been the dream of real statesmen for forty years.

If anyone anywhere has a right to observe Thanksgiving day this year, it is the Nebraska farmer.

Lincoln is having something of a building boom, too. We congratulate Lincoln on keeping a pace so close to Omaha's.

Fears for the safety of parts of the state house must be set down as groundless. So far none of the inmates have been scared into resigning.

A little team work between the police, the police court and the rock-pile department, will make Omaha less conspicuous on the "hobo" map.

Another governorship hat in the republican ring! The belief that the next governor of Nebraska will be a republican is deep and growing more widespread.

My, how run down those churches which have increased 40 and 50 per cent in numbers since the close of the "Billy" Sunday meetings must have been before "Billy" came here!

Are the investigators of that Hughes petition trying to put the judge in or to keep him out? All is not gold that glitters, nor do loudly proclaimed purposes always disclose hidden motives.

There is gloom at Bethlehem and joy at the habitat of J. Leonard Reppke. In the race for Pennsylvania Steel control the experience and years of Charley Schwab were no match for youth with bulging pockets.

Allowance should be made for the havoc of war-weariness on the nerves of foreign critics. Ebullitions of ink at London, Paris and Berlin help to relieve the strain without disturbing the temper of the United States.

It must be distinctly understood that civil service as administered by democrats does not protect an assistant postmaster who thinks the president should have waited a little longer before contracting a second marriage.

A bride of a few months seeks divorce on the novel ground that her husband struck her with a loaf of the first bread she baked. It may be admitted that the act constituted "cruel and unusual punishment," but the extent of the damage depends on the weight of the missile.

A judicial review of the Illinois state appropriations leaves state finances in such a mess that an extra session of the legislature is imperative. The Illinois legislature thundered in the index for reform and economy, last winter, giving more attention to partisan publicity schemes than to the essential business of the state. The cost of an extra session merely emphasizes the blunders of windy incompetents.

Thirteen Years Ago. This Day in Omaha.

Andrew Paxton, a field agent for the Citizens' League of Chicago, is trying to organize a Citizens' League here to promote order and repress the liquor traffic. At a meeting at the opera house, which he addressed, Dr. P. S. Lelander acted as chairman, and seated on the platform with him were H. T. Clarke, Dr. S. F. Wilson, Rev. J. S. Detweiler, General Howard and Rev. E. B. Graham.

As a first step to free text books the school board has ordered the pupils to be furnished with pencils, rubber eraser and drawing materials. McChugue Brothers have purchased the lot on the northwest corner of Fifteenth and Dodge streets, where McShane's livery stable now stands, and will erect thereon in the next two years a handsome bank structure, and would commence at once but for a year's lease on the property.

Mrs. Mary A. Livermore, the distinguished lecturer, is stopping in the city.

The Pacific Telegraph company has opened an office in Omaha, located at 215 South Thirteenth street. William Johnson, the well-known sprinter of Pittsburg, is here trying to arrange a race with local men.

Nebraska Roads.

A recent report of the federal department of roads placed Nebraska among the lowest of the states in the number of miles of permanent surfaced roads, but this condition promises to be changed if plans matured in various sections of the state are carried to fruition, seeding miles having been completed in several places, to which additions are to be made as funds are available. One thing which outsiders do not appreciate, however, in reaching conclusions concerning the roads of the state, is the natural soil drainage in most sections of Nebraska, which renders permanent surfacing less imperative than in most places. More significant by far of the prospective improvement of roads in general is the way the smaller cities, villages and rural communities are taking up the matter of scientific construction of dirt roads.

Outside of the funds created by taxation for road purposes hundreds of towns and rural communities are raising money by subscription for road work, sandy stretches are being graded and clayed, muddy and waterlogged portions also graded and drained, hills cut down and a general awakening manifest to the commercial value of better roads. It is not uncommon to find small towns subscribing from \$1,000 to \$3,000 for aiding country communities to improve the roads leading to the towns and what is more significant still as bearing on the results this work when undertaken by private funds is not done by the typical township road overseer and his wasteful methods and unsatisfactory results, but by skilled road builders who make that their business and provide themselves with the facilities for doing the work. Moreover, many counties in Nebraska will in ten years, at the present rate of progress, have every trunk line road scientifically constructed. The automobile, especially since the farmers have become extensive users of the machine, has been the most potent factor in bringing the people who most needed good roads to a realization of their value and no longer is the position of road overseer looked upon as a joke or a sinecure for some man who simply needed the money or was greedy enough to grab for it. The major portion of Nebraska is still too sparsely settled and the traffic volume too light to expect an extensive program of building permanent surface roads immediately, but with the character of the soil as it is in most sections, it is possible to have a system of dirt roads that will be the pride and joy of those who travel them.

How Many War Victims?

The estimate of 5,000,000 men killed in the war put out by Colonel Heussler, the Swiss military statistician, exceeds every calculation of war losses hitherto published. General Greene, in a talk at West Point in September, placed the year's dead at 2,000,000. Up to October 11 the Rotterdam Courant computed the total casualties of Germany, Austria and Turkey at 5,000,000 men. British casualties for the same time, officially reported, totaled 493,294. French and Russian losses are unknown, but probably not less than the Teutonic loss. Assuming the correctness of the later estimates, Colonel Heussler's computation comes pretty close to a truthful measure of war's havoc to date.

Booker T. Washington.

In the death of Booker T. Washington a really towering figure has disappeared from life's activities. He has stood not only for the best ideals of his race, but what is of vastly more importance, he has worked along practical lines for the realization of those ideals, and his death is not alone a distinctive loss to the colored race but to the white as well, for the problems of the colored people are also the problems of the white in a large measure under our political and industrial system. Since the ending of slavery, two really strong men of the negro blood stand out. Not that the race has produced but two men of marked ability, but those who have places fixed in history are Frederick Douglass and Booker T. Washington. The former performed a great service for his people in settling their political and civil status in the formative period following emancipation. His talents commanded the respect and attention of the white man at a time when it was absolutely essential if the problems following the changed conditions were to be solved, and in this respect the people of his race owe him a debt of perpetual gratitude. Fully as commanding a figure is Booker Washington, though he addressed himself to a different problem—the economic and social uplift of his race. The great institution at Tuskegee stands as the most conspicuous monument to his genius, and from that institution and the teaching of Washington has emanated an influence sure to be permanent.

Industry, thrift, education and character building have been the keystones of Booker Washington's preachments. It was a herculean task which he set for himself, but, with the help of those whom he inspired, wonders have been accomplished. That the work is finished his most enthusiastic admirer would not assert, for that there yet remain too many, both of his own people and of the white race, who either do not understand or live up to the ideals which he taught, is too patent. Yet he accomplished wonders and it will need a large man who can step in and take up the work where he laid it down.

Ain't It a Joke?

The new principal of the High School of Commerce lets it be known that in writing recommendations for boys going out of that school, he will include on the information card whether or not the boy smokes cigarettes. The High School of Commerce principal is a late-comer here and is doubtless ignorant of the fact that we have on the statute books of this state a law which prohibits and penalizes the sale of cigarettes, not to boys alone, but to one and all. That law, however, as every one is aware, is as much of a dead letter as the wholly disregarded "no-treat" law, and as a consequence cigarettes are sold as freely to minors as to adults, because it is no more of an offense. Yet the law-makers who pretend to take themselves seriously have repeatedly refused to modify our anti-cigarette law, and make it enforceable against the sale to school-boys, where alone such sale might be harmful. It certainly is a huge joke for a high school principal to put a cigarette smoking item on a recommendation card in a state where cigarette selling without exception is illegal.

One credit mark may be given the Bulgars. King Ferdinand does not attempt to hide or palliate the national appetite for territorial loot.

Aimed at Omaha

Nebraska City Press: The Lincoln Journal in depicting the fact that without an election this fall will be necessary, on account of ballot congestion next year, either to revert to the annual election plan or make the ballot shorter, hits only half the nail, just as The Omaha Bee says. It is not necessary to revert to the annual election plan to correct the evil of congestion and bewildering of the votes—what surely will be the case next year. We have too many elective offices in Nebraska. The Omaha Bee is a pioneer in this much-needed reform and the Press is not far behind, having advocated this thing for several years. The short ballot, as is necessary as any other reform we can think of at this particular moment. The less elective officials the less politics in public office holding; the more appointive officials, under proper civil service regulations, the more efficiency and the more service for the money expended. Let that glad day come.

Norfolk Press: "Billy" Sunday's wholesale consignments of Omaha citizens to the lower regions has at least had the effect of arousing the interest of citizens of the metropolis in that place of future abode, if one may judge from the columns of learned dissertations now appearing in the letter box columns of the newspapers of the city.

Blue Springs Sentinel: That must be a vicious atmosphere they have in Omaha that would cause Richard L. Metcalf to turn against his bosom friend, W. J. Bryan, on account of the fact that Bryan would make the democracy of the state a practical political factor in its support of the prohibitory amendment.

Humphrey Democrat: The political ring of Omaha is again putting itself on the map by trying to hold up Gene Leddy, promoter of the Husane-Stecher match, for the use of the Auditorium in which to hold the match. Farmer Burns, Sandy Griawold and a number of the other sports of Omaha have lost quite a bunch of money betting against Stecher and ever since that they have been trying to make out that "Honest Joe" is a faker and a mediocre wrestler. The Omaha bunch may be able to keep Stecher from appearing in Omaha, but in doing so they will only hurt themselves, for Joe is too popular throughout the state to have anything the "Omaha knockers" may say about him, reduce his standing for honesty.

Newman Grove Reporter: The editor of The Omaha Bee feels relieved because the war is not to increase the price of diamonds.

Nebraska City Press: Newlyweds in Omaha who have been deprived of their educational privileges before marriage need not be embarrassed or humiliated. The Board of Education has made it possible for young married people to attend night school together and make up for what they missed in the grade schools. It is a unique plan and a good one.

Lincoln Star: A woman writes to say that if Omaha would give as much money to a bunch of good workers and let them hire a nurse to care for the sick and feed the poor, "they would save more church members at the end of a year than they will have after the meetings are over." Undoubtedly this woman is correct, but what of that? Omaha people wouldn't do such a thing. It takes Sunday and his religious razz-dazzle to dynamite the coin from the Omaha pocket.

Twice Told Tales

The Wrong House.

Hard luck had struck Johnson a fearful blow. In desperation he took on a job to sell books from door to door. All down one street he went without making a single sale. Then, turning the corner, he determined to try a new method. The first house he came to was large and shabby, and a frowny female answered his knock. "Have you a Charles Dickens in your house?" he asked politely. "No," snapped the female. "Or a Robert Louis Stevenson?" "No!" "Or Walter Scott?" asked Johnson, hope dancing momentarily in his eyes. "No, we ain't!" said the woman sharply. "And what's more, this ain't a boarding house. If you're looking for them fellows, you might try next door; they take lodgers!"—New York Times.

No Question of It.

A gentleman who was in France during the early stages of the war tells an amusing story of one of the fashionable ladies who were among the nurses in the hospitals there. She saw a wounded man being carried into camp. "Is that an officer or only a man?" she asked, pointing to the figure on the stretcher. "One of the bearers answered: "Well, mum, he certainly ain't an officer, but 'e's been 'it twice in the innards and we've dropped 'im three times and 'e ain't squeaked yet, and if 'e ain't a man I don't know what 'e is."—London Tit-Bits.

Kisses for Charity.

Nearly all the youth of the neighborhood attended the charity bazaar, and one by one they drifted to a stall where a tiny, shapely, scented gray kid glove reposed on a satin cushion. Attached to the cushion was a notice, written in a delicate feminine hand, which ran: "The owner of this glove will, at 7:30 this evening, be pleased to kiss any person who purchases a ticket beforehand." Tickets were purchased by the score, and at 7:30 a long row of young men assembled outside the stall. Then, punctual to the moment, old Tom Porson, the local butcher, who weighs 300 pounds and is almost as beautiful as a side of bacon, stepped to the front of the stall. "Now, young gent," he said, "this 'ere glove belongs to me. I bought it this morning. Now I'm ready for you. Come on. Don't be bashful! One at a time!"—Philadelphia Ledger.

People and Events

In one way or another genius rises to minor human necessities. Ed Foley of Kalamazoo, Mich., has invented a left-handed watch for left-handed people. The mechanism reverses the route of the hands. Time goes on just the same.

A detached husband proves quite a convenience for Anna Held in these parlous times. Born in Warsaw, reared in Paris and married to an American, whom she later divorced, her citizenship, as officially determined, descends from the ex-husband and makes her an American.

Federal authorities are trailing a bunch of wire-tappers whose operations in Des Moines and Chicago are believed to have netted a roll of easy money, estimated at \$50,000. Complaints indicate that an unnamed Des Moines man invested heavily on a sure thing and got stung.

General Sir Sam Hughes, head push of Canadian recruiting, expects to go to the war front. When he gets there something will be doing all the time. Speaking publicly at Toronto he says it is his plain to lead his troops in person on "the march to Berlin." No date has been set for General Sam's departure.

Wall street has it that Marcellus Hartley Dodge of New York peeled \$3,000,000 off the Midvale Steel deal and a heliop turned a tip on Schwabs into \$68,000. About the same time Frank K. Jackson, cashier of the Northwestern university, Chicago, played the same game with university funds and dropped \$2,000.

A Princeton investigator, addressing the convention of the American Association for Study and Prevention of Infant Mortality at Philadelphia, announced that the fine old Quaker stock and the descendants of New England pilgrims are steadily disappearing. Funeral notices of members, it was stated, often carry the melancholy epitaph, "Last of the family." The fault is theirs.

The Bee's Letter Box

Also: of Foreign Language Papers. OMAHA, Nov. 15.—To the Editor of The Bee: As chairman and secretary of a meeting of foreign language newspaper publishers of Omaha, held at the Commercial club Friday, we wish to correct the item under the caption "Editors Foreign Language Papers Want Patronage."

In the article, which purports to be a report of the meeting, the statement appears that these editors "organized Friday noon, with the idea of making proper representations to business men of the city in the form of a plea for what they term their share of the advertising."

The following resolution, unanimously adopted, clearly indicates the action taken, and cannot in any manner be construed to mean the above:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting to organize a foreign language press association of Nebraska at a meeting to be held at the Lincoln hotel Tuesday, November 16, 1915, and to hereby invite all publishers of foreign language newspapers in the state to join us on that occasion in order to complete such an organization and to foster our interests before the state meeting of the Nebraska Manufacturers' association.

Next Tuesday at the Lincoln meeting some such state-wide organization will undoubtedly be formed, and if it is it will be with the purpose in view of telling the manufacturing and mercantile concerns of the state the truth about foreign and foreign language papers by the only people capable of telling them, the foreign language editors and publishers themselves, and not "in the form of a plea."

The foreign language newspapers of the state need no "pleading," all they ask for is "fair play," and when once advertisers are told the truth about these publications in the proper way they will be accorded the moral support as well as advertising patronage which they merit.

Trusting that you will do us the justice of correcting your error, we remain, VAL J. PETER, Chairman. WALTER ROSICKY, Secretary.

Go to It, You Common People! CHICAGO, Nov. 14.—To the Editor of The Bee: President Wilson quotes six passages of scripture from Ezekiel to prove that God, through the Bible, sanctions war. Billy Bryan quotes gentle life and Jesus as against war. Now comes V. A. Bradshaw of North Platte justifying "Billy" Sunday as against some anti-Sundays.

Setting aside the fact that there are reported to be 600 contending achiems in the Christian religion, these three contentions of present specific knowledge are sufficient to prompt the inquiry as to what the Christian religion is.

Sure! The Christian religion is like other religions—it is a jack-pot organization by the crafty few to control the minds of the many. This applies not only to religion and priests, but to political parties and politicians as well, and for what purposes of control, authority, government, and the pecuniary interests connected with it.

As a political mountebank, Billy Bryan takes the lead in this country (Roosevelt having subsided, but his photograph we still have with us).

Contemplate a preacher as president of the United States, setting apart a day of universal prayer by the preachers of the same beseeching God to stop the war in Europe, and in the next breath quoting six passages of scripture to show that we should prepare to go into war ourselves. Most emphatically this does show that religion is the basis of political action by arbitrary power to control the minds and bodies of an unsuspecting people.

Politicians who have been sitting on an office for the last fifteen or twenty years, like old hens on similar nests, should get off the perch or be boosted off. The country demands a change to the living from the dead—that change of which Jefferson and Lincoln spoke. These things can be secured only by the common people through direct action and a well defined purpose.

Go to it, you common people! LUCIEN STEBBINS.

Editorial Siftings

Boston Transcript: The Spanish budget for 1916 shows a deficit of \$18,000,000. When did Spain go democratic?

Cleveland Plain Dealer: The president's quotation of scripture as a basis for national defense is perhaps considered by Bryan as a blow at him below the belt.

Philadelphia Ledger: It is said that the president tried to give Nebraska's share of the spoils between them. The only difficulty in believing the assertion is the fact that in a truly good reform administration there cannot be any spoils.

Indianapolis News: "The board of inventors," declares Prof. Taft, "is as impractical as a board of opera singers." And perhaps it is; but war would have been a very different thing today if it had not been for the work of the inventors, however impractical it may appear.

Springfield Republican: A moving picture company and a number of its actors have been fined \$5 apiece at Keeseville, N. Y., under the statute forbidding cruelty to animals. The particular offense was making a horse jump from a forty-five-foot cliff into the water. The sentence ought to be effective. A limit might as well be put to the thrill business before it gets any more deadly. Our civilization is not yet as fabled as Rome's was.

Philadelphia Record: The progress of democracy in Japan is indicated by the fact that for the first time the veil of secrecy about the enthronement of the Mikado has been dropped and the people have been present on the momentous occasion. A couple of years ago Count Okuma conducted a canvass for reelection and for the premiership, very much as an American candidate for president, or a British prime minister, would. He addressed the general public, not only in halls, but even from the rear platform of a train.

Tabloids of Science

A method has been invented by a Russian artist for painting several theatrical scenes on the same canvas, the pictures changing as the light thrown on them is changed.

An Italian scientist has figured that a square mile of the earth in six hours of sunshine receives heat equivalent to the combustion of more than 2,500 tons of coal.

Sizing the Harvest

Springfield Republican: This year's corn crop, in exceeding 2,000,000,000 bushels, shows what a self-made crop can do against a world of trouble. Thanks to the exceptional October weather, which reversed the pessimists, this year's corn crop is the most valuable the United States ever grew, practically a \$2,000,000,000 crop. Only once has it been exceeded in size, three years ago, but it is 15 per cent larger than last year's and 41 per cent larger than the five-year average.

New York World: The November crop report adds the mere trifle of 44,000,000 bushels to the great corn crop as indicated a month ago. It also adds only about \$400,000,000 to the value of the principal crops this year over what was last year the record-breaking total of \$5,000,000,000. This may help explain why the country has been able to take up a foreign loan of \$500,000,000 without any appreciable effort.

Washington Post: No longer is the United States depending upon war orders from Europe for national prosperity. The purchasing of arms and ammunition, which undoubtedly gave the first impulse to prosperity, resulted in the expenditure of enormous sums of money in other industries, and with a record-breaking crop in sight the railroads, barometers of prosperity, are at last working their way out of the financial desert. Crops rather than munitions of war are now the chief basis for American prosperity. The principal farm crops this year are worth \$5,000,000,000, exceeding by more than \$500,000,000 their value in 1914, the previous banner value year in the country's crop history.

Nebraska Editors

Frank P. Shields, editor of the Orleans Inquirer, has been asked by many of his friends to make the race for superintendent of Harlan county schools.

The Nemaha Beacon is the name of a new paper at Nemaha. H. Morgan, who has been operating a job printing plant at Nemaha, is editor and proprietor. William Best last week sold the Winnebago Chieftain to Homer L. Glover. The new proprietor announces that he will make several improvements in the plant.

A number of the editors of Nebraska papers last week wrote paragraphs commiserating Will Maupin, the new proprietor of the York Democrat, on moving to a dry town.

Editor Burt Kroesen of the Dakota Record at South Sioux City began issuing his paper as a semi-weekly last week. The Tuesday issue is called the Recorder and the Friday issue the Record.

The members of the Nebraska Press association are to decide by a referendum vote whether the next annual meeting will consist of a trip to the northwest part of the state on a special train, with the sessions at various stopping places or at one of the larger cities, as is the usual custom.

MIRTHFUL REMARKS.

"Queer how some women manage to get husbands. Look at that frump over there with a face that could stop a clock. Who knows how you suppose ever fell for a frump like that?" "I did. That's my wife."—Baltimore American.

Church—I see Professor Saddy of England says it will soon be possible to turn lead into gold.

Gotiam—in that case little Belgium ought some day to be a gold mine.—Yonkers Statesman.

"Did those party leaders refer to me as presidential timber?" asked Senator Borah.

"In a way," replied the busy worker. "They said you would have about as much chance as a wooden Indian."—Washington Star.

Husband—I wish you'd stop this everlasting cackling about my expenditures. Wife—No, I shan't. Cackling saved the capital of Rome and I'm going to cack. I can't save your capital that way.—Boston Transcript.

Eddy—Did the duke say he loved you? Kate—He said he loved the ground I walked on.

Eddy—Where were you when he said that? Kate—Out visiting papa's gold mine.—Fall Mail Gassette.

She—Why did you start so? He—Anxiously. Did I understand you to say your father was falling?

She—Physically, I mean. He—(Immensably relieved)—Oh, all right. I can't save your capital that way.—Boston Transcript.

"Flubud has made his pile as a manufacturer of axle grease and is going to retire." "And what will he do for an occupation now?" "Discuss ethical questions and give military advice to the president. I presume."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Mr. Frontaset—Will I have time to go out and get a drink, usher? Usher (referring to curtain)—It won't stay down a minute, sir. Frontaset (sharply)—That's my business.—Galveston News.

A RHYME OF LITTLE GIRLS

Meredith Nicholson.

Prithen tell me, don't you think little girls are dearest With their cheeks of tempting pink, And their eyes the clearest? Don't you know that they are best And of all the loveliest?

Of all the girls with roguish ways They are surely truest; Sunshine gleams through all their days, They see skies the bluest, And they wear a diadem Summer has bestowed on them.

Lydia doesn't care a cent For the newest dances; She is not on flirting bent, Has no killing glances, But without the slightest art She has captured many a heart.

Other sisters cut you dead, Little girls are never dead, They don't giggle when they're said Something very clever— They just get behind a chair, Frowning, smiling at you there.

Florence, Lydia, Margaret Or a gentle Mary, They form friendships that, once set, Never more can vary— Staunch young friends they are and true, Always clinging close to you.

Buds must into blossoms blow, Morn so early leaves us, Madals must into women grow, (There's the thing that grieves us) Pay the price of living curls, That's good-by to little girls!

ROYAL Baking Powder Absolutely Pure. Insures the most delicious and healthful food. NO ALUM—NO PHOSPHATE.

For Our Little Busy Bees Free Dolls

This Beautiful Doll will be given Free to the little girl, under 10 years of age, that brings or mails us the largest number of doll's pictures cut out of the Daily and Sunday Bee before 4 p. m. Saturday, November 20. This doll's name is Alice. She is twenty-five inches high, has light brown hair and brown eyes, and is beautifully dressed. Her picture will be in The Bee every day this week. Cut them all out and ask your friends to save the pictures in their paper for you, too. See how many pictures of Alice you can get, and be sure to turn them in to The Bee office, before 4 p. m. Saturday, November 20. If you don't win this Dolls, perhaps you can get one next week. Only one doll will be given to any one person. You Can See Alice at The Bee Office