

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss: Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the average circulation for the month of November, 1915, was 53,716.

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I thought for the Day Selected by Supt. W. W. Stetson. Never strike sail to a fear. Come into the port grandly or sail the seas with God.

A few more days to the filing finish. Come on in; primary running is great sport.

Mr. Ford secured a vast amount of publicity out of the venture, but its value as an asset is doubtful.

Talk of scarcity of dyestuffs is open to suspicion so long as aged beads fail to give the color signal of passing years.

The advancing price of gasoline has no bearing on the speed of the waterwagon. The latter moves on the dry steam of the occupants.

Congratulations to the weather man. His brand of holiday weather is second only to the Christmas tree as a booster of joy and good will.

Under the steady pressure of federal regulation, state railroad commissions have cause for worry.

Aviation scouting is a much more hazardous job than battling in the trenches. Similar consequences have been observed among high fliers in peace times.

A touch of business foresight marked the action of the Iowa man who crowded the Bible out of his grip. Bibles are available at all times, while wet goods become legal contraband with the new year. Moreover, the articles are not built for teamwork.

Wall street's prosperity is the real article. With the possible exception of the banks, no other Christmas tree bore a greater weight of golden fruitage. The beer income of a year ago has returned to the "large bottle and hot bird" stage of former times.

A band of women suffragists in New York threaten to desert the man-ridden east and migrate to the "free states" of the west. The movement deserves encouragement. It would diminish the surplus in the east, banish the deficit in the west and boost the joy of both sections.

Following the example of Waldorf Astor, Anthony J. Drexel of Philadelphia has expatriated himself, finding it "impossible to live in America as a gentleman." The action of a French court in awarding \$50,000 a year alimony to Mrs. Drexel will reconcile most Americans to the loss.

Hearts attuned to the spirit of "Peace on earth, good will towards men" manifest it rightly in sending to the throne of grace messages of thankfulness for the bountiful favors Providence bestows upon the American nation. The blessing of peace becomes all-pervading as we contemplate the misfortunes of other nations.

Secretary McAdoo and Floor Leader Kitchin disagree about the size of the treasury deficit. The former says it amounts to \$31,000,000 and the latter figures it at \$125,000,000. Disagreement as to the amount is of little consequence so long as the deficit is built on the customary democratic model. Deficits are the tags of democratic government.

Thirty Years Ago This Day in Omaha. The following delegates were appointed to attend the Missouri River Improvement convention at Kansas City: C. R. Chase, W. J. Broatch, C. Hartman, Fred Drexell, G. W. Linnzer, E. Rosewater, John H. Brock, C. Parker and J. S. Richardson.

Preparedness and Efficiency. The New Republic draws a very pertinent indictment against our great captains of industry, and one to which only a plea of guilty can be entered. Many excuses may be offered in extenuation or palliation, but none can remove the onus of the charge. It is simply that ordinary prudence has not been exercised by the men at the heads of the great institutions of the country. For example, it was inevitable that an increased demand for iron and steel would follow any resumption of enterprise, thus making pig iron a staple of which any surplus accumulation would find ready use when the business of the country took an upturn.

What is true of the iron makers is also true of the railroad men. Instead of taking advantage of the lull in business to make improvements and provide facilities for the increased traffic, all work here ceased until such time as swelling business rendered imperative extensions needed to handle the traffic. This charge can be continued through and against all branches of industry. It is not a pleasant picture, but it is characteristic and it shows a lack of any element of preparedness or efficiency in the general management of American industry.

Events have awakened the people of the United States to a better realization of the extent to which they have neglected those things which in themselves are fundamental and vitally necessary to a continuance of prosperity. With the new spirit aroused by the ambition to participate as an important, if not dominant, factor in the business of the world will probably come such readjustment of home affairs as will correct the condition on which the New Republic bases its indictment. Preparedness should not halt at merely making ready the defense of the country, but should be engrained into the industry and commerce of the nation, so that no future time will find us blamable as at present.

Land Loan Bill Not Remedy. A land loan bill is reported all ready to be presented to congress immediately after the holiday recess, in redemption of the promise to provide better means for financing the farms of this country. If the bill is to be judged by the meager outlines available, it will fall far short of giving the relief the farmer needs. It seems to be framed on the supposition that the chief need for money in agriculture is to be met through the provision that will permit the farmer to capitalize his operations by mortgaging his plant. This is the course followed in other industries, in commerce, and therefore it seems but the ordinary thing to apply it to agriculture.

A mistaken idea has been fostered through the publication of government reports, showing the increase in the number of tenant farmers in the country. These reports do not emphasize the further fact that the condition noted is brought about through the owner of the farm moving into town, there to enjoy in quiet life the rest he has earned by years of hard work, still holding the farm and relying on its rental for a portion at least of his own living. Thus the rented farm is supporting two families, instead of one, and often the tenant farmer employs help, so that the farm really supports three families. This condition is not the serious menace to agriculture that some contend. About the surest way to reduce the farm to the point where it will support but one family is to reduce its area. If it is the purpose of the bill to enable tenant farmers to become land owners instead of renters, then the measure is merely class legislation.

The farmer pays a higher rate of interest for the money he must borrow to carry on his business than is generally charged any other industry, and should be relieved from this condition. It is doubtful, though, if the expedient proposed by the administration at this time will have the effect sought. At any rate, we will bear more of this measure before it becomes law.

Ireland's Reviving Industries. War's crimsoned spurs are stirring the dormant manufacturing ginger of Irishmen. Ireland in spots responds to the impulse in an encouraging fashion. A spirit of reciprocity prompts the government to foster war industries in the country in exchange for Ireland's contribution to the fighting forces of the empire. In Dublin and Belfast new factories are turning out clothing supplies for the army. Toy making and cigar factories have sprung up in many cities and are actively competing for outside trade hitherto controlled by so-called "enemy countries." Carpet making is another industry stimulated by war conditions, and a commercial glass factory is projected in Dublin.

In a way these industries are small beginnings, holding the promise of bigger things. Their importance to Ireland cannot be over-estimated. The lack of industrial opportunities, outside of Belfast, deprived most of the youth of a chance of becoming skilled tradesmen, practically restricting them to agricultural labor, and is the prime cause of continued emigration. Should this industrial spurt prove a permanent revival of Ireland's by-gone manufacturing skill, it may be truthfully said that some good sprang out of evil.

Distribution of Labor. The commissioner general of immigration in his report to the secretary of the Department of Labor, makes several suggestions as to possible improvement in distributing foreigners who come here seeking opportunity to earn a living. Some of his ideas might be applied to the problem of the labor already here. The better use of the government employment bureau can be achieved through closer co-operation on part of state and city authorities. This is an easily remedied condition. Another suggestion is that railroads be permitted to make such rates to laborers in transit as will enable them to get to places where work is offered. To do this will require legislation, permitting the railroads to establish such rates. If it would relieve the situation that regularly occurs, when the jobless man is many miles away from the manless job, the needed permission might well be given. At any rate, it is worth trying.

Boom in American Exports

New York Journal of Commerce. The true measure of the expansion of the export trade of the United States must be found in our sales to non-belligerent countries and in articles other than foodstuffs or munitions of war. To have nearly quadrupled our exports to Russia, quadrupled them to France and Italy, and considerably more than doubled them to the United Kingdom would account for the addition of a billion dollars to the value of the exports for the first nine months of the calendar year 1915 over those of the year before. But the business is abnormal because the conditions that make it possible are exceptional and transitory. So, too, with the still greater ratio of increase of exports to neutral European countries like Sweden, Norway and Denmark, and the 50 per cent increase to the Netherlands. Most of this trade that filters through to Germany and Austria-Hungary in spite of the British blockade, and which is equally abnormal in character and equally lacking in the quality of permanence. Leaving Europe out of the reckoning, there has been a positive decrease in our export trade with the other great divisions of the world. Accepting the nine months of 1915, rather than those of last year, as the true standard of comparison, the gain in the value of our sales to Europe has been \$208,828,741, while the gain in the total has been only \$79,065,009. For the whole of North America, including Cuba and the West Indies, there has been a loss on the nine months of \$75,200,004, which is more than accounted for by the drop in the exports to Canada of \$75,630,884, and in exports to Mexico of \$9,028,297. In the exports to South America there has been a decrease of \$6,710,180. While our Asiatic exports show an increase of \$13,396,699, the gain is more than accounted for by the sudden rise in the value of exports to Russia in the nine months of \$22,329,579 in 1915—the rise most solely due to munitions of war and military stores sent to Vladivostok. Perhaps some allowance should be made on the same score to explain the ten million gain in our exports to Australia, mainly in virtue of which the exports to Oceania have increased from \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000. The exports to Africa show what is substantially a normal increase of \$4,622,661.

It is, of course, in products that go to satisfy the exceptional and artificial requirements of countries at war that our export gains have been almost solely registered. For example, of live animals, our exports for the nine months in 1915 were \$5,579,435, while for the same period in 1914 they were \$6,446,691. So also in the case of breadstuffs, the total for the nine months of 1915 was \$196,518,007, while for 1914 it was \$123,302,972. The exports of meat and dairy products show the operation of the same kind of demand, having increased from \$12,725,965 in 1914 to \$210,819,621 in 1915. Under the aegis of the war, there has been an increase in the exports of brass and its manufactures from \$6,038,246 to \$21,875,529; of billets, ingots and blooms of steel from \$2,659,067 to \$9,134,334; in horseshoes from \$76,197 to \$2,545,075; in firearms from \$2,928,278 to \$9,467,871; in metal working machinery from \$11,890,775 to \$30,544,129, and in wire and its manufacture from \$6,350,821 to \$17,796,634. Owing to the closing of the German markets, which took \$35,000,000 worth in 1915, copper exports have dropped from \$107,422,285 to \$71,118,261. But the value of explosives exported has advanced from \$2,350,715 to \$4,207,393 and of leather and its manufactures from \$46,384,129 to \$114,458,219. All things considered, it must be reckoned a remarkable circumstance that the amount of raw cotton exported has advanced from 4,329,698 bales to 6,833,043 bales—an increase of 54.4 per cent, although it should be noted that the value has advanced only 8.7 per cent. The exports of cotton cloths tell a somewhat mixed story. They have risen in value from \$24,669,214 to \$25,245,798, but much of this is accounted for by the purely accidental demand from the United Kingdom, which registered for the nine months \$2,669,468, against \$397,422 for the same period in 1914. For the notable increase in the exports of wearing apparel, mainly or wholly of cotton, war conditions must be given the chief credit. The figures are \$5,579,585 for 1914 and \$27,312,168 for 1915.

It is instructive to compare the present volume of our export trade with that of the United Kingdom. The latter is, of course, being conducted under highly disadvantageous conditions, fully one-third of all the country's workers being under arms. But returns for the nine months ended with September show a shrinkage in the value of exports of less than 25 per cent as compared with the total of 1914. Against our own export total of \$2,490,274,164 for the nine months the British show a total of only \$1,415,468,490. But this does not include goods taken from British government stores or deposits or goods bought by the government and shipped on government vessels. In other words, it does not include the munitions of war and military stores made in the United Kingdom for the use of British armies at the front. Under the head of manufactures the British exports show a total of \$1,060,000,000 against our \$1,204,000,000. Of these, under the iron and steel schedule, the sum of our exports for the nine months was \$251,112,462. The British classification does not correspond exactly to our own, but, roughly speaking, it shows under this same head exports valued at \$231,064,320. To our own total there should perhaps be added the exports of agricultural implements and of brass and its manufactures, amounting in round figures to \$42,000,000. But even then the total exports of the manufactures of the metals, of machinery, cutlery, implements and electrical goods do not greatly exceed those of Great Britain working under circumstances of great disadvantage. In the matter of textile exports, the United States is distanced as usual, the total of British cotton fabrics sold abroad being \$29,090,000 against our \$71,000,000, and of woollen fabrics being \$15,000,000 against our \$20,000,000, although the latter, under the impetus of war demand, has increased from \$2,500,000 in 1914.

Twice Told Tales

Slow Pay—Fast Driver. "What do you know of the character of the defendant?" the judge asked a negro washerwoman subpoenaed in an accident case. A white man had been arrested for careless driving of a second-hand car. "His tale," Miranda said. "Have you ever seen him drive his car before?" "Yes, sah." "Would you consider him careless?" "Well, judge, as fer de car—dat little thing ain't swifter 'nubbody, but being us is all here, I might as well tell 'em dat he sho' is keertless 'bout payin' fo' his wash!"

A Sure Sign. Governor Locke, Craig was talking in Raleigh about the difficulties of the profession of politics. "I am in hearty sympathy," he said, "with a ward leader who announced to his friends the other day that his new son—a nine-pound babe—bade fair to grow up a very successful politician." "How can you tell that already, Jake?" they asked him. "Why, the kid can't talk yet." "No," said Jake, "but he has already started trying to kick and shake hands at the same time."—Washington Star.

People and Events

A western benefactor, whose identity is not disclosed, bequeathed \$20,000 to Kate Claxton of "Two Orphans" fame. The bequest came as a pleasant surprise to the actress. The Adirondacks contributed \$1,000,000 worth of young trees for the country's Christmas joys. The Christmas tree custom will not long escape indictment as an enemy of the forests. Dollar bargain day at Madison, R. D., caught Frank W. Teacher and Jennie Nelson in the jam and a \$1 marriage followed. A search for more bargains wound up the eventful day. Alderman Milligan of New York City boasts of a marrying record of thirteen couples in thirteen minutes. The performance monopolizes the scoreboard in Gotham's matrimonial speedway. Albert Bruder of St. Louis breaks into local print with a lamentation on his unsuccessfull chase for a wife. He claims to have been jilted 150 times, though he has not yet attracted movies scouting for freaks.

The Bee's Letter Box

Ford's Peace Dreamers.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 24.—To the Editor of the Bee: There is no other business man in the world whom I admire so much as Henry Ford. In fact, he is my idol. Mr. Ford is a practical socialist. But the peace dreamers have made a laughing stock of him. In America as well as in Europe he has been given the mitten, officially. The question will soon be asked by many Americans: "Is it possible that the European nations cannot be influenced by money?" In reply, I would say that Europe does not worship the golden calf, as it is done here. That war has not caught Europe yet. The peace advocates of Europe may be classified as sufferers from "delirium tremens," for the reason that they know that talk of peace without a logical foundation is nothing but chaff thrown in the wind. We know that either the central or the entente powers will win, provided that the supply of shells can keep pace with the demand. Yet those peace dreamers do not know where to find the disease. If they cannot locate the disease, how in the world can Mr. Ford and his visionaries find a remedy for the war that is not wanted in Europe. If Mr. Ford would send a shrewd diplomat with millions of dollars to Japan and buy up all the ammunition that Japan can produce, peace would come soon to every home of Europe. FELIX NEWTON.

How to Prepare.

NORTH LOUP, Neb., Dec. 22.—To the Editor of The Bee: When the president advanced the issue of preparedness maybe he had not thought the matter over sufficiently to determine just where the discussion may lead to. If the subject be thoroughly discussed we must soon arrive at a conclusion that preparedness is not in having on hand at a dozen different places guns of an out-of-date type and powder and battalions to match. The nation may be crippled by excessive taxation and within a period of ten years have very little to show for the taxes. The real and true road to preparedness is not the act of showing a lot of out-of-date guns and gold lace. In modern times invention is the thing that has counted most to change the course of war and the fate of nations. What we most need is the proper preparation for turning out equipment that is of the most effective design. That can be accomplished by the equipment of three or four large plants, located in the districts where transportation may be best protected from invasion. The management of the plants should try out every new device where improvement is possible. But, in addition to that, those plants should be kept up-to-date, by which the most advanced equipment could be turned out in immense quantities within thirty days. The country should be divided into about four military districts, each having a plant. I would say that these plants should be located in Missouri, Utah, Tennessee and West Virginia, with complete transportation facilities. WALTER JOHNSON.

Women's Activities

Mrs. Lucretia Roberts of Santa Cruz county, Arizona, probably is the only real live woman sheriff in the United States, that is, she is a deputy sheriff. She wears a wide sombrero, carries a revolver and wears a deputy sheriff's badge. Mrs. Addie F. Howle of the School of Agriculture of the University of Wisconsin, says cows have souls and respond to music when milked. If she had her way the cow stables would have lace curtains on the windows, and the feed boxes would be porcelain. Mrs. Norman Galt, finance of President Wilson, was elected an honorary member of his class, '79, of Princeton, at a dinner given there last week. She is the second woman to receive such an honor, the other being Mrs. C. C. Cuyler of New York, wife of a prominent member of the class. Miss Alice McCoy won the baby pig contest in Louisiana, and Maude Phillips was the winner in Georgia of the second prize, a boy having carried off the first prize. Miss McCoy bought a pig with \$10 which she had borrowed from the principal of the school. It cost her \$8 to feed it a year, and she then sold it for \$50. Mrs. Inez Millholland Bolase-Vain, the suffragist, says that women should certainly have the right to propose, and her husband agrees with her. And she adds, "I did it myself." Her husband says he had never thought of proposing to Inez Millholland, because he had never intended to marry. Patents taken out by women in the United Kingdom during 1914 included: Inventions connected with dress, 14; nursing and medical, 30; mechanical, 24; household requisites, 20; games, 14; educational, 11; cooking, 8; total, 8; motor cars and cycling, 7; babies' requisites, 6; garden, 3; needlework, 3; aeroplane, 1.

Editorial Siftings

Washington Post: Two or three millions having passed from slaughter to casualties, they have now come down to the point where they are only recognizable as statistics. Pittsburgh Dispatch: Secretary Lane phrases it finely when he says "The American instinct for improvement serves the world's good." Uncle Sam is the world's pace maker. Brooklyn Eagle: Bessie by Rebel chickenery, Japan chickenery and Yuan Shih Kainery, the case of China is a sad one. But what can be expected of the Orient, where yellowness is universal? Philadelphia Ledger: Secretary Redfield's proposal to give the government power to confiscate foreign merchandise if offered here in "unfair competition" is another illustration of the extraordinary ravages which the bureaucratic idea can make in minds ordinarily capable of sane ratiocination. Baltimore American: As the richest man in Detroit, Henry Ford might meditate upon the fate of the richest man in Brussels, Mr. Solvay, the Carnegie of Belgium, who has just been sent to prison for insulting a German officer. The Carnegie of Belgium can have little illusion as to what an individual millionaire can do to settle world problems.

Tips on Home Topics

Boston Transcript: Fortunately when the Ancona note was sent to Austria there was nobody around the State Department to slip a tip to the German ambassador that Uncle Sam was bluffing. Indianapolis News: The way those diplomats think that they can fool the plain people by a few unnecessary notes is almost as naive as the way the politicians think they can fool the plain people by a good deal of unnecessary talk. New York World: Though the total number of immigrant aliens to this country fell to 238,700 in the last fiscal year from 1,238,400 the year before, there is an element of interest in the fact that 244,472 were between the ages of 14 and 45 and only 29,246 above 45. That should mean the addition to the country of a good quality of productive immigration.

Springfield Republican: Secretary Lane's plea for federal support of rural schools in large sections of the United States whose educational facilities are inadequate has a pitiful side. There will be precious little federal support of rural schools, probably, while an additional hundred millions of dollars a year is being used on a larger army and navy. Civilization even in this country, comparatively remote from the area of world conflict, is being checked by the war and its influence, so numbing to all progressive social and educational movements.

MIRTHFUL REMARKS.

Federal—This slave I am selling, sir, is a splendid thing for sprains and bruises of all kinds. "Crimson Gulch" has needed a doctor and a drug store for years and we never would have had business enough for

either if we hadn't fixed it so we kin shut up the saloons once in a while."—Washington Star. "The idea of that upstart talking back as he did to a society favorite. And they do say he was one time only a butler."—Baltimore American. "Maybe that is why he was so quick to answer the bells."—Philadelphia Ledger. Hub—Well, it takes two to make a quarrel, so I'll shut up. Wife—That's just like a contemptible man. You'll sit there and think mean things.—Philadelphia Ledger. Clergyman—Do you mean to say that your wife goes to church every Sunday without you? Husband—Yes, but it isn't my fault. I can't persuade her to stay home.—Chicago Post. "What is your occupation, Rastus?" "I'm de manager of a laundry sah, an' I makes a right comfortable livin'." "What is the name of your laundry?" "Hannah Maria Johnson, sah."—New York Times.

LIGHT AT EVENTIDE

Margaret Anderson in Southern Magazine. We are too tired to work—put up the tools! Too tired for music—let the old harp rest! Once for such idleness, we had been fool! Now it is wisdom—'tis only best! Give us a little spot—out there in the sun! A corner where the fire is warm and bright! A bit of bread and broth—and we are And ready for our journey in the night. No, no, we do not miss the labor now! This strange, perhaps, but all the music's brought! We do not feel the snow that's on the bryw. The trembling hand brings not a tremble thought. We like the little quiet, sunny spot; We chat and dote; we sometimes dream and dream. The fire's good—we never get too hot! And very good our bread and lentils seem! And no—we do not dread the trip to camp: One will go first and see it—how it is! Then wait nearby, to call the other home. And lead along the darker passages!

LAST TRAIN FOR FLORIDA LEAVING CHICAGO EVERY NIGHT. The Southland NEW STEEL TRAIN. Lv. CHICAGO 12.01 AM. Ar. JACKSONVILLE 8.45 AM. PENNSYLVANIA LINES. Only Through Train via Cincinnati and L. & N. R. R. Through Knoxville and Atlanta Over New Scenic Route. Drawing-Room Sleeping Cars, Dining Car, Observation Car and Coaches. Arrive Jacksonville in Time for All Connections. Particulars, also Tourist Tickets to Winter Resorts in Florida and South may be obtained from local ticket agents or by addressing W. H. BOWEN, N.D. Trans. Pass. Agt., 212-215 City National Bank Building, Phone Douglas 2003, Omaha, Neb.

FLORENCE is to be given next and believe me she is a very pretty dolly. She has such sweet winning ways that we would like to have her go to some little girl that didn't get a doll for Xmas. She would make that little girl so happy. Put on your thinking caps little Busy Bees, and see if you cannot remember some such little girl, and try to make her happy by collecting a few pictures to help her win Florence. Florence will be given free to the little girl under 12 years of age that brings or mails us the largest number of dolls' pictures cut out of the Daily and Sunday Bee before 4 p. m., Friday, December 31. Remember, you must send your pictures in ONE DAY EARLIER this week, because Saturday is New Year's Day, so the CONTEST WILL CLOSE AT 4 P. M. FRIDAY, instead of Saturday. Florence pictures will be in The Bee every day this week. Cut them out and ask your friends to save the pictures in their paper for you too. See how many pictures of Florence you can get, and be sure to turn them in to The Bee office before 4 p. m. Friday, December 31. You Can See Florence at The Bee Office