

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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DECEMBER CIRCULATION. 53,534

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 December, 1915, was 53,534.

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

The coming grand reopening of Panama canal happily launches a midwinter sail.

Don't worry! The undercurrent for Hughes is there, and cannot be kept from coming to the surface.

President Wilson deems his message of sufficient importance to be its messenger. Omaha's "Welcome" sign still shines.

Mexican exhibits of outlaws who have taken the involuntary suicide route are gruesome but conclusive evidence of well-aimed intentions.

The job of buying \$50,000 worth of automobile fire apparatus for Omaha's fire department ought to furnish quite a few joy rides.

Come on to Omaha, President Wilson, with your preparedness talk! And come on, Brother Bryan!—We are fair enough to listen to both of you.

It goes without saying that no lawyer representing a convicted criminal would be doing his full duty by his client without trying to procure for him a new trial.

Still, it would be the part of wisdom not to examine too closely into the election by which Nebraska adopted its first constitution as the initial step to statehood.

Nebraska is the only state with the presidential preference primary, but Nebraska seems to be the only state in which self-starters insist on using the machinery as a toy.

It is only in our American cities that health regulations and quarantine rules are so hard to enforce. The only way to stop the spread of contagious diseases is to prevent exposure of possible new victims to known cases.

Democrats are losing precious time in failing to tag their favorite for governor. There is no satisfaction for a republican in acquiring office by default. Moreover, voters are entitled to a few rounds for the trouble of going to the polls.

While the rumor factory of Rome had the doctors operating on the kaiser's body last Friday, at the same time Berlin reported the kaiser taking a fresh air ride through the city. In this as in other matters the kaiser persists in disappointing his enemies.

For the sake of preserving the peace of what is left, it is hoped there will be no delay in handing out the pay envelopes in the agreed day, to the peace missionaries at The Hague. In the present perturbed condition of the mission hesitation on the part of the ghost is perilous.

Trials of night riders puts New Madrid once more on the news map. On two former occasions the Missouri town delivered news thrillers worth while—an earthquake in the '30's and tin-clad navy news in civil war times. The lapse of time between thrills makes New Madrid all the more picturesque when it wakes up.



A riot call came in from the river near Boyd's packing house, where a gang of ice cutters were creating a disturbance. The trouble is still over the rate of pay and as between union men and nonunion men.

Charles H. Ross will succeed Joe Henshaw as clerk at the Paxton. Mr. Henshaw, it is understood, will go to St. Paul and take a position with the Hotel Ryan there.

Max Meyer & Co. is advertising masks and masquerade trimmings.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers entertained their friends with a ball at Lightguards' hall. The committee of arrangements consisted of A. L. Johnson, George Meyers, M. Decker, Ben F. Johnson, John Hill, John M. Bryer, Matt C. Parr, John B. Nelson, Z. T. Sprin, Noah S. Clarke.

The Ladies' Musical program was contributed by Mrs. Estabrook and the Misses Minnie Rotschild, Blanche Oliver, Minnie Brown, Edinger, Jeannie May and Julia Oliver.

The Home Circle club is planning to give a "Mikado party," which now is the social fad in the east. The Nebraska Society of Civil Engineers elected officers, among them, George W. Tilton of Omaha, president, and A. J. Grover of Omaha, secretary.

Bank clearings for the day were \$46,672. The coming charity ball is definitely fixed to take place at the Exposition building, February 21. John Evans, tax commissioner of the Union Pacific, has resigned to be succeeded by W. H. Russell, who comes from Detroit.

Don't Get Excited—The Way Will Be Found.

The Fides Achates who writes editorials for Senator Hitchcock's personal organ becomes greatly excited at The Bee's reminder that the real first choice of Nebraska republicans for president is Charles E. Hughes, and he throws several kinds of fits over our expression of confidence that a way will be found in due time in which the Nebraska delegation to Chicago will be lined up for Hughes.

Even the dullest perception can see that Senator Hitchcock's prospects of re-election, small as they are, will be worse than nil with the republicans rallying to Hughes as their standard bearer. Hence this sudden solicitude lest the integrity of our direct primary law be fractured in order to register the true popular will. But let not our democratic contemporary fear for the direct primary law; for the worst bump it ever had, or will have, was the one it received in the last democratic convention, when half the delegation from Nebraska at Baltimore bolted instructions just at the moment the candidate who won out in the primary was about to be nominated in the convention. So it ill behooves any Nebraska democrat to set himself up as the guardian angel of the presidential primary.

Neither need any one be distressed about The Bee's declaration for Hughes forcing the justice to be a candidate for the nomination when he has declined to permit his name to be filed here, and there is no way that we know of to print his name on the ballot. There are other states, however, where primary laws are different, or where delegates are chosen by convention, which will unquestionably endorse Hughes, if they do not instruct for him. Even this will not take him out of "the dark horse category"—not until the Chicago convention actually nominates him.

Conceding, therefore, the general and growing demand for Hughes among the republican rank and file, the question is not one of "defeating the purpose of the presidential primary law" but, on the contrary, of making it an effective instrument for that purpose when its serviceability is being threatened by the machinations of gallery-playing politicians.

What The Bee has said on this score, it repeats with more definiteness: We believe a way will be found in due time by which the republicans of Nebraska, through the primary, may express and enforce their real preference for president.

Forcing Greece Into the Fight.

Undetermined reports from Greece indicate the intention of the Entente Allies to force that country into armed participation in the conflict it has tried to avoid. This is a sequence of a series of costly blunders, both diplomatic and military. When Sir Edward Grey failed in his effort to induce Bulgaria to throw its strength against Germany, the importance of having Greece was magnified by many times. Similarly, the failure of the assault on the Dardanelles has enhanced the necessity of having Grecian co-operation in the new campaign that must be laid out for further military movements in that arena of war. The Allies must have a base from which to strike, if the campaign against Turkey is to come to anything but disaster.

Grecian politics are deeply involved in the situation, and the position of King Constantine is becoming precarious. He has tried to hold his country neutral, although his personal predilections incline towards the Germanic allies. Popular expression, as shown by two elections, denotes that the Grecians are opposed to Bulgaria, if not actually favorable to the Entente. This has supported the Allies in their violation of Grecian neutrality, which is now alleged to be reaching a point where the forced abdication of the king is considered.

The situation is in some degree analogous to that in which Italy was placed, the politicians there forcing entrance into a war that lacked much of having popular support, and was opposed by the king. These movements are but adding fuel to the flames that have consumed so much of European achievement. Several days will be required, perhaps, before accurate information will be given on this point, but the present outlook is that Greece is to become a base for the Allied forces.

Labor and Preparedness.

Diametrically opposed statements coming from leaders as to labor's attitude on the question of preparedness for national defense may confuse the public. In considering these statements, it should be kept in mind that Samuel Gompers is president of the American Federation of Labor, and that John P. White is president of the United Mine Workers of America, one of the many constituent bodies of the federation. At the recent convention of the American Federation of Labor, held at San Francisco in November, this question was brought to the front by a resolution offered by a miner delegate. The committee to which the resolution was referred reported adversely on it, and, after considerable discussion, the report of the committee was adopted by the convention.

This would seem to support Mr. Gompers in his expression of the attitude of the organized labor of America as to the defense of our country. We all deprecate war, strive to avoid it, but we must be reasonably prepared for possibilities.

When the tax levy was made, city authorities figured the maximum of appropriations permitted by the charter for every municipal department, but when the budget was fixed, several of these departments fell short of the amounts previously allotted. It would be interesting to have a diagram showing just how the different items have been diverted.

If President Wilson is seriously planning a speechmaking "swing round the circle," he ought to put Omaha on his date list. We are all ready at all times to accord a cordial reception to the nation's chief magistrate, regardless of his politics.

The democratic dinner marked the high tide of editorial diplomacy in Nebraska. Preserving the peace among democratic factions hereabouts for even a few brief hours is an achievement worthy of Henry Ford's recognition.

Timely Current Comment

What's the Matter with Nebraska? St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

WHAT Kansas tries to do us shows the persistence of the fixed idea. The very name suggests beneficence, property, auto-abiding manners, intelligence, universal striving for betterments, Americanism of the most typical and refreshing western brand.

But enclaves of Kansas as the republic's great laboratory of social and governmental progress has got on the nerves of the York (Neb.) Democrat. It declares that Nebraska, not Kansas, is the laboratory of material advancement and evangel of spiritual renewal for the union, and proceeds to prove it.

It says that Nebraska adopted the Australian ballot before Kansas even knew what a voting booth and a distinguishing mark meant. Nebraska had railroad regulation in effect while Kansas was struggling over it. Nebraska had laws for the protection of women wage-earners years before Kansas did. It had passed important social justice legislation for the relief of labor while Kansas was still deliberating over it.

The Democrat sweeps Kansas off the map with further declarations to the effect that mortgages in Nebraska are less per farm, per acre, and per capita than in Kansas; that per capita wealth in Nebraska is greater than in Kansas; that Nebraska has an annual production of farm wealth greater per farm and per acre than Kansas; that Nebraska has more money per capita deposited in banks than Kansas; that in fact, Nebraska with two-thirds of the population of Kansas has an actual total of bank deposits greater than Kansas; that Nebraska's permanent school fund and annual expenditure per capita for education exceed Kansas; that Nebraska has more students in colleges per thousand of population than Kansas; that Nebraska has a less percentage of illiteracy and of divorce than Kansas; that Nebraska has a less percentage of juvenile offenders and delinquents than Kansas, and a less percentage of prisoners in jails and penitentiaries.

The press of the country must do justice to Nebraska, even though tardily. Its blindness in the past is inexcusable. It should have known that Lincoln is a capital, a residential center and reform luminary from which all good things ought to radiate and do radiate.

Primaries Should Be Uniform of Time.

New York Times. Of the 991 delegates to the next republican national convention, the 985 voting delegates, if that body does not give the representatives of Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines the right to vote in it, 807 will be elected by primaries. In this reckoning the eight delegates of once conservative Vermont, which didn't yield last year to the mania for presidential primaries, but seems unable to resist it, are included. These delegates are not chosen as they should be, on the same day. The state primaries are held on different dates, the last of them almost overlapping the meeting at Chicago. For underground work from state to state, for secret manipulation and combination to control or circumvent the expression of "the popular choice" which the worshippers of that brazen calf, the primary system, fervently expected from the presidential primary, no better plan could be devised.

A Shoe on the Other Foot.

St. Louis Republic. It is not often that a president's message passes unnoticed in the news, but that is what appears to have happened with respect to the president's recommendation that the sum of \$4,000 be paid by the federal government to subjects of Greece, Turkey and Austria-Hungary as indemnity for the injuries they suffered in Omaha in 1910.

A violent prejudice against foreigners sprung up in Omaha about that time on account of labor difficulties and what was said to be the conduct of the Greeks toward women in the street. One of the results was a riot in which 1,500 Greeks were driven from the city. Of course, the claim is not a just charge against the federal government. It ought to be paid by the state, but states make no treaties. Therefore the usual course in such cases is to be followed and Uncle Sam is asked to foot the bill.

Twice Told Tales

Backing Him Out. Sir Herbert Tree's wit is well known among his friends, and they tell some very good stories about his funny remarks at rehearsals.

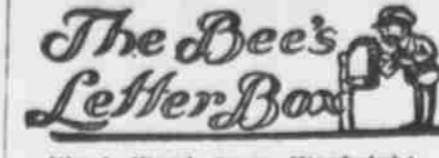
Once during the rehearsal of a certain play, Sir Herbert asked a very young and by no means brilliant actor, who fancied himself greatly to "step back a little." The actor did so, and Tree went on rehearsing. A little later the famous manager repeated his request, and the youth obeyed again.

Jolt for the Motorist.

Before motoring became as popular as it is today, a man was driving a big car through a country section several miles from a town, when he saw a man standing in the middle of the road.

Elsie's Find.

Six-year-old Elsie teased her mother unrelentingly for a chew of gum before they went into the theater, but explaining that it was impolite to chew in public her mother refused to give it to her.



Final Word from Weybright.

SCOTT'S BLUFF, Neb., Jan. 18.—To the Editor of The Bee: According to parliamentary rules the side that opens a debate has the right to close it.

If we are to take Mr. Henry Arp seriously in his ancient, mediaeval and modern history of the human race recently appearing in The Bee's Letter Box, one might easily imagine that Adam and Eve were descendants of the Germans, and that it was the Germans that fenced the Garden of Eden and planted the apple and fig trees that gave Adam and Eve their start.

This letter is interesting only as showing a state of mind. A German submarine fires a torpedo into one of our best passenger ships, our colors go down; over a hundred innocent, defenseless men, women and children bona fide citizens of the United States, acting absolutely within their rights, sink beneath the waves.

"I believe every fair-minded educator in the land will admit that there is absolutely no room in our public schools, below the tenth grade, for any foreign language, but now we are to have this 'made-in-Germany' language crammed down the throats of the primary pupils by force of law, and resort to the courts, just to 'broaden their minds'." One of the very first acts of our next legislature should be to repeal this obnoxious, un-American measure.

"Blank (to caller)—If I'd only known that this pleasure was in store for me I should certainly have arranged my business so as to be home earlier. 'Bobbie'—Why, pa, don't you remember me told you they were coming and you said, 'Oh, the deuce!'—Boston Transcript.

Father—Listen, Harold. The camel can go eight days without water. Isn't that wonderful? Harold—Not very—you ought to hear Charlie Brown tell one.—Judge.

Nebraska Editors

The Bloomington Advocate, H. M. Crane editor, has just finished installing an Intertype typesetting machine. Roy R. Barnard, who has been one of the proprietors of the Callaway Queen since its establishment twenty-two years ago, last week sold the paper to James C. Naylor and Henry B. Yates. Mr. Barnard has been editor and sole proprietor of the paper for the last fourteen years. He expects to get into the newspaper game again soon in a larger field.

The handsome "mug" of Karl L. Spence, editor of the Franklin County News, who is a candidate for the republican and progressive nomination for senator from the Twentieth district, adorns the pages of all the papers printed in the district. Mr. Spence is setting an excellent example for other candidates.

The Blue Valley Blade of Seward was thirty-eight years old last week. E. E. Betzer, the present proprietor, has been connected with the paper thirty-seven years.

Guide Rock Signal: The Signal has neglected to boost Frank P. Shields' gubernatorial candidacy because we felt that if we sort of held off he would offer us something good, in fact a rice jelly plum, but as yet he hasn't offered us a job as dog-killer. However, we are for Frank, even if making him governor does spoil the second best newspaper in the state.

WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES.

The National Association of Audubon Societies has begun a campaign to make all centers of the United States sanctuaries for birds. The association says that there are over 1,000,000 acres in cemeteries, which could be added to the bird reservations already created.

Miss Olive M. Riddleberger is a trained statistician and has done a great deal of work in connection with the last two censuses. She always was fond of figures and when she entered the census bureau as a stenographer she saw her opportunity to turn her taste and natural talent to account.

William Wenso Chung of the Chinese Educational Mission in Washington said the other day that "American friends must help save China from one of its worst enemies—namely, the practice of polygamy and early marriages, which increases the population too fast for the system of education to keep pace with."

The District of Columbia branch of the National Civic Federation will plan the block of model houses that is to be primarily a memorial to the late Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, made to hold 1,000 people. Everything will be on the co-operative plan, the houses to consist of various types for families of different sizes.

American women in Berlin have sent out an appeal for funds to defray the increased expenses of the German people. All the aliened-of-our-countries have been interested just as they are in other countries. The American Relief kitchen served 250 meals daily for nine months, then it had to close its doors for lack of funds. For the purpose of reopening it this appeal has been made for help.

GRINS AND GROANS.

"You must admire a man who always tells the truth." "I don't know," replied Senator Sorghum; "sometimes such a person is merely intellectually indolent and selfishly indifferent to people feelings."—Washington Star.

County Justice—Ten dollars. Motorist—I've only a twenty. Can you change it? Justice—No, but I can change the fine. I'll make it twenty.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Bill—Where's your brother? Jill—Oh, he's downtown learning to drill. Bill—Ah! Is he going to be a soldier? Jill—No, a dentist.—Yonkers Statesman.

DEAR MR. KABIBBLE, HAVE STYLISH DRESSED GIRLS THE BEST CHANCE TO GET MARRIED?—JENNIE. AND IF NOT, MANY A DRESSMAKER WILL GO BANKRUPT!

In the privacy of his home the village butcher was telling his wife of the arrival of a new summer resident. "She came in today," he said, with enthusiasm, "and I can tell you she's a real lady, brought up select and exclusive. She don't know one cut of meat from another, nor veal from mutton."—Christian Register.

He heard the call of Nebraska—The call of the great midwest. And he came from the haunts of childhood. To the land that he loved the best. He came with a young ambition, And the hopes of a pioneer. To win over difficulties And to conquer the wild frontier.

The valleys, the fertile valleys. The infinite plains of green. And the haze on the far horizon Was an ever alluring scene. It told of a land of freedom, And a country of hope to all. And he saw the unlimited future. And he came who he heard the call. The heart will pursue enchantment, And he came and subdued the wild. And the home that he found grew dearer. As the primitive was exiled. 'Twas a land with hearty welcome To each and to every one. Where he that was up and doing Was rewarded for what he done. 'Twas a country without traditions. Where a man was known by his worth. And where he was always honored. No matter his rank or birth. Where home though ever so humble, Was a haven of peace and rest. And the ending among the sumachs Was the place that he loved the best. But time in its flight brings changes. He was young and the heart was gay. Now the days of his youth are ended. And the frontier has passed away. And he lives in a modern mansion In plenty—he wants no more. Any the home of his childhood dearer. That he struggled to win in yore. The primal days are over. And the new has the old replaced. And a beautiful cultured country. Springs up where the Bison grazed; The hum of the modern binder. And the scent of the gasoline. They tell of an evolution. Like only his eyes have seen. He heard the call of the Nebraska. And he came, and struggled, and won. But the sign that was bright in warning. And the day will ere long be gone; Then let us extend him honor. And reward him with hearty cheer. While he awaits the reward of the faithful— The call to a better land. ROBERT B. CHANNELL. Newman Grove, Neb.

621 Residents of Nebraska

registered at Hotel Astor during the past year.

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MISSOURI PACIFIC IRON MOUNTAIN. There's nothing you have to do at Hot Springs, Ark.—yet there's all or as little as you want to do. There's lots of chance to be busy playing every minute—if you want to. But you don't have to work hard in order to enjoy yourself. At the Hot Springs of Arkansas you can just sit still if you'd rather—and breathe in the fine air—bask in the bright sunlight—feast your eyes on the surrounding mountains and their ever-changing shades of greens and browns and light and shade. You can just sit still and watch the people go by—for here you are playing every minute. Owned and Controlled by the U. S. Government. The Hot Springs are on the beautiful Government reservation—where the water is analyzed and tested, and is controlled and regulated by the U. S. Government. You can have a hospital here to send for soldiers and sailors for treatment. Steam, livey, skin and stomach troubles and they go away.



The Hot Springs of Arkansas. Come and Just Rest! There's nothing you have to do at Hot Springs, Ark.—yet there's all or as little as you want to do. There's lots of chance to be busy playing every minute—if you want to. But you don't have to work hard in order to enjoy yourself. At the Hot Springs of Arkansas you can just sit still if you'd rather—and breathe in the fine air—bask in the bright sunlight—feast your eyes on the surrounding mountains and their ever-changing shades of greens and browns and light and shade. You can just sit still and watch the people go by—for here you are playing every minute. Owned and Controlled by the U. S. Government. The Hot Springs are on the beautiful Government reservation—where the water is analyzed and tested, and is controlled and regulated by the U. S. Government. You can have a hospital here to send for soldiers and sailors for treatment. Steam, livey, skin and stomach troubles and they go away. Business Men's League. Hot Springs, Ark. Please send booklets. Name: Address:

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