

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss.: Dwight Williams, circulation manager, says that the average Sunday circulation for the month of July, 1915, was 47,003.

DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me, this 3d day of August, 1915. ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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Thought for the Day

If children grow up according to early indications, we should have nothing but geniuses.—Wolfgang von Goethe.

Now for "Billy" Sunday! And also the Letter Carriers!

Russia's feet are pointed east, but its eyes search the north. There lies winter, its best ally.

Germany would be equally safe in offering \$1 a pound for American cotton "delivered at a German port."

No difficulty is experienced in procuring ammunition for the typewriter batteries in the state house trenches.

A newspaper admirer throws this bouquet to Senator Hitchcock: "His support of President Wilson has been consistent." Does this belong in the joke column?

"The proof of the pudding is in the eating." The best assurance of the changed policy of German submarine warfare will be abstention from sinking any more passenger ships.

San Francisco's exposition has paid off its mortgage. So much to its credit, but Omaha's exposition still holds the championship belt for returning the money invested by the stockholders.

Indianapolis got a definite proposition for a rate reduction from the fire underwriters, conditioned on making specified improvements in the fire-fighting service. Omaha has never had anything held out but elusive prospects.

France agrees to permit exports of wines to the United States. Californians are fitting out tank steamers to carry their wines to Atlantic ports. Happily the fear of after-dinner speakers being seriously discommoded by the ravages of war is drowned in the bubbles.

While rejoicing over the favorable turn of American relations with warring powers, let us not forget the condolences due to war alarmists. The waning prospect of touching the national treasury for an extra half million dollars puts General Gloom in command of the militarist camp.

Credit should be given Mr. Bryan for working up an enthusiastic home following for the principles embodied in his famous peace treaties. It is especially heartening at this time to turn from the rude jeers of enemies and gleefully observe his party brothers in the state house putting to the test the Bryan claim, that a year of conversation will avert fisticuffs.

Appropriations for Defense.

When the congress convenes three months hence, about the first real business presented to it will be in connection with the program for defense. The fight that will ensue over this has already been forecasted by a report made to the president by Senator Tillman of South Carolina, chairman of the senate committee on naval expenditures, who announces there will be no more money spent on "pork barrel" army posts or navy yards. The senator did not give a definite list of the navy yards he proposes to abandon, but his generalization will suffice to preface the campaign he evidently has determined upon. How far he speaks for the senate cannot be told, although it is reasonably certain he will be continued as head of the committee on naval expenditures. The other chairman of senate committees having to deal with the appropriations for army and navy purposes are: Foremaster of Oregon, chairman on army expenditures, and Lee of Maryland, chairman on coast defense. In the house only two committees are required, and Hay of Virginia was chairman of the committee on military affairs at the last session, and Padgett of Tennessee was chairman of the committee on naval affairs. These committees will be reorganized when the congress convenes.

When the army was reorganized, several years ago, many smaller military posts were permanently abandoned, the reservations broken up and sold. If the strength of the organization is to be increased to any considerable extent it is not likely that many more army posts will be done away with. Some antiquated navy yards may be given over, but the probabilities are strong that none will be left out of the appropriation bill except after a hard fight.

One Way Out of the Dilemma.

Either democratic incompetence or democratic negligence has created a condition at the state house which threatens to become serious to Nebraska taxpayers. To our mind, the position taken by State Treasurer Hall is unshakable, namely, that he cannot lawfully pay out public money in his custody without a legislative appropriation of it, and that to do so would be a palpable violation of the constitution which he has taken oath to obey and enforce. The failure of the legislature to make appropriations does not warrant his ignoring of the state constitution even on demand of the governor or the advice of the attorney general, nor would it be one whit safer for the governor to disregard the law as proposed by intercepting the fees collected by his appointees, and using the money without putting it through the treasury. At the same time it would be in the nature of a calamity, we admit, to stop altogether the work of state food inspection, to say nothing of the loss of revenue if no inspection fees are earned.

While The Bee has no responsibility whatever for the democratic trouble-makers, we may suggest one way out of the dilemma for which there is lawful precedent. Let the governor and treasurer arrange with state depository banks to advance the needed money, which the legislature failed to appropriate, as a loan to be drawn on with due safeguards, to meet these requirements, and continue to pay the fees collected into the treasury, depending on the next legislature to make a deficiency appropriation reimbursing the amount advanced. This was once before done when the cost of bringing home the First Nebraska regiment was met by a popular subscription raised on the distinct promise that the legislature would afterwards provide for the return of the money. We realize that this is a roundabout way out, but it could be adopted without calling the lawmakers in special session and without making any public official invite impeachment.

Consolidated Country Schools.

Superintendent Thomas' address to the teachers of Douglas county is a reminder that progress in country school methods has been slow. In peculiarly apt illustration he points out how we have come up from the ox-cart to the automobile, but still cling to the one-room district school house. The consolidation of country schools has, however, gone beyond the experimental stage, and in many of the older states the districts have been brought together in such manner as to very closely approximate city methods, with all the advantages thus afforded for the proper grading of pupils, the organization of the course of study, and for economy of administration. Nebraska may not be quite ready to take this up as a general policy, because of the fact that in many counties the population is yet considerably scattered, but the last legislature passed laws which make possible the union of one or more districts, and where the plan may be advantageously adopted it will surely be put into practice. The state's best investment is in its citizenship, and in the development of that citizenship the public school is an element that cannot be neglected.

A Chance for Neighborly Courtesy.

With the Council Bluffs Commercial club driven by fire out of house and home just at a time when the inconvenience is apt to be most felt, our Omaha Commercial club has a fine chance for neighborly courtesy. Let our handsomely equipped Omaha Commercial club quarters be offered to the folks across the river, if not already placed at their disposal, and more particularly for the meeting of the League of Iowa Municipalities, for which Council Bluffs is preparing. Whatever Omaha can do in a friendly manner to help out Council Bluffs in this emergency should be done, and should be done without waiting for requisition, for the situation presents a case where reciprocity and co-operation are strictly in order.

Effect of Rates on Travel.

In their eager striving for restoration of former passenger rates western railroad managers flout the claim that the lower rates stimulate travel. They assert that the reductions procured by law have not increased the volume of business sufficiently to offset the cut in fares. However this may be, the railroad men in this attitude ignore the automobile cutting into rail travel as well as the disturbance of war. The former is certain to continue as a factor in local transportation. It is equally certain that electric lines will expand with population and grow in public favor by reason of reduced rates. A return to former passenger rates would tend to force resort to other means of transportation. This has been demonstrated in two striking instances. The Reading railroad formerly enjoyed a great volume of suburban traffic at Philadelphia. An advance in rates sent thousands of patrons to the trolley lines, and many trains formerly crowded are now, according to the Philadelphia Record, "operated at a loss." Even more impressive is the experience of the Boston & Maine railroad with advanced passenger rates. In June the slump in passenger revenue amounted to 14.04 per cent, compared with June, 1914. The wise railroad manager is he who looks ahead at ultimate results.

A Demand and Its Answer.

When all the world's business was upset a year ago much of inconvenience was promised for the United States because of the stoppage of sources of supply depended upon to provide certain articles not produced in this country. The very natural answer to the demand thus created was found in the preparations to provide for the home market by supplying home products. This could not be done at once, chiefly because of the lack of means for the necessary manufacturing processes, and to some extent because our manufacturers hesitated to embark on the new ventures while the duration of the war was uncertain. But enterprises of various sorts have been launched within the year, and are still being put forward, to the end that more and more of the articles hitherto imported are being produced here. Unwanted activity in certain lines of manufacturing has overshadowed these new undertakings to considerable degree, but from time to time bits of information make their way into print, giving news of the new life that is springing up in industry in the United States because of conditions forced by the war.

News Reviews and Interviews

BY VICTOR ROSEWATER.

THERE'S a lot of history back of the "Billy" Sunday tabernacle. What I mean is that if the site upon which the tabernacle is located could only speak, it could tell a story that would be almost as fascinating, and often as striking, as any of the discourses with which the Rev. "Billy" will inspire his audiences.

My first recollection of the block on Capitol avenue between Fourteenth and Fifteenth is that of a low flat-lying vacant ground. I believe I attended a circus or two there when a boy. The Fifteenth and Davenport corner (which is not in the tabernacle site) was occupied by the First Baptist church, a brick building quite pretentious for the early days. It was not until about 1885 that the Capitol avenue side of the square was taken over for the erection of what was called the "Exposition building," being a long, low structure, with square corner turrets, covering the whole half block, little cubby-holes shops looking out on the street fronts, reaching back under the gallery, the interior being of the usual arena or Auditorium type. The first use of this building was for the exposition, a locally promoted industrial exhibit, which enterprising Omaha business men got up to supply the void left by the loss of the state fair to Lincoln. These exhibitions were successful in every respect financially, and in the interval the exchequer was replenished from time to time by utilizing the building for other purposes.

It was at this period that bicycling and roller-skating were the height of novelty and all the fad. Roller-skating in the old Exposition building was a delight to young and old. There was so much straight-away room making it easy for timid folks who disliked the conventional standards. The bicycle racing furnished more exciting sport, and the tournaments pulled off by those kings of the wheel, "Jack" Prince and "Tom" Eck, and the other cycling celebrities, were memorable events. There were professional races and amateur races, six-day-races, and go-as-you-please races, and just bicycle races. The old building endured and re-echoed with the plaudits of partisans of the different favorites as they made a spurt or gained a lap or nosed out at the finish.

Another famous engagement in the old "Exposition building" or rather two engagements, I believe—was the season of grand opera given by the American Opera company with its unequalled galaxy of stars. For this purpose the smaller rink was fitted up, the bicycle racing furnished more exciting sport, and the tournaments pulled off by those kings of the wheel, "Jack" Prince and "Tom" Eck, and the other cycling celebrities, were memorable events. There were professional races and amateur races, six-day-races, and go-as-you-please races, and just bicycle races. The old building endured and re-echoed with the plaudits of partisans of the different favorites as they made a spurt or gained a lap or nosed out at the finish.

In due course of time the "Exposition building" encountered the same trouble which similar ventures too often have—an increasing difficulty to make receipts cover expenses—because of its limited use. As a consequence when it reverted back to the Poppletons, by whom the ground had been leased to the building association, it was divided in two by a wall running north and south across the middle, the Fifteenth street end being turned into a theater called the "Grand Opera house," and the Fourteenth portion being reserved almost as it was and then on called the "Exposition hall." The theater shared with the old Boyd and later with the new Boyd the patronage of amusement goers. At first it presented the usual vaudeville and variety shows of the day, but afterwards had to take the lead in road shows. The "Exposition hall," on the other hand, was rented out for all sorts of entertainments, dances, wrestling matches, prize fights, lectures, political conventions, church gatherings, etc.

It is significant that when the Methodist general conference met in Omaha this rainy month of May, 1915, it was here that the sessions were held, the hall being marvellously transformed to furnish a comfortable place of assembly for all the bishops, lay delegates and other notables of that great church organization who came here from all over the world. It is also significant that on the same spot where "Billy" Sunday is holding his monthly meetings, the first revival was held, twenty years ago, under very similar auspices of a combination of protestant churches.

Of political conventions, I recall two in particular held in this exposition hall that proved epoch-making in the politics, not only of Nebraska, but of the nation. These were the two state conventions of 1894 and 1895, which may be traced to the movement that culminated in the nomination of Mr. Bryan for president at Chicago two years later. At the republican convention, the forced nomination of "Tom" Majors for governor by questionable methods led to the sensational refusal of The Bee, and its editor, Edward Rosewater, to accept and support the nominee, and was followed by the first fusion by the democrats in Holcomb, the populist nominee, after a spectacular bolt by the anti-Bryan democrats, who held a rump convention of their own at the Paxton hotel. That was all very exciting, and will make an interesting story in itself if I ever get to it.

The old "Exposition building" turned into "Grand opera house" and "Exposition hall" finally burned to the ground, it must have been in the early spring of 1895, supplying a fiery conflagration as its last was cleared up, but except for the small store building on the Fifteenth street side, nothing in the way of a permanent structure has taken its place.

Strange to say, our beautiful new fire-proof Auditorium, which has just come into possession of the city, in a sense was transplanted from the "Billy" Sunday tabernacle site. The fund with which the Auditorium was built took its start from the profits of a series of open-air band concerts which were held in front of the Capitol avenue square. A musical festival association had been formed to supply the taste for popular music developed by the Trans-Mississippi exposition, engaging Bellstedt's Cincinnati band, and later Ellery's Royal Italian band under Ravelli as leader with such success that a neat surplus remained in the treasury. The directors of this musical festival association thenupon became the active promoters of the Auditorium, making way for the Auditorium association as their successors by whom its construction was financed and completed.

A special car from the west was occupied by Whitelaw Reid, editor of the New York Tribune, and his wife, and his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. O. Mills, the California multi-millionaire.

O. H. Gordon received a letter from Johnny Hitchcock telling of an accident while practicing on his bicycle on the Boston track, laying him up for several days, although he still hopes to be able to mount his machine in time for the Hartford meet.

Franklin Smith has resigned as director of the Omaha Glee club on account of his business engagements.

Both Phyllis and Joe Davis are now on the ground being prepared for the great race of Wednesday for \$5,000 to which the Omaha Commercial association has added \$500 for the winning horse in case it treats a heat in 2:15.

Mrs. T. J. Fitzmorris and Miss Ella Kennedy have returned from a ten weeks' visit to friends in Brooklyn.

The Union Pacific beat the Hastings team by a score of 11 to 6 pulling the frame out on the home stretch, after the visitors had piled up seven runs in one inning.

Charles B. Keller left for the east to be gone about two weeks. Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Murray of Oak City, Ia., are visiting their niece, Mrs. L. T. Hooley.

SECULAR SHOTS AT PULPIT.

Pittsburgh Dispatch: Evangelism is being pushed in Chicago just now under difficulties. At Rev. H. G. Moore's Thirty-seventh street tent there have been several riots within a few days, two fights between hoodlums, four persons seriously injured, the tent stoned, and the preacher expelled. The other night five of "the gang" tried to corner Mr. Moore in an alley, but he put them to flight and turned one over to the police. At last accounts the minister was more than holding his own.

Baltimore American: The fall opening of the churches is something much more than perfunctory resumption of the routine of church worship and work. It means a figuring forth of the open doors of spiritual opportunity and the open doors of invitation to the mercy seat of the Almighty. And they who worship God sincerely and in truth will repair to the church services at the very first and thus give their presence the influence it should exert for the stimulation of the church in enterprise and effect. For only as the workers are ready can the work go on.

Boston Transcript: To save the country from the ill effects of a deterioration within the ministry, all the Protestant churches should adopt at once this (Unitarian) definition, read in San Francisco: "An adequate salary for a minister in any given town or city is the amount which will enable him, his wife, and two dependents, to live with reasonable economy in a respectable house, in sufficient comfort to maintain the health of his family; to take sufficient recreation; to keep up his professional standards through the purchase of books and magazines, and by attending conferences; and to make due provision for illness and old age." And when this definition has been adopted, every parish should determine at once to fulfill its terms for its minister.

TABLOIDS OF SCIENCE.

Italy requires makers of cheeses containing oleomargarine to paint them red on the outside and properly to label them. Flour made from the kernel of the cottonseed after the oil has been extracted has been found to have much food value.

English experts have succeeded in removing birthmarks and other superficial growths that defied chemicals with radium.

Artificial rubber has been made from Russian crude petroleum, which contains chemical elements similar to those in California oil.

German chemists have found that the yolk of eggs are colored by a pigment similar to that which gives autumn leaves their golden hue.

One part of cornstarch to four of salt will prevent the latter becoming caked in a salt cellar and will keep it from tarnishing silver.

Gutta serena obtained by French manufacturers from the leaves of the caoutchouc tree is said to be more durable than that obtained by tapping the trunk. The use of a new drug discovered two years ago by Prof. Horwitz of Cornell university has been attended with such encouraging results in the treatment of so-called incurable cancers at the New York Polyclinic hospital that Dr. W. H. Axtford of that institution believes it may prove the long-sought cure for cancerous growths.

AROUND THE CITIES.

New York city has armed its harbor boats with guns for use on river pirates.

Pittsburgh slaughtered 5,000 rats during the wrecking of the city's market house and thousands got away.

Yakima in the state of Washington puts out the claim of being the cleanest city in the United States.

Salt Lake City's water supply is so diminished by drought that lawn sprinkling is permitted only on three days of each week.

Rock Island, Ill., a city noted as a birthplace for freaks, fads and frauds, plans to prohibit all forms of amusement on Sundays.

Des Moines is leading to the front as a market for war horses. Foreign buyers have leased premises for the inspection and purchase of needed animals.

Down in old St. Joe a girl driver of a jitney, being refused a fare, hauled the tightwad to the police station, collected the price of the joy ride and the police court took a fiver for the persuasion.

Chicago's health board reports to the mayor that municipal operation of the entire garbage reduction works of the city will make a profit of from \$100,000 to \$150,000 a year. Part of the plant is now under lease to a private concern. Last year the plant had a deficit of \$100,000.

Des Moines hotel keepers accuse the automobile with cutting a painful gash in their business. In the "good old days" country people coming to town usually stayed over night. Now they come in their limousines, do business, take in the shows and soot for home the same evening.

SIGNPOSTS OF PROGRESS.

Water issues from an artesian well on a Georgia farm with sufficient force to light its owner's house and barn with electricity and to give him power for small machinery.

New York City has received the first of ten rapid fire guns to be mounted on its police boats. Their attention will be devoted not to the navies of the world, but to river pirates.

In the twelve months ended April 30 there were 87 merchant vessels built and officially numbered in the United States. The gross tonnage of these ships was 179,000.

In order to reduce freight charges California wine is to be shipped to New York in a specially designed tank steamer very similar to an oil freighter. The boat will make six trips a year and will transport 4,000,000 gallons in that time.

A new experiment in the treatment of state wards will be commenced soon in Connecticut, when fifty boys selected from the inmates of the reformatory at Cheshire will be put to work at road-building. They will wear no distinctive uniforms and will receive 50 cents a day. Some of the big railroads have been using powdered coal with very satisfactory results. The coal, finely powdered and dried, is stored in receptacles from which it is blown into the firebox in jets of air pressure, much the same as oil fuel is used. The dry powder is converted into gas almost instantaneously, the temperature of the firebox is not lowered and the objectionable heavy black smoke is obviated. This method is also more economical of fuel than ordinary firing and materially lessens the labor of stokers.

People and Events

War fever is subsiding in the east. Editors are turning from international affairs and striving to solve the great home problem: "Why do the trousers of public men bag at the knees?"

An attempt to inaugurate in Chicago the whiskered chautauqua kiss tried out on W. J. Bryan in Kansas proved a lamentable failure. A litigant, overjoyed by a favorable decision, tried to do the act, but attendants saved the court from a smothering smack.

Four representative citizens of Philadelphia constitute a committee delegated to write up a review of the reformation and cleansing of the city by the present nonpartisan mayor. The task of showing that Philadelphia is really reformed, not to mention the cleansing, calls for literary versatility of a high order.

A bunch of straws indicating the direction of trade winds comes from the Factory Magazine of Chicago. A poll of 25 manufacturers in the east and middle west on the prospects of fall business show 123 reporting prospects "exceptional," "fine," "above normal" or "good," "eighteen" "fair" or "fairly good," the rest "dull" and "poor."

One of the country's woeful needs is laughter, and then more laughter. May Irwin has written President Wilson telling him so, at the same time urging upon the importance of creating the department of laughter and offering to start it with a torrent of pre-historic jokes and a deluge of amiles. May does not need the salary half as much as the administration needs a smile-maker.

Mrs. Josephine Schmidt, 71, of Rock Island, Ill., has served notice on the grown-up kids of Adam Gassman, 70, a wealthy widower of Chicago, that if they venture on her premises where Adam is rusticated, something will happen to them. Mrs. Schmidt thinks her great has been mistreated by his children and she proposes to give him all the comforts of home in his second childhood. What more could a lonely widow do?

WHITTLED TO A POINT.

Even bad people seldom fail to appreciate goodness.

It is also difficult to unteach a new dog old tricks.

Men who take things for granted get many a hard jolt.

No. 1 figures largely in the calculations of most people.

Nothing short of a strike will arouse a bass drum to action.

Don't worry if you are dead in love, you will come to life again.

Men who might have something worth while to say seldom say it.

Many a man has proposed to a clotheless woman without knowing it until later.

You may have noticed that the self-made man always acts as his own press agent.

After coaxing a girl to sing one usually has to do something desperate to get her to quit.

We once heard of a man who never told a lie—but he was dead long before we heard about it.

When an old woman looks at a fashion magazine she usually does it for the purpose of making fun of the styles.

It is difficult to rise above trouble if the trouble is a balky automobile. Usually one has to climb out and crawl under.—Chicago News.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.

"What's the trouble in the household?" "Mother gave away all of father's old clothes. And he retaliated."

"As to how?" "By throwing away all her old medicine bottles."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"Speedit certainly does tell yarns about the long-distance trips he takes in his suit."

"Well, there ought to be plenty of yarn in a long spin."—Baltimore American.

Mrs. Waynup—You are happy with your husband? Mrs. Blase—Yes, indeed. Mrs. Waynup—I'm surprised. You were so suspicious of each other at first.

Mrs. Blase—Yes, but that's all past. Now each of us has hired a detective to watch the other so it takes all that worry off our minds.—Judge.

KABIBBLE KABARET

DEAR MR. KABIBBLE, MY FIANCÉ NEVER BRINGS CIGARS TO THE ENGAGEMENT. SHALL I BREAK MY ENGAGEMENT?

WHAT WILL HE GIVE YOU YOUR FATHER A CIGAR AND THEN YOUR FATHER WILL BREAK YOUR ENGAGEMENT?

dress the lecturer said: "What did the rich man call for in hell? Was it whisky? No, my brethren. Was it rum? No. Was it brandy? No. It was water; simply water. Now, brethren, what does that show us?"

"Voice from the Rear"—It shows where all you teetotal fellows go.—Boston Transcript.

"Don't you care for the opinions of posterity?"

Yes, replied Senator Sorghum. "But after eugenics produces a race of perfect human beings I don't believe that there is any chance of this generation's being able to command anything from posterity more than tolerating pity."—Washington Star.

REMEMBERING.

Edmund Vance Cooke.

"The poem which we reprint below," says Current Opinion, "has been published by the author for private circulation. It was inspired by the loss of a little daughter 10 years of age and it will make a poignant—but not too poignant—appeal to all who have undergone a similar experience."

In the twilight gloom of your own white room, I listen to hear you stir, And I look for you when the door swings to, In a place where you never were.

I look for you in the first faint hue Which the earliest springtime wears, And I search the maze of the golden haze Which the opulent autumn bears.

I look in the spray of the Milky Way, I search in the violet a nook, I gaze in the mild, sweet eyes of a child, And oh! were it but your look!

I have sought, I have sought, but have found you not; I am bruised by the blind, blank wall; And yet, dearest one, though found in none, I have found you in them all!

For wherever is hint, be it tone or tint, Of the beautiful, good, or true, Afar or at hand, on sea or on land, There is something which speaks of you.

You have made your home in the field and foam; You are freckled in the sunlight's ray; You are part of the dark where my heart is dark, As the aging night grows gray.

You are part of my innermost life, dear heart, And are part of the uttermost star; You are one with the god and the soul of God, And because you have been, you are.

DO YOU KNOW?

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is the wonder of the stu! and if so you will be proud of it in your home

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