

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 daily circulation for the month of September, 1914, was 56,519.

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

Whether Sherman said it or not, it is so. Carranza's and Villa's opinions of each other are ours, too.

If you feel you must vote a "slate," be your own slate-maker.

With Turkey in the game, why, of course, it will become a "holy" war.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, the father of that perfect boy, is himself only a youth of 73 years.

It was only to be expected that Turkey would get into it some way before Thanksgiving.

St. Louis has a "free" bridge, or would have, if it had been at liberty during the last ten or twelve years to complete it.

That mutual pledge of the allies not to consider any peace proposition separately is apt to be subject to some severe tests.

The greatest product for export trade that can bear the label, "made in America," is the pact of peace for warring Europe.

The Detroit jury hit the professional bribe-giving "detectives" squarely between the eyes. But was there a bribe-giving newspaper back of the deal?

At his last appearance in the Omaha auditorium, Secretary Bryan went through the brotherly-love act with Mayor "Jim." Is he now to repeat it with Senator Hitchcock?

Admitting, for the sake of argument, that the ultimate effects of the war will help the United States, the United States does not need help so badly as to seek it through such means.

The vote-by-mail law is available only to absentees who still happen to linger within the state borders. The voter who goes out of the state, and remains out over election day, disfranchises himself.

"Billy" Sunday leaves the churchmen, where he goes, no chance for a come-back if they do not take to his ways. For he plainly says beforehand, "If you engage me, you engage my methods." And no one can by now be in doubt of "Billy's" methods.

Two pretty girls are to be at every voting booth in Omaha to hand out cards inviting a crossmark under the suffrage amendment. Oh, paw! The last time Nebraska voted on the suffrage amendment the good women served free coffee and sandwiches at the polls.

It is explained that President Wilson will not make a personal appeal for Roger Sullivan, because Postmaster General Burleson's speechifying endorsement of Sullivan was "with the president's permission." No, gentle reader, this is not Russian, but our free United States.

Those German gunners who wonder to be able to bombard a city like Antwerp and avoid hitting designated buildings, which by agreement were to be spared. One could almost believe that the innocent bystander might watch the shooting with perfect assurance of safety.

Julius Fester is making preparations to reorganize Omaha's sister club with Prof. Walter F. Harting in direct rehearsal. There are some fifty sister players in Omaha.

Mr. and Mrs. William Mack, who have been visiting in Germany, and other parts of Europe, for several months, arrived home.

George Knight White, of the Omaha National bank, passed the necessary examinations to the bar. Mr. White is the first English lawyer admitted to practice in Douglas county.

According to word from Chicago, John A. McNamee has just made a record trip with a trainload of cats which he took through from Council Bluffs in twenty-one hours and twenty minutes.

Turkey's Entrance.

Turkey's final alignment on the side of Germany in the present war has seemed inevitable from the first. While it throws the sultan against his old allies in the Crimean struggle, France and England, it affords him another excellent opportunity for that long coveted vengeance on his ancient enemy, Russia, whose aim always has been the Turk's expulsion from Europe. Turkey does not forget how perilously close to the realization of that aim Russia came during the last Balkan war. Germany, in the meantime, perfected its compact with Turkey, so that this alliance has been discounted since the present war began.

It would not be strange if Turkey's action led to another Balkan uprising. That is, if it fired other Balkan states into action with the allies. But it has a graver significance even than that, namely, the possible effect on the cause of Pan-Islamism. All along speculation has been rife as to the possibility of anti-British revolts in Egypt and India, such as already darkens the horizon in South Africa. True, British-Indians are fighting valiantly for the allies' cause at present, but once the sultan, as the head of the Mohammedan church, emblazons the Crescent and calls on Moslems everywhere to rally to the holy cause, there is no telling what might happen. Of course, in addition to the Turks of British India and Egypt, there are those of the African provinces of France and Italy, who might also respond.

Such a contingency cannot now be viewed as more than a possibility, yet as such it must not be too mealy disregarded. Everything being fair in war, as in love, Germany may be expected to exercise its tactful influence toward helping along any plan calculated to fire the flame of Pan-Islamism in the boom of all devout Moslems. With the sultan, himself, waving the Crescent, it is questionable if any other influence would be necessary. If all Moslems in those countries did respond, it would entail additional burdens upon the allies, Britain especially, although it might not necessarily form a determining factor. There is this hindrance to the Pan-Islamism shibboleth, that Germany, no less than Russia or any of the allies, ranks with the "unbelievers," in the Mohammedan's eyes. Yet it must be remembered that English, French and Sardinian support of Turkey in the Crimea did not serve to disparage the holiness of that struggle by the sultan.

The Tax Amendment.

COLUMBUS, Oct. 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: Kindly explain to the many readers of the Bee the nature and purpose of Amendment No. 1 to the constitution "providing for uniform and progressive taxation" to be voted on November 3, and greatly oblige.

Adoption of the proposed tax amendment to the constitution of Nebraska means to rescind and repeal the present first section of the article dealing with revenue and finances, and substitute a new section for it. The present constitution expressly limits the legislature in raising revenues to "levying a tax by valuation so that every person and corporation shall pay a tax in proportion to the value of his, her or its property and franchises," and to additional special taxes, uniform as to the class, upon certain specified occupations and businesses and none other, namely, "peddlers, auctioneers, brokers, hawkers, commission merchants, showmen, jugglers, innkeepers, liquor dealers, toll bridges, ferries, insurance, telegraph and express interests or business, vendors of patents." In other words, the present constitution requires the revenues of the state to be raised, with the exceptions noted, by a property tax imposed upon all alike according to the value of the property they own, whether tangible or intangible.

Another section of the constitution, which is not sought to be changed, permits the legislature now to exempt from this property tax holdings "used exclusively for agricultural and horticultural societies, for school, religious, cemetery and charitable purposes," but making such exemptions is not, nor will it be, compulsory on the legislature.

The proposed substitute section removes all these limitations on the legislature in raising revenues, excepting that "all rules of taxation shall be uniform as to any given class." If this amendment is ratified, it will be within the discretion of the legislature to substitute for the present property tax, special taxes on incomes, on corporation revenues, on any business or occupation, or to tax land alone, and make the rate for such taxes "graduated and progressive." It will also be within its discretion to provide "reasonable exemptions" as it pleases in addition to those now enumerated in the constitution. In a word, the proposed amendment gives the legislature practically full power to raise the revenue needed for the state by any known form of taxation, or any combination of such forms, subject to the sole requirements of a uniform rule for each separate class.

Incidentally, it should be understood that this amendment was voted on provisionally in the recent primary, being endorsed by a majority of the votes cast thereon by each political party, and under our law becomes thus entitled to have counted as "Yes" every party circle ticket, unless a different purpose is manifested by a cross in one of the squares opposite the amendment where it appears on the ballot.

We felt it in our bones all the time what was coming, and it has come. Lincoln newspapers are openly soliciting votes for both Lincoln candidates for university regent—the one on the democratic ticket and the one on the republican ticket—so that with their Lincoln hold-over regent, Lincoln would absolutely own the management of this state institution. The pretext for this hog-it-all play, that the two Lincoln candidates are opposed to consolidation, should make the voters generally more determined to favor consolidation.

The Rev. "Billy" Sunday rather squelches the "home knocker" by telling us that he hears that from some one in every city he visits. Allowing for all of Omaha's shortcomings, no intelligent and truthful man knowing conditions here as compared with other cities can run down Omaha.

Dr. Cook has sunk into obscurity because he was pronounced an impostor—St. Louis Times. Who knows but he sunk down by the weight of the box office receipts he got denying that he was the impostor?

When Ghosts Walk

Hallowe'en Customs. Like most of the world-wide festivals wearing patriarchal whiskers, Hallowe'en bears enough pagan trimmings to prove its antiquity. Delivers into the misty tomes of ancient times are convinced that the eve of St. Samhain's day is a survival of the pagan feast of Pomona, the goddess of fruits and seeds. Druids of ancient England observed the day in giving thanks for the harvest. One of their teachings was that on this day Saman, the Lord of Death, mobilized his mighty host and made a night of it. To propitiate this fearsome god the Druids held great ceremonial exercises, poured out long prayers and dispensed gifts to gain his good will. At the same time they lighted huge fires in honor of the god Baul, in Wales the local custom is kept up to this day, and on the Welsh hills the flare of bonfires may still be seen on the last night of October.

Many of the weird customs of Hallowe'en still linger in Great Britain and Ireland and in Germany, but these countries are too busy with grave tasks just now to indulge in festive ceremonials and merry-making. In Scotland any child born on the eve of October 31 is supposed to be endowed with a mysterious faculty of holding communion, while sleeping, with the invisible world. In north Wales the peasantry cast stones into a great fire and after covering them up with ashes retire to rest. The next morning the ashes are swept aside and the stone sought, and woe betide those who do not find their stones. Their future life, it is supposed, will be very uncertain. Upon some of the Channel Islands the fisherfolk choose Hallowe'en to propitiate a sea god whom they know as "Shony." At night they gather at the seacoast, brew ale and confide it to the waves, mean while repeating the words: "Shony, I give you this cup of ale, hoping you will be so kind as to send us plenty of seaweed to spruce our land the coming year." Afterward they return to a church and offer prayer to God, following which revelry of all kinds is participated in. In sections of Ireland Hallowe'en is kept in all its enticements. Burns has indelibly embodied the customs of the Irish in his poem, "Hallowe'en," in which the general good fellowship, and roasting, apple dunking, nut-burning, ceremony and candle snaging are quaintly described.

Hallowe'en Husbands. The dumb cake ceremony is a common custom in Ireland on Hallowe'en night. A piece of cake is kneaded with the left thumb in absolute silence. If the lips are even slightly moved the charm will be broken. However, if nothing is said presently there will appear the future husband of the faithful lass. Another prevalent custom has to do with molten lead, which is cast into cold spring water. The fanciful shapes resulting denote the kind of a husband a girl will get. For instance, if the lead takes the appearance of a dragon the resemblance is at once compared, and the eager girl is told of the result. Now bring forth the lead and melt it down quickly. So hold the key over and through the wards pour. Until the lead runs down like meal through a sieve; Remember, remember, on nutty November. The charm is complete at any Hallowe'en.

In England "nut cracking," has like object in view. A number of nuts are named by as many girls for their lovers and to a bed of coals. If a nut jumps the lover is unfaithful—probably he is a man of spirit and finds conditions too hot for him. But if a nut should burn and burn he surely loves his lass. If both nuts, named for a maid and her lover, burn together, they will be married. It is well to advise those on the anxious seat performing this ceremony to use dry, combustible nuts and a fine bed of red coals.

Burns gives us a picture of the nutburning rite: The squire's goldwife's used horrid pits Are round and round divided, And monie lads and lassies' fates Are there that night decided. Dr. Johnson knows the "Vicar of Wakefield" says that "the rustic religiously cracked nuts on All Hallowe'en eve." Scotland, too, carries out its celebration in much the same manner and often the unromantic cabbage plays a prominent part in the festivities of the day. After a young girl has been carefully bathed and she grooms her hair to a cabbage patch and pulls the expectant group with the prize it is carefully judged in the following manner: The amount of earth clinging to the roots shows the amount of her dowry—better luck to her if it's a wet night—the shape and size indicates the appearance and height of the future husband, while the flavor of the heart and stem signifies that gentleman's disposition.

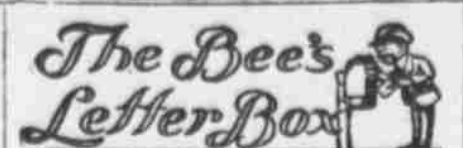
Popularity of Apples. Apples also play a prominent part in all Hallowe'en celebrations, and the reason is found in the observance long ago of the day called "Lass Miss Ubbahit" November 1, which was dedicated to the annual presiding over fruit and seeds. The pronunciation, which was Lamasool, became corrupted into Lamb's wool, which term was applied to a Hallowe'en beverage made in Ireland of roasted apples, liquor and milk. This drink seems to have been the first apple toddy—at least it was not much different from the apple toddy of today. The most prominent part played by apples in Hallowe'en gatherings today is in Ireland, where every child on Hallowe'en day sends an apple to the alien market at St. Ives, but all over the world, whenever Hallowe'en is celebrated, lads and maidens bob for apples, roast the delicious fruit and eat it before a looking glass in order to conjure up the inquirer's future mate. Burns thus writes of a small girl: Were Jennie to her granny say: "I got you no w' m' granny? I'll eat the apple at the glass, I got frae Uncle Johnny." A maid may also throw out of the window the end of a ball of yarn, watching it unroll and repeating the Lord's prayer, when, at last, she will be rewarded by the sight of her future husband. Another favorite test is to take a candle, and walking into an empty room, eat the apple there before a mirror. In the glass you will see the face of your future partner. Place on the table three dishes—one with clean, one with dirty and the other no water at all; allow a blindfolded person to place his hands in one, the dish's position being changed after the person has been led from the room. On being admitted and taken to the table on which the dishes stand the person must touch the one nearest him or her. If the empty one is selected, it means single blessedness; if the one with dirty water is chosen, it means a hasty marriage. Place a glass of water with a silver of wood in it by your bed when retiring, and if you dream of falling off a bridge into a river and being rescued, you will see the face of your sweetheart as the heroic lifesaver.

In this country the boys are well provided with amusements and often play "snap-apple." In this game a shaver with apple on one end and a lighted candle on the other is suspended from the ceiling. Whoever catches the apple in his mouth takes it as a prize, while the boy who is unfortunate enough to catch the candle only gets burned.

Hallowe'en need no longer prove an interruption to the American citizen's daily constitutional, for by the courtesy of the police force and numerous friendly inhabitants the flour stunt and bean shooting are things of the past, but it is still advisable for all those desiring their lawn benches and other movables for the next season to have them in by October 31.

People and Events

Mr. Edison sleeps but three hours a night. His afternoon siesta must be a peach. Monticello, the Jefferson estate, is valued at \$25,000 for tax purposes. The owner wants \$500,000 for it. A finer tip on values was never passed up to an assessor. For the benefit of those concerned it is announced that navigation of Salt river will proceed on November 4, regardless of the stage of water. Seals may be reserved in advance. Scores of pretty young French and Belgian girls, gaily decked with their national colors, are selling newspapers in the streets of London. The vivacity and enterprise of these exiles help to cheer the fear-ridden residents of the big city.



Woooster Again Asking Questions. SILVER CREEK, Neb., Oct. 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: Kindly permit me through The Bee to submit to Mr. Bryan the following questions for answer during the course of his address in Omaha?

Is it not a fact that congress in the matter of the salute-to-the-flag incident in effect delated to President Wilson the power to make war on Mexico? How long will it be, in your opinion, before President Wilson will get that salute to the flag for which he sacrificed the lives of seventeen American boys and some 300 Mexicans?

Is it not a fact that President Wilson invaded Mexico, captured and holds Vera Cruz for no just cause whatever, and that the Mexicans would be fully justified in attacking our forces there and driving them out?

If you are sincere in all your self-glorification on account of your many peace treaties, wherein the contracting parties are to wait a year before declaring war, why did you demand of the president, under threat of tendering your resignation, that he carry out the spirit of those treaties by waiting one year before attacking Mexico?

Is it not a fact that in his dictation to congress as to what it shall do and what not do, President Wilson violates the constitution of the United States, and his own official oath to support that constitution?

Is it not a fact that congressmen knuckled to the president through fear of losing patronage, or that he will defeat them when they may come up for re-election?

What constitutional or moral right has the president to seek to determine in any manner whatever who shall represent the people in another co-ordinate department of the government, or in congress? CHARLES W. WOODSTER.

Richardson Will Vote Straight.

OMAHA, Oct. 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: In the current issue of The Bee there appears an article relating to certain statements that I am alleged to have made regarding the citizens' ticket for the school board, which I regard as very unfair to myself and to the committee. This article seeks to leave the impression that I am violently opposing the citizens' ticket.

The facts are as follows: Several days ago, in a conversation with some friends, I made the statement that in selecting a ticket, I thought the candidate's ability as a voter should be considered as well as his qualifications as a citizen. This article says that because of the fact that the ticket was made of business men largely that I accused the committee of playing "damned rotten politics."

I have never questioned the honesty or sincerity of the gentlemen who had to do with the making up of this ticket. What I did say was that I thought that it was poor politics not to have the ticket more diversified in character. So much for what was said and reported. Following is what was said and not reported (because, perhaps, it had no interest in this connection): I made the statement then and there that I should vote the citizens' ticket, and I have advised every one of my friends to do the same.

As to the criticism of the committee made by me, it was never on the score of their political or personal honesty, and to that extent I felt that your article is unfair to them and to me.

I am going to vote these eight men because I have confidence in them and because should two or three of them be defeated the board will not stay in the hands of the element that is now using it and has been using it for years as a political plaything. Yours very truly, JAMES RICHARDSON.

An Appeal for Fair Play.

OMAHA, Neb., Oct. 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: I wish to thank you for your liberality in printing the column, "Who's Really Who, as Candidates for the School Board." I have been enlightened, as many others have doubtless been. I have been a resident of Omaha for several years and have always been interested in watching school affairs, as I was a principal for several years before coming here.

Noticing so much publicity being given the "citizens' ticket" in a couple of Omaha papers, I am led to ask a few questions, which are prompted by a little looking around that I have done, and will certainly be grateful if you will put them before the public. Why were only a few self-appointed "citizens" allowed to constitute this committee and all others excluded? Is this answered by a recent announcement that this same committee is already preparing to wage a campaign in the spring for city officials?

I have read of the so-called investigation last spring. It took to me like a political frameup to put the High School of Commerce out of business, by attacking the principal, who has done so much for the city, probably more than any other teacher, else why has the school attracted so much favorable comment all over the country?

I have repeatedly read the statement of the board that in the account of their dropped or demoted teachers were not testimony, as it was nothing that could harm the principal, the school or any one. Were they not disposed of on account of unwholesome methods calculated to depose the principal and place one of their number in the principalship?

Why is the present faculty and student body a unit in strong support of the conduct of the school under Mr. Ruessel's supervision?

I have learned that the school board at St. Joseph paid Mr. Ruessel a much higher salary than any other teacher and offered to raise it if he would consent to remain there. Why did the secret service men sent to the cities where he has lived for the last twenty-five years come back empty handed?

I hope that your sense of fairness will give this letter space in your columns, for there are two sides to every question, and, as a former school man, I am confident that the biggest side has not been shown in this case.

J. H. NORRIS, 29 South Twenty-fifth Avenue.

Consolidation in a Nutshell.

LINCOLN, Oct. 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: Although I have been a student at the university but six weeks, I have formed some very definite conclusions regarding university consolidation. Perhaps I have been influenced in part by local because in common with several hundred other students of the agricultural college I take part of my work at the farm and part at the city campus. This means a loss of at least \$9 a year in time and carfare to every student of

CHERRY CHAFF.

The home campus extensionists say that if the university is not consolidated that the agricultural college students will be able to get all their work at the farm. It is true that a student might perhaps get enough credits there to graduate, but he could not get some of the work he wanted. For example, I am now studying botany under Dr. Bessey. It would naturally be impossible for Dr. Bessey to give lectures at the state farm. I expect to study sociology under Dr. Howard, literature under Dr. Sherman, history under Dr. Caldwell and economics under Dr. LeRoanigol. The time of such men is too valuable to waste in trotting back and forth between two campuses. Therefore, the agricultural students must continue to waste time and carfare or be deprived of contact with some of the men under whom they most desire to study. The present city campus has a very poor location, surrounded as it is by railroad yards, wholesale houses and the retail districts of Lincoln. The growth of the city will make the situation worse, even if the campus is enlarged.

The extent to which the northwestern part of Lincoln has been turned into a business district is well illustrated by an interview which appeared in the Lincoln News last summer. The school district is constructing a new school house on a block which corners with the proposed extension to the campus. A well known citizen of Lincoln, who owns a large amount of property in this part of the city, bitterly condemned the school board for constructing such an expensive school building. He said that a \$25,000 building would be sufficient, and gave as his reason that that part of Lincoln is rapidly ceasing to be a residence district. Yet this same man has been an ardent advocate of the state expanding school of a university plant in a locality which he says can be served by a \$25,000 public school building.

If it were not for the property owners of this part of Lincoln and the merchants who profit from the proximity of the students, the objection to removal would be infinitesimal. Personally I believe that the voters should consider the interests of the university in preference to the interests of the property owners and merchants of Lincoln. VERNON H. SEABURY.

SAFETY FIRST.

J. M. Lewis, in Houston Post. Tell your wife that you think that her new bonnet is a dream. "Why, I hadn't heard of it," replied the neighbor.

"Oh, yes, there is. My George had to sit up with sick friends three nights last week."—Detroit Free Press.

"Willie, is your father a rich man?" "No, Sailee; he is a professor, so I can be educated for nothing."

"Oh, that's nothing! My father is a minister, and I can be good for nothing."—Harvard Lampoon.

Tell the big guy who walks past you and who lets his big foot fall on your corn that it doesn't matter that it doesn't hurt at all. Safety first.

And tell Younghub when he asks you to his house to have a plate of the food his bro has cooked him that you have another date. Safety first.

Tell the German who informs you that the German fleet will seize all the wells of other nations that you know it will, with ease. Safety first.

Tell the Russ who tells you that the Russ will put the Germans out. That you've always plugged for Russia, that shall win without doubt. Safety first.

It is great to be pugacious and to wear your fighting clothes. But diplomacy is always better than a busted button. Safety first.

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Four new tenants came to us last month on the recommendation of satisfied tenants in the building. Ask any tenant what he thinks of the service and comforts of THE BEE BUILDING. "The building that is always new" For rooms inquire of the Superintendent, Room 103.

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