

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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OCTOBER CIRCULATION. 55,104. 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 October, 1914, was 55,104.

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

That General von Hindenburg is some orator as well as a fighter. Nebraska has now joined the procession of workmen's compensation states.

Only one more week until the president will again "have congress on his hands." Lord Kitchener crowds too much into a few words to make a good space writer.

Charity workers must not become uncharitable in their allusions to one another. No matter when consolidation is to arrive, Greater Omaha comes closer every day.

The man who can smile while paying his taxes is evidently the one described as smiling through difficulty. Vera Cruz is the one bright spot on the Mexican map, but how long it will remain demoralized is a question.

Germany is drilling an army of over 1,000,000 men who have not yet seen service. Here's hoping they never will see service.

The appearance of posthumous stories in certain magazines of late may bear out Sir Oliver Lodge's theory as to returned spirits. Still, it would not be surprising if December should bring, even to the Nebraska Orange belt, a sniff or two of below zero weather.

Cleveland is a city that never wearies of doing. It is still trying to collect that \$12,000,000 tax payment from John D. Rockefeller.

One gratifying thing about the war is the absence so far of any serious charge of neutrality violation on the part of the United States.

Members-elect of our Nebraska legislature seem to be possessed of more good resolutions than usual. Will it mean any that there will be more good resolutions broken than usual?

Note that the mobilization of our charity agencies and resources is proceeding almost as systematically as the mobilization of the big armies.

Two essential reasons explain why Omaha achieves such distinct success as a convention city; first, it has the spirit and hospitality, and second, the organization for taking care of conventions.

Denver imposed death penalties on five murderers in the last year, and life sentences on three others, which ought to make quite an impression on other gentlemen thinking of becoming murderers.

Gossip down at Lincoln is speculating on why "Med" relocated in Omaha when he came back. Up here, his friends have never been able to furnish a satisfactory answer as to why he ever left us to go to Lincoln.

The leaders of the progressive party in conference at Chicago this week are to decide on future plans and policies. But their experience has already proved that decisions of the political generals are not always ratified by the high privates.

The Union Stock Yards company at its annual meeting elected these officers: President, John A. McShane; vice president, A. H. Swan; treasurer, William A. Paxton; secretary, M. A. Upton; other directors, P. E. Her, Frank Murphy and Thomas Swobe.

Postal Inspector J. D. King has been transferred to Chicago, and John Stein of Wahoo comes to take his place.

Marshal Cummings has received a request from the chief of police of New Orleans to send two members of the Omaha force to serve for the Cotton States' exposition.

Superintendent Jarrow reported to the school board that \$20 had been noted from the entertainment given by the high school, with a suggestion that the investment in a piano was preferable to a clock.

Union Pacific Auditor Young has returned from an extended trip over the road.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Meyer have returned from Europe after an absence of nine months. They establish themselves for the winter at the Millard.

John McCaffrey, formerly of this city, is back from the west. He has been in the Wood River country, and around Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

Bel Sherman arrived in Omaha from New York City to accept a position with Max Meyer & Bros. Co.

"Talk Business, Not War."

That the great conflict has come to stay—at least for an incalculable length of time—is now certain. It is plain that the contest for supremacy now going on will in all probability last for a year or more; nor is it to be expected that when a decision has been reached it will be a final one. Wars breed wars; and Europe may be expected to exist with drawn swords for another generation or more—St. Louis Times.

In support of this view, the Times calls on the people of the United States to pay less attention to the war; to turn away from it and to the more important task of beginning in earnest "to fight our own constructive, industrial battles," made possible in some degree by the forces of destruction at work abroad.

Undoubtedly we have been too much absorbed in the war and yet it is the great, overshadowing world event and we cannot expect to get entirely away from it. We can, however, and must, exert a much better effort toward the restoration of confidence in our own affairs; toward seizing full advantage of all the opportunities and demands arising to us out of the deplorable situation in Europe. To quote the Times again: "The Americans, who are at peace, must get down to the task of supplying the lack in products and labor which has come about, and which must come about in an increasing measure, as a result of the industrial inactivity of millions of men across the sea."

In this connection the little motto now conspicuous in many places, "Talk Business, Not War," is not only excellent advice, but evidence of the fact that some of us have already buckled down to this task. It is not necessary to believe with the St. Louis paper that Europe will continue for years in a state of war to see the importance of a complete restoration of self-assurance and with that the co-operation of all the industrial energies and forces of the country.

"The War Machine." When folks talk about "the war machine" as if the battles between modern armies were fought by mechanical devices, they are apt to convey a totally wrong impression. The equipment of the troops put in the field has changed, it is true, in each succeeding period that has elapsed, from the earliest time of savage warfare, but the essential unchanging unit is the man behind the gun. Success in war, now as always, consists of damaging the enemy to such an extent that he can no longer inflict damage in return, and the enemy is not the equipment, but the men who make the equipment dangerous. "The war machine" cannot be dissociated from the human element by any sophistry of words.

State University Policy. Although going to too great length and detail for popular reading, the published letter accompanying the resignation of President Allen of the board of regents of the University of Nebraska reviewing the past work of that institution, and outlining his view of what should be its future course, raises the whole question of university policy. Mr. Allen is eminently correct in his conclusion that the university, maintained as the capstone of its public school system by a state like Nebraska, cannot properly lay stress on student numbers, or the extent of campus and buildings, or on a limitless curriculum, but must work out definite boundaries for its activities, and make the quality and character of its work count most.

What our Nebraska State university must aim at is to make itself serviceable to the people of this state, rather than to the people of Texas, or Canada, or South America, or Japan. Nebraska will continue to contribute to the student bodies of other great universities that have exceptional attractions or offer training in special fields, but the student who wants a good practical all around education that will fit him for the usual demands of citizenship in the community from which he has come should be best accommodated in our own university.

The fact that Nebraska is an agricultural state, and has no mines or minerals, that its cities and towns are of moderate size and modest pretensions, and that it has comparatively little concentrated wealth, must not be overlooked. In this connection it is interesting to note that Columbia university, located in New York City, is disposing of its experimental farm and withdrawing its instruction in practical farming, realizing that it is and must of necessity be a city university. By contrast Nebraska should develop and accentuate its agricultural college, and should not hesitate to draw the line against a subject that can be more appropriately taught elsewhere.

The next four years will see the University of Nebraska newly housed, and almost completely rebuilt, and while it is in this transition state, the chart should be drawn by which its further progress is to be guided.

No Profit in Professional Crime. No less an authority than holy writ tells us that the "wages of sin is death." A newspaper feature writer puts the point of the low wage of wrong-doing in the pungent term that "The devil is the meanest boss and the cheapest pay in the world." This is said introductory to illustrating the exceedingly small percentage of robbers who make even so much from their criminal occupation as the ordinary day laborer receives for his humble, but honest toil.

The "wages of sin" are indeed "astoundingly small," and if the men who go into law-breaking as a business—the porch climbers, footpads, robbers, highwaymen—could only be reasoned with from no higher level than that of the emoluments from the trade, they might then be convinced of the wisdom of making another business selection. Experts tell us that penitentiary records show the scantest minority of such criminals who even make day labor wages. It has undoubtedly often occurred to the average person that the man who undertakes a livelihood by house-robbery, for example, is not only taking every chance in the world on his life, but exhibiting the poorest sort of business acumen. For in the great majority of cases, the swag is trifling. Even where it is large, the crook has an additional task on his hands to convert it into cash. Indeed, this is often a greater and more hazardous job than the original robbery.

But we imagine expert opinion would be that the majority of those engaging in criminal pursuits are actuated by some other instinct than that of merely of "easy money." Perhaps if it were otherwise, it might not be so hard to counteract the tendency toward crime.

In the Wake of the War

Arousing Moslem World. A proclamation signed by the sultan of Turkey and twenty-eight priests has gone out to the Moslem world, calling upon all able bodied followers of the prophet to come forth and wage a holy war against the "hated infidels," represented by the armies of Great Britain, Russia and France. The value of the proclamation as a rallying force has been doubted heretofore. A holy war was proclaimed against Russia in 1876; but it did not accomplish for the Ottoman empire as much as did the concert of the powers, which drafted the treaty of Berlin and forced Russia from the gates of Constantinople. Similar efforts were made when the Balkan allies dismembered Turkey in Europe, but were futile in preventing the surgical operation. The reason why the threat of a "holy war" has lost its terrors lies in the fact that the Moslem world is far from being a united body. The leaders of the prophet's followers in the "holy city" of Mecca claim supremacy over the sultan of Turkey, and have permitted that functionary to exercise sacred privileges on payment of annual tributes. The Moslem world of India is not likely to be aroused by the call from Constantinople. A large number of Moslems, are included in the India continent now fighting with the allies in France. Nor is it likely the desert Arabs of Northern Africa will heed the call, for they remember how Turkey a few years back, scuttled from Tripoli and left them to fight Italy alone. To give visible effect to the proclamation of a "holy war" the sacred flag of Islam must be unfurled. Very little is known about this banner, esteemed the greatest treasure of Islam, but the color is said to be green, and to have come down the ages from the hands of Mahomet. No infidel has ever seen it and where it is safeguarded is a secret.

Death Toll of Disasters. Terrible as are the ravages of war, they are far surpassed by some other disasters, which, from time to time, overwhelm the human race, says the Scientific American. The Franco-Prussian war killed about 1,000,000 in seven months. The death toll of the Russo-Japanese reached about 200,000. A single earthquake (177 in India) has been estimated to have caused 300,000 deaths. The fatalities of the Messina earthquake in 1908, cannot have been far short of 100,000. A tidal wave in 1908 drowned 27,000 persons in Japan, causing a greater loss of life than the whole war in China in 1894. The earthquake in Japan in 1705 is said to have killed 200,000 people. The Lisbon earthquake in 1755 destroyed 60,000 human lives, while 40,000 were lost in the same year in earthquakes in Persia. Terrible as such disasters are, they pass over the multitudes of the human population of our globe as the merest ripples on a mighty sea. The total population of the earth is somewhere about 1,800 millions. Annually there are added to it 14,000,000 souls. Every year at least 30,000,000 are born, and 30,000,000 or 70,000,000 die. This means a daily birth rate of about 200,000, a death rate of 180,000. The daily increase in population 40,000. In comparison with this irresistible swelling tide, what are the great battles, wars, or earthquakes, but almost microscopic ripples. If we imagine that the power were given to some despot to order a wholesale slaughter, and that gullotins were kept busy beheading one man every minute, night and day, this would add only three quarters of 1 per cent to the existing death rate!

Organizing an Irish Brigade. John Redmond's request for the official recognition of an Irish brigade has been met, a Dublin correspondent reports. The nationalist leader indicated that his country had a right to claim that Irish recruits for the expeditionary force should be kept together as a unit, offered as far as possible by Irishmen and composed, if possible, of county battalions, "so that Ireland may gain national credit for their deeds and feel like other communities of the empire, that it, too, has contributed an army bearing its name in this historic struggle."

Since that manifesto was published recruiting in Ireland, north and south, has been active, and now the Irish brigade, as outlined by Mr. Redmond, is being formed. It will consist of the Sixteenth division of the new army composed of twelve purely Irish battalions, with headquarters at Mallow, County Cork. Most of its officers, including the commander, will be Irishmen, and Mr. Redmond has agreed to regard the division as the Irish brigade.

Lieutenant General Sir Lawrence Worthington Parsons, a former "gunner" and a King's county man, has been appointed to the command. Sir Lawrence formerly held an Irish command, and he did good service in South Africa, being present at the relief of Ladysmith. Since then he has been inspector general of artillery in India. He was knighted on his retirement two years ago.

Fighting and Foot Ball. Among the odd, curious, and pathetic incidents in connection with the European war, following is especially striking: "During a lull in the fighting a short time ago at one of the long battle lines in the west, the French soldiers were asked when they observed their British allies withdraw from the trenches to a position in the rear and begin a foot ball game. Tunes and caps were thrown aside, teams representing different bodies of troops were organized, and war for the moment became a minor matter. Several of the battalions had lost heavily during the fighting which preceded the recess, but for the moment this was forgotten, and although the men were covered with clay, and stiff from hours in the ditches, the spirit of the sport reined for the time being."

People and Events

Fortunately, Thanksgiving day is an unknown institution beyond the Atlantic. If it existed, observance this year would be cruel irony.

The genteel hobo who loaf in New York hotels, warm the best chairs and never drop a quarter in the slot, have been shoved out of one Fifth avenue hotel and requested to stay outside. The idea of giving guests more comforts for their money carries enough novelty to make it popular.

The distinction of being the only negro judge in the United States is held by Robert H. Terrell of Washington. He was appointed civil justice of the District of Columbia by President Roosevelt in 1903, and in 1908 was made one of the six judges of the municipal court of the district.

Charley Schwab comes back from war-torn Europe with an unusually fine stock of optimism in his system. For three years past the steel magnate couldn't see a rift in the clouds of gloom with which he clothed himself. But the clouds vanished as soon as he pocketed a bunch of foreign contracts. A stimulant for it is reported in Washington that Victor Mordock, defeated candidate for United States senator in Kansas, will hit the Chicago market next summer. If that line of work falls of results, a job awaits him on the Wichita Eagle, where Victoria Mordock manages the captive bird. Victor and Victoria are pardoned from way back.

Twice Told Tales

Morgan's Goat. Congressman Frank O. Smith of Maryland smiled the other evening when the quotation, "Necessity is the mother of invention," was used at a Washington dinner. He said he was reminded of Morgan's goat. Some time ago a man from the city called on Morgan, who lives in the suburbs, and while sitting on the veranda he noticed some children playing with a goat and wagon on the adjacent lawn. "Say, Jim," suddenly remarked the visitor, as the team came nearer, "what in the world is the matter with that goat?" "Nothing in the matter with him," was the easy rejoinder of Morgan. "Why?" "He looks peculiar," returned the city man, with a puzzled expression. "What is that thing on the front part of his head?" "Boxing gloves, was the smiling rejoinder of Jim. "I strapped it there to make things a little bit easier for the kids."—Philadelphia Telegraph.



In Favor of Annexation.

SOUTH OMAHA, Nov. 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: It is with a great deal of pleasure that I notice there is a good deal of agitation in Omaha and South Omaha in favor of annexation of South Omaha to Omaha. Many people believe today that the proposition carried the last time we voted on the question by at least 50 majority, but that the returns were so manipulated that the people of this city were beaten out of their rights. There will be but little opposition to the passage of a bill through the legislature for the consolidation, except from some of the chronic office holders, who have been holding office for so long that they believe they own the offices. Let them get out and hustle for a living like the majority of us have to do. I sincerely hope that we will be a part of Omaha before another Fourth of July rolls around. Then we all could celebrate in earnest. A few want to hold back for some more improvements, but in my opinion, we will fare better so far as improvements are concerned when we are a part of Omaha.

Let the members of the legislature get together and pass an act consolidating us with Omaha and we will all rise and call them blessed. The legislature of Pennsylvania passed an act annexing Allegheny, a city of 150,000 inhabitants, to Pittsburgh, and the act was sustained by the supreme court of the United States.

So, gentlemen, members of the senate and house of Nebraska, go ahead and annex us by act of the legislature as soon as you get ready.

F. A. AGNEW.

Jerry Still on the Job. SOUTH OMAHA, Nov. 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: The generosity of my fellow citizens cannot be excelled or surpassed. However, their consistency is a conundrum or mystery.

President Wilson issued a proclamation to remain neutral during the European war. While it is benevolent and charitable to send clothes, food and presents to the impoverished and stricken, nevertheless, it is not a fact that our pro-British captains of industry are "making hay while the sun shines" by supplying missiles of war, horses and food, to the allies. This is similar to what happened during the Transvaal war; the British were permitted to establish corrals in New Orleans and elsewhere for military purposes.

As an American citizen I desire to abide by the president's proclamation and not criticize.

But, suppose our German-American fellow citizens and Austrian-American citizens should emulate the example of General John O'Neill and the Fenians and thereby cross into Canada, and for the sake of argument, if it should happen that the Irish-Americans would join with them in a similar enterprise and go over to Ireland for the purpose of annexation; and, as this is an era of commercialism, then with the consolidation of Canada, Ireland and the United States, this country would outstrip everything in the way of commerce, and the world, with its fine harbors, as an outlet to the world.

JERRY HOWARD.

Bryan as an Issue-Hunter. OMAHA, Nov. 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: Well, the expected did happen. Our great Commoner came out with his 1916 presidential platform consisting of the two great issues, woman suffrage and nation-wide prohibition. Surely, he cannot be beaten for an issue-hunter every four years for his unsuccessful attempt to land in the presidential chair. Everything falling so far, now he has flopped in the stump campaign, and hitched up with the weak-kneed prohibition party, with whose help he expects to land the nomination in 1916. But for the love of Mike, don't try to run on the democratic ticket. Call the party the "fillbuster"—that will cover the ground pretty well.

Four years ago Bryan tried to infect undemocratic principles in the stump platform, and as he failed, he attempted the state for the up-side ticket, and left the democratic party in a deplorable condition, the same as he has done time and time again after his defeats for president, and if it were not for some unselfish, patriotic, big, broad-minded men, the democratic party would today stick down in the mud where he left it. Since I've found out that he was not faithful to his best friends and benefactors I left him and so have thousands of straight democrats. A man who will pick up anything for campaign timber just to keep before the eyes of the people is surely not fit to be president. M. S.

Anti-Annexation Argument. SOUTH OMAHA, Nov. 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: The writer notes your editorial on annexation and it looks fine from an Omaha standpoint, but I have always failed to see the good for South Omaha. You say it would give the Magic City a more efficient government. This I deny, as South Omaha can boast of a more law-abiding city than Omaha. You say also that the taxpayers would get more for their money. This I also deny as our property valuation would decrease in proportion to the distance we are from the center of the city. Omaha puts me in mind of one property owner saying to another, "you give me all you have and it will be a good thing for you."

J. G. BLESSING.

Editorial Viewpoint

Indianapolis News: Another effect of the European war, it seems to me, that next year, the rest of the world will show how much wheat it can raise when it really tries.

Boston Transcript: "I would not hesitate to court martial any officer who criticized the president's policies," says Secretary Daniels. We congratulate the officers and men of the fleet that Josephus is not a mind reader.

St. Louis Republic: Instead of taking the advice "Civitate 'em with a Krag," President Wilson proposes to help on the cause of civilization by keeping all of the government's disused Krag-Jorgensen rifles at home for the present.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: General Jeffrey has established his headquarters seventy miles behind the firing line. General Jeffrey is not only a great military genius, but he is one of the world's greatest exponents of the safety-first movement.

Brooklyn Eagle: Venerable Senator Tillman thinks armor plate plants aren't needed in this age of submarines. Does he want to make himself unpopular in the Navy department? Millennial suggestions always annoy the fellows who have to live aboard the ships through the long piping times of peace.

CHEERY CHAFF.

The American war correspondent approached the Russian censor with due humility. "Would it be proper," he began, "to call the children of the Little White Father 'Gardians'?" Which is another reason for those Siberian horrors.—Philadelphia Ledger.

First Actor—Did you get a notice for your work yesterday? Second Ditto—Yes. First Actor—Was it one to stimulate you? Second Ditto—No; it was one to quit.—Baltimore American.

"Nice children you have. Which is this?" "The seventh." "It seems to be the healthiest looking one of the lot." "Yes, by the time he came along his mother had run out of theories."—Kansas City Journal.

Ravenyelp—Polly Francefoot is the most patriotic girl I know. Riffick—What is unusual about her patriotism? Ravenyelp—She wears red, white and blue stockings, so she can wave them on high when she dances.—Judge.

"How many men there have been whose merits were not appreciated till after their death," said the expert in Riffick. "Oh, well," replied the patient person, "that's the way it is all through nature. A turkey struts around a whole life time without any idea of what he is really good for."—Washington Star.

Inquisitive Blind Man—How do you manage to call your dog in the dark when he can't see your fingers moving? Riffick—Mute—I drum on a dog biscuit with a bone.—Puck.

"My boy," said a sergeant to a junior member of the force, "you can't say that

was lazy. Look at these stripes—well, didn't earn them by propping up street corners or loafing about public houses." "No," answered the other, with a smile, "I know you didn't get them that way or you'd have been a sergeant by now."—Kansas City Star.

"These war expeditions are simply terrible." "Well, it's an ill wind that blows nobody any good," opined the congressman. "People won't be so inclined to notice the little billion dollars we appropriate."—Louisville-Courier Journal.

WAR ARTICLES. Ted Robinson in Cleveland Plain Dealer. I am still neutral, I have read how one side violates its dead, and how the others slash the fee that's fallen—that I also know. French, German, British, Russian, Turk—I've read about their awful work.

I know one's savage catechism. The other's civil barbarism. One has an ancient, bloody creed. The other loves to stab and bleed. The enemy, whoever it. May be, I have heard every bit.

I still am neutral. I have felt (Being part Saxen and part Celt. With something of the Latin, Slav, Teuton and Tartar). Well, I have Decided that this racial strife Adds naught to death and naught to life.

By thinking of my family. I know how all this fight can be: My father hates my brother-in-law. My sister hates my mother-in-law. I cannot bear my uncle's son—And that is how the things is done.

Of course I'm more than conscious that I ought to love my neighbor's cat. Which wakes me up at half past four; But he should love my dog the more. Which wakes him up at half past three. We don't. And that's why wars must be!

Booth Seafood. Booth Fisheries Company. Catfish, Steaked Trout, Lake Superior Whitefish, Black Bass. are particularly fine just now. Eat more fish, it's good for health and pocketbook. Booth Fisheries Company. Fish for Beef. It has more nutritive value; it is more economical, and is more easily digested—but be sure you get fresh fish. Booth Fisheries Company recognizes no obstacle in transporting from the water to your table (in sanitary refrigeration, good, clean, natural ice) fish guaranteed to be fresh not only on certain days of the week but fresh everyday. Order now from your dealer today. Booth Fisheries Company. Branches in All Principal Cities.