

THE OMAHA SUNDAY 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 Sunday circulation for the month of November, 1914, was 44,671. DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me, this 6th day of December, 1914. ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested. Little Liberia lends color to the peace, talk by continuing strictly neutral. And yet appearances are all against the perpetual prosperity of the king business.

The third husband of "Fair Lillian" is dead. But she won't miss him, as she has another one now. It looks like getting down to the root of the question to start an investigation of the Rockefeller Foundation.

But it is still decidedly uncertain whether that democratic patronage pie will be a Christmas plum pudding. The colonel seems to think the other colonel's tardy espousal of prohibition but the plank of an envious rival.

And yet it is hard to work up much enthusiasm over a country's salvation that depends upon the Villas and Zapatas. If Earl Kitchener is not careful he will soon find himself in with the press correspondents in the same class as Colonel Roosevelt.

Opie Read says this would be a dreary old world if everybody were rich. Still, most folks would be willing to try it at least once. "Omaha is noted for its grain market. Why not for its hay market, as well?" we are asked. That's what we, too, would like to know.

Governor Whitman's plurality in New York is almost 150,000. That's only 100,000 less than the total vote all told cast in Nebraska. "How to Choose a Wife" is the subject of a Young Men's Christian association lecture. Over in Europe, father and mother do the choosing.

It requires no stretch of the imagination to agree with the eminent Methodist bishop who declares that the war in Europe is not Christianity. "Emden's Skipper Displays a Rare Sense of Humor," says a headline. But the Emden, itself, impressed the enemy as totally devoid of all sense of humor.

"My husband is just like our furnace," sighed Mrs. Blanks. "All day he smokes and at night he goes out."—Philadelphia Public Ledger. Possibly the analogy might extend also to shaking them down.

Of course, there is this difference, that Captain Hobson had his fortune all to carve when the fair ones pressed him for kisses, while Mr. Bryan had his carved completely when the temptress came.

People living in Dundee have to take their lives in their hands every time they pass that Dodge street grade crossing which ought to be spanned by a viaduct. And no pipe dream about elevating the tracks in the dim and distant future will meet the requirements.

The esteemed Chicago Tribune keeps standing at the head of its editorial columns the saying of Washington, "To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace." Sure, as witness events in Europe, not to disparage the sagacity of Washington.

Miss Maggie Ryndel, assisted by her sister, Mrs. Fred Engle, entertained their friends pleasantly last evening. The engagement of Miss Fannie Rau, sister of Mrs. M. Heltman, and Mr. Sam Stoman, formerly of Detroit, but now of this city, is announced.

The new building which has been erected by John A. Creighton on the north side of Douglas street has been occupied by the enterprising firm of Chas. H. Howland, Howe & Marshall with a finely selected stock of furniture.

A meeting of the citizens of the south part of Omaha was held at the new engine house on Eleventh street to resist the possibility of resisting the tax for Fifteenth street grading. It is claimed that there are several irregularities in letting the contract.

The pool roads took down their cases in the Union ticket office in the Millard hotel, as their business does not justify their keeping them up. The office will also be abandoned by the U. P. after the first of January, and Mr. Long assigned to other duties on that road.

Articles of incorporation by the W. C. T. U. have been filed in the county clerk's office with Jennie Stevens, Mrs. Loretta Burroughs, Mrs. Jennie Stevens, Mrs. Mary Tate, Mrs. L. G. Charlton, and Mrs. N. M. Elliott. Mrs. Ellen F. Soule is president and Mrs. Isabella S. Bell clerk.

The Omaha Spirit.

What is the Omaha spirit? What is the outstanding element in the city's life that distinguishes it above everything else? What is the general impression it makes upon the stranger who comes here for a brief visit? For one thing, Omaha invariably impresses visitors as a wide-awake and substantial business center. Abroad it bears a top-notch reputation for doing a year-round volume and character of business far above that done by any other city in the country comparable with it in population.

For another thing, Omaha's people are known to be hospitable and whole-hearted. They have sent the city's fame to remote corners for its peerless manner of entertaining conventions and delegations of visitors. This is one respect in which, we think we may say with due modesty, the city holds its own with any.

For still another thing, Omaha is physically well laid out, has wide, and of late well-kept, streets; is aspiring to a park system, boasts most of the natural elements that go to make up a first-class, thorough-going American municipality, and is keeping abreast the times in the general elevation of the moral tone of the community.

But, after all, we may ask with fairness to the city in which we are all deeply concerned, what is the distinctive Omaha spirit? If we may put that question thus, "What should it be?" we venture to reply that the Omaha spirit should be more the spirit of an amicable unity of action among all its people insofar as that is possible. That we are boosters for Omaha will not be questioned by anyone familiar with the history of Ak-Sar-Ben or the work done by our Commercial club, our Real Estate exchange, our Bureau of Publicity and our various other public and quasi-public organizations, and our last thought would be to urge any more organizations for this purpose. But yet we believe we voice the majority conviction when we say that there is need for a larger, more coherent co-operation as the distinctive Omaha spirit, the spirit that minimizes faults and magnifies virtues, rooted in an intelligent appreciation of the city and its future possibilities, so that he who runs may read above every other sign, "That is the Omaha spirit."

"Toyland." The opening of the numerous "toylands" in various stores catering to holiday trade remind us what a tremendous business is now done in providing playthings for children. It emphasizes, also, the transformation that has been wrought in recent years in the character and multiplicity of toys. The marvel is that such beautiful, and so often intricate, articles of amusement can be supplied at the comparatively small cost. It is gratifying to note, also, that the instruction side of the toy has not been neglected, the child in many cases being put in possession of a miniature tool, or household utensil, or mechanism, mastery of which may be later put to practical use. This offsets what is lost by the boys and girls being no longer obliged to develop their own resourcefulness for producing home-made playthings. At this season of the year more than any other "toyland" is "Joyland."

Physical Tests for College Admission. Because in his annual report President Butler of Columbia suggests that it might be wise to require physical, as well as mental, tests of students applying for admission to our universities, he is being raked fore and aft by the fire of critics. Reference to the text of the report discloses that President Butler has not gone nearly so far as one would suppose from the noise of the fusillade, yet he does make the point that to get fullest results from the educational endowment, instruction and training furnished at a cost far in excess of the tuition exacted, should be conserved for those able to make profitable use of them, and not wasted on obvious defectives to the exclusion of worthy and well equipped applicants. He calls attention to the application of the physical test to candidates for West Point and Annapolis, where Uncle Sam shuts the door upon young men who give no promise of ever becoming soldiers or sailors, with the inference that literary and scientific institutions should demand a reasonable prospect of making good in whatever line of work the student wishes to take up.

The outcry against the physical test naturally cites numerous great scholars and scientists who have achieved fame despite apparently insurmountable obstacles. Many a great genius and many a philosophical mind has been hemmed in by a body of fearful frailty. Physical examination would have barred them from entering any college setting a test like that of West Point or Annapolis, and might have lost to the world their invaluable contributions to human knowledge and advancement. President Butler would doubtless reply that these are all rare exceptions to the general rule, and that where one weakling has succeeded through strong mentality, thousands upon thousands have failed. It is interesting to note that the Columbia Alumni News explains the recommendation of a physical examination as intended merely to weed out the notoriously unfit, just as the purpose of the other tests is to eliminate the mentally undeveloped or deficient.

Agree or disagree with him, President Butler has plainly started a line of thought and discussion for those responsible for the policy of our higher educational institutions not to be lightly brushed aside if the pressure for college admission continues to increase.

Cobb's Kitchener Interview. Lord Kitchener is quoted as denying Irvin Cobb's interview making him say the war would last at least three years. Nevertheless, Cobb insists that he said it. Kitchener's secretary says his lordship expresses amazement that his words should be so taken by the American reporter. Indeed, he says his lordship was not conscious of giving an interview to Cobb, at all.

Cobb throws light on that by explaining that, though he conversed with Kitchener for forty minutes, he had no pencil or paper in his hand and made no notes. This, contrary to the impression given by foolish playwrights, who invariably manage so to depict a reporter on the stage, is the American way. And right there, we imagine, is where all the trouble comes in. Had Cobb gone at his man with pad and pencil, asking a question and jotting down the answer,

perhaps Lord Kitchener would have known he was being interviewed. But, come to think of it, the British war lord is not quoted in this later report as saying how long he really thinks, or said he thought, the war might last.

Honey. Before sugar became so cheap many households used to put no little store on honey as a sweetening for edibles where sugar and syrup has now come to be the customary thing. As a matter of fact, the reason why sugar and sugar products have had the preference is not that honey is less tasteful or less palatable, or less nourishing, but that it is less abundant, and more costly. Honey is a delicacy on many tables and could come back largely into its own if more attention were given to bee culture and honey-making, and this very consumption is likely to be brought about by the unforeseen conditions affecting our sugar production and sugar supply. Here is a timely hint for the small farmer, and particularly for the truck gardener in the neighborhood of the city market, who can easily have a profitable by-product by letting the bees work for them.

An Atmosphere of War. France adds its "yellow book" to the color scheme of alleged causes of the war, England, Russia, Germany and Belgium having already contributed their official papers or books. France says the Kaiser's ultimatum to Russia touched off the fire. Germany, of course, holds that the assassination of the Austrian crown prince was chiefly responsible for the outbreak and each nation urges its own viewpoint with equal vehemence. None, however, we venture to say, gives the cause which history is likely to name.

The immediately preceding condition has been very well phrased as an atmosphere of war. For years the countries of Europe were creating this kind of an atmosphere, for years they busied themselves, whether premeditatedly or not, in building up a highly inflammable structure, so that whenever the torch happened to be applied the flame was bound to follow. So far as the assassination of Franz Ferdinand is concerned, while it undoubtedly precipitated, the future historian will hardly call it the cause of the conflict now raging in Europe. That assassination has been described as a match carelessly dropped into an explosive atmosphere, naturally producing war. To complete the illustration—merely a lighted match is not of itself dangerous, for it depends entirely where it is thrown. Cast into an ash barrel it will go out, but into a barrel of shavings saturated with kerosene it will cause trouble.

The Unkept Vineyard. Mine own vineyard I have not kept.—Song of Solomon, 1:6. Symbolizing the church's confessed shortcoming, Solomon here gives us a text for the remission of duty, the remorseful consequence of responsibility unmet. It is a fixed principle, working the same today as it worked in old Israel's time. Duty must be performed or somebody suffers. Often it is an entire community. If one family in its relation to society fails of its duty in maintaining the proper home influence, the effects are generally felt. They lead to failures in other families until society, built upon the cornerstone of the family unit, awakes to the realization of a failure so widespread as to undermine, if not largely destroy, the potency of home influence.

Too many have failed to keep their own vineyards. And how pathetically we rush about seeking the remedy, fearing to demand a cure. "Let the municipality do it," shouts the civic expert. That is easy and moves us still further along the line of least resistance, so the plan is adopted. But more trouble comes in trying to invest society with the functions of the home. It may give us a good substitute, but how can it give us back our home influence?

Without disparaging the pure motives back of these efforts or the excellent results in front of them, it seems to us impossible to expect normal health from artificial respiration. Yet good folk tell us that the average home, weakened by its own neglect, is no longer capable of exercising the stern functions that belong to it, and that as these powers must be conserved, it is necessary to transfer them to the community. In certain matters that is undoubtedly true, but let us hope that the transfer shall not be permanent, but only a means to the essential end of restoring the natural processes of a healthful family existence and influence, of getting each one of us to keep his own vineyard as it should be kept.

People and Events

Wireless velocity has been figured down to 175,000 miles a second, which leaves the motorcyclist decorating the scenery in the back stretches. Statisticians eager for accuracy in war casualties should arrange for weighing the ammunition before firing, and figure a ton for each dead soldier. Getting next to the weight is a mere detail.

National doctors disagree on the proper treatment. Just as Secretary Bryan is turning swords into plowshares for souvenir, Congressman Gardner declares for an increased dose of runs and gunpowder. It is possible, though not probable, that American artists will wrest from Paris the scepter of feminine fashions. For man such a task is hopeless so long as French soldiers glorify sartorial aesthetics by sticking to red pantaloons.

While certain hours have been named for the daily closing of exhibits and putting the lid on the midway of the San Francisco exposition, there will be no public clocks on the grounds and the flight of time will cut no ice if there is business in sight. The unassailable supremacy of the Smiths looms large in London's telephone directory. The right honorable families of the Joneses, the Browns and the Robinsons cover from two to three pages each, while the plain Smiths take eight pages and some over for those who give the name an aristocratic twist.

A year ago Mrs. Blanche A. W. Hays, wife of a New York banker, in suing for divorce, demanded \$50,000 a year alimony for the support of herself and two daughters. She couldn't possibly live on a cent less. The court allowed \$20,000. Now she admits \$20,000 is enough and some over. Enforced economy is a wonder worker.

AROUND THE CITIES. Tampa, Fla., has installed bubbling fountains for horses to drink out of. Women employees of Brooklyn, N. Y., are to be provided with rest rooms and lunch rooms. Early in January the voters of Emporia, Kan., will ballot on the question of licensing billiard halls.

A town in West Virginia has changed its name to Tango, though the residents couldn't negotiate the dance for a farm. The Chicago taxpayers are face to face with the cheery certainty of making good a deficit of \$300,000 in the city's budget. A heroic bluff at economy New York alderman brought next year's budget below the \$200,000,000 mark, the total agreed upon being \$199,233,150.

Electric light charges in Kansas City are considered too high, and the state utility board is going to search the meters to learn why. Kenosha, Wis., where public honesty is rated at 97.59 per cent, henceforth intends to pay cash for all city purchases and watch the scales when the goods are weighed in.

An investigating committee of Denver taxpayers recommends a cut of \$600,000 in the city's budget for next year. If the city commissioners heed the recommendation a small army of municipal chair warmers must hustle for a living. St. Louis solons are considering a bill providing free lodging for jobless men. "It is odd, but true," comments the St. Louis Republic, "that this is taking place at a time when the city has plenty of work for idle men, but no money to pay their wages."

New electric light rates have been agreed upon by the authorities of Houston, Tex., and the producing company. Nine cents is the maximum rate, a cut of 3 cents. Power rates range from 2 1/2 cents to 5 cents. All bills carry the usual discount for prompt payment.

SIGNPOSTS OF PROGRESS. New York state has 1,207,770 registered automobiles. Missouri has a cow which last year produced 23,493 pounds of milk. Pennsylvania this year spent \$1,125,000 on road construction and repairing.

Woven wire poles for electric wires or lights have been invented by a Chicagoan. It is said that the state of Florida receives more than \$1,000,000 a year from the trade in alligators. Despite the inroads of the typewriter, the fountain pen industry of the United States has almost tripled in ten years.

Wireless messages have been received in Germany from the Cape of Good Hope, 6,000 miles distant, clearly and distinctly. Since Alaska was bought by the United States government the revenue from the seal islands alone has been more than twice the sum paid for the territory. A recent report of the Interstate Commerce commission gives 1,899,213 as the total number of men and women employed by the steam railways in the United States.

All things have a tiny beginning. In 1754 a monk planted his coffee seeds in a monastery garden in Rio de Janeiro, and from this beginning has grown Brazil's enormous wealth in coffee. Motorcycles have been bought by the forest service for use in the Black Hills of South Dakota, in connection with fighting forest fires. Powerful machines able to carry two persons and equipped with fire-fighting tools, are kept in readiness for immediate use at Custer and Deadwood.

ACTIVITIES OF WOMEN. Miss Erna Stoltenfeld, a girl without a college education, has been promoted to first assistant bacteriologist in the Milwaukee health department. Violet K. Ho, a Chinese girl, who has just arrived in this country to gain a college education, will launch a trouser campaign among the college girls.

Dr. Regina F. Keyes, the first American woman surgeon to volunteer for hospital service without remuneration in the European war zone, has sailed for London. Miss Elizabeth Dinwiddie of New York manages 36 small dwellings owned by Trinity church in that city. She spends all of her time attending to the repairs of these houses, which shelter 1,500 families.

The proposal that a statue should be erected as a memorial to Mrs. Woodrow Wilson has prompted search with the object of discovering to what American women statues have previously been erected. The first of such memorials is said to have been that in memory of Hannah Dustin, erected fifty years ago on the island in the Merrimac river from which she made her escape when captured by the Indians 27 years ago.

MUFFLED KNOCKS.

A small boy may have his faults. But he never kicks because the tablecloth is soiled. This would be a fine world if we could train the wolf at the door to bite the bill collectors and scare them away when they call.

Some men are so suspicious that they won't embrace an opportunity because they do not know who has been embracing it before. A man would be arrested if he went to a party wearing nothing but his vest above the belt line. But a girl can do it and be fashionable.

The scientists who claim that there ain't no such animal as Perpetual Motion have evidently never seen a woman who is raising six small children. A girl would rather have corns than freckles, because you can't see the corns. But a man will take the freckles because he knows you can't walk on them.

There never was any villain in any book or play who wasn't a new-born babe compared with what Friend Wife thinks. Friend Husband is when she finds a hair-pin in his vest pocket. One reason why father likes mother to do the carrying is because he gets the first helping and the choice morsels. And, by the time mother has served everybody at the table she gets the neck as her share.

Every husband believes he could feed a family on what his wife wastes in the kitchen and every wife knows that she could run the house on the money her husband throws away when he is down town.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.

"Reggie is going the pace that kills, all right." "Nonsense! Why, he does nothing from morning to night but lounge around the club." "Well, that's the pace that kills-time."—Boston Transcript. "He—you may talk as you please, but there is really no peace in life where woman meets man on a perfect equality. She—Oh, yes, there is in the tax office."—Baltimore American.

"John, everybody we know in our circumstances seems able to get an automobile. Why can't we have one?" "Because, my dear, we will have to wait until we have paid up to the building association before we can mortgage the house."—Washington Star. Mrs. Crawford—Have you shown your husband the list of Christmas presents you are going to buy? Mrs. Crabshaw—No, my dear. He would only want to censor it.—Judge.

"I think I'll install a dictagraph to find out what my husband is doing." "Look out now. Don't get yourself into trouble. Better stick to the old-fashioned way of consulting a fortune teller."—Louisville Courier-Journal. "This day is the anniversary of the one on which the girl I was madly in love with refused to marry me." "Is that why you remember it with regret?" "No; that is why I am giving thanks."—Baltimore American.

Wife—Don't you think you might manage to keep house alone for a week while I go on a visit? Husband—I guess so; yes, of course. "But won't you be lonely and miserable?" "Not a bit." "Huh! Then I won't go."—New York Weekly.

WAITING.

John Burroughs. Serenely I fold my hands and wait. Nor care for wind, or tide or sea; I have no more 'gainst time or fate. For, lo! my own shall come to me. I stay my haste, I make delay. For what avails this eager pace? I stand amid the eternal ways, And what is mine shall know my fate.

Asleep, awake, by night or day. The friends I seek are seeking me; No wind can drive my bark astray. Nor change the tide of destiny. What matter if I stand alone? I wait with joy the coming year; My heart shall reap where it has sown. And garner up its fruit of tears.

The waters know their own and draw. The brook that springs in yonder glade. So flows the good with equal law. Unto the soul of pure delight. The stars come nightly to the sky; The tidal wave unto the sea; No time nor space, nor deep, nor high. Can keep my own away from me.

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