

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR. The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietor. BEE BUILDING, FARNAM AND SEVENTEENTH. Entered at Omaha postoffice as second-class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. By carrier... By mail... Daily and Sunday... Evening without Sunday... Sunday Bee only...

REMITTANCE. Remit by draft, express or postal order. Only two-cent stamps received in payment of small accounts. Personal checks, except on Omaha and eastern exchange, not accepted.

OFFICES. Omaha—The Bee Building, South Omaha—211 N. Street, Council Bluffs—14 North Main street, Lincoln—214 North Main street, Chicago—501 North Dearborn street, New York—Room 100, 200 Fifth avenue, St. Louis—502 New Bank of Commerce, Washington—714 Fourteenth St., N. W.

CORRESPONDENCE. Address communications relating to news and editorial matter to Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

NOVEMBER CIRCULATION. 52,531

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 November, 1914, was 52,531.

DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me, this 7th 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.

Below zero weather tests the heating plant all right.

The stock exchange is again open without cataclysm.

If you want to make a hit with the shop girls, shop early.

In another week it will be too late to do your Christmas shopping early.

Old Santa Claus is one of the great powers never caught in a state of unpreparedness.

Those who want to dance may as well get a credit mark for it by dancing for charity.

The capture and recapture of Belgrade promises to be the battledore and shuttlecock game of the war.

If our coming legislature does nothing else, let it put the dope business out of business in Nebraska.

The only way to appreciate a man at his true worth is to know him—and then you may depreciate him.

Yes, but think of the physical culture that goes along with shoveling in the coal and shoveling off the snow.

Now that it develops that Ambrose Bierce has been with Villa's army all along, its ferocity is easier to understand.

Old Man Winter just has not the heart to hold the mercury long below zero on this grand old Nebraska Orange Belt.

In the interval, Mayor "Jim" does not seem to be laying much of a wager on the senator's patronage compromise bluff.

Colorado is excited over what is said to be a big coal strike. Different in character, let us hope, from the big coal strike.

Complaint is made of incompetent nurses in the war hospitals. That's where the American trained nurse would fill the bill.

No Nebraska names in that long list of consular promotions. What's the use, then, of having a Nebraska secretary of state?

"There is something to Italy's neutrality," observes an exchange. So it seems, judging from that highly mobilized army along the border.

With all due deference to the various orders of the iron cross, the Red Cross is rendering the largest measure of practical philanthropy on the battlefield.

"A distressing feature of the fighting in Poland is the fact that blood kindred are pitted against each other," says a dispatch. But that is true of most wars. It was notably true of our own war of the rebellion.

It is very natural that the Nebraska teachers should vote each year to hold their annual convention in Omaha—in fact it was almost a foregone conclusion from giving them the right to choose the meeting place for themselves.

The grading of Farnam street has forced a change in the plans for the court house retaining wall. County Commissioners Coffin, O'Keefe and Knight are going east to visit different cities in connection with the court house equipment, and will go over the proposed changes with Architect Meyers at Detroit.

John Hochstrasser, manager of the Brunswick-Balke-Collender company at 1014 South Eighth street, has also taken the agency for the Standard Saloon Fixture company.

Miss Anna Snyder, soprano singer in St. Mary's Avenue church, was called to Illinois by sickness in the family.

C. P. Goodman has gone to Cleveland on business.

John H. Donahue, the well known cattleman, has returned to his Omaha headquarters after a short trip in the east.

The city council has received the formal offer from George W. Ames and J. A. Wakefield for the Board of Trade of \$100,000 for lot 1, block 19, being the southwest corner of Sixteenth and Farnam, belonging to the city.

There is significance in the offer of a reward for the return to J. J. Noble's meat market of a lost brown terrier dog.

The Saengerfest and Omaha. The success attending the Northwestern Saengerfest when it was last held in Omaha makes certain an equal measure of success for the Saengerfest when held here next year. Neither war nor business depression can drown out music, or the love of music, and with the enthusiastic support of the local German societies, and the co-operation of other elements in the community, the meeting will be certain to attract a large attendance and score a big hit, and there can be no question whatever about Omaha doing its part.

Regardless of the location of the Saengerfest, The Bee has a suggestion to make right here, to be acted upon only in case a favorable contingency arises. It will be remembered that the saving factor of our Trans-Mississippi exposition, after a period of hard bleeding in the face of the distractions of the war with Spain, was found in the great celebration of the conclusion of the conflict participated in by President McKinley and a galaxy of public and military men. It is at least possible, if not probable, that the Saengerfest may have a chance to convert the occasion of its next meeting into a grand musical peace jubilee, for few people believe this war can be ended without glory, enough in it for all sides—and should such an opportunity be utilized, it would make it an event larger and more memorable than the most hopeful anticipation.

America's Definitive Mission. While one excited German newspaper declares the United States disqualified by partisanship to act as mediator between the warring nations, it is gratifying that other representative European papers take the opposite view, commending our nation as the one pre-eminently fitted for this great task should the time for it come. The United States must, of course, maintain its none too simple position of strict neutrality, having done which it will stand then as now before the world the one great power to whom the issues may be referred for adjustment if direct settlement proves impossible.

That such an impression as this fills the minds of combatants on both sides, shows that we, as well as they, have been true to our colors. And when it comes down to the test, perhaps the duty of America to refrain from taking part is far more difficult than it would be did our population have a single ancestry instead of all ancestries in admixture. The United States must not, will not, permit anything now to swerve it from the course marked out. Our part in this transforming tragedy is clear and plain—it is to be a definitive part, that of the unbiased, observer and possible peacemaker.

Sample Ballots and Long Ballots. Any reform in the election laws should include a provision that no sample ballots or other imitations of the official ballot should be allowed to be printed or used or found in the possession of any person except the ballot in the hands of the regular election officials. Such a provision would be the greatest purification of the primary that could be adopted. In the last primary in Kansas City some precinct voters, ranging from 150 to 250 in a precinct were cast for a list of twenty-five names out of 125 candidates. Such unanimity does not exist anywhere else in the world. From a speech by Congressman Borland on the floor of the house.

The cure for any abuse arising from the sample ballot, it seems to us, is the short ballot. That goes straight to the root of the evil, whereas destroying the sample ballot while continuing the occasion of it—the excessively long official ballot—to remain would simply make a bad matter worse. The real abuse is committed when it is made possible for 125 names to appear on an official ballot, or more than 200, as was the case at our last Omaha election, where, with all the outcry against the outrageously long ballot, no complaint whatever was directed against the sample ballot.

If we retain the six, seven or ten-foot official ballot, how is the average voter to determine, after entering the booth, for whom he wishes to vote except by first reviewing a sample ballot? It is this long ballot that makes the sample ballot necessary. If the latter has figured in any abuse at the polls—which is easily possible—there ought to be a dozen ways of handling that without abolishing the sample ballot. Adopt the short ballot and all the sample ballot troubles will take care of themselves.

Printing for the State or by the State. Another proposition that is to be put up to our lawmakers, according to its advance agents, is the establishment of a state printer, from which all official publications are to be turned out. Other states do their own printing we are told, so why not Nebraska, and pencils are sharpened to figure out the possible profit or saving.

Not being in the job printing business, The Bee may suggest without any self-interest, that this is a purely business proposition, a question of dollars and cents. Other states do a lot of things that we do not do, and Nebraska does some things which other states do not do. Some states have even elected their public printer by popular vote and paid him by fees, making the office the grandest grafting job on the list, while others have conducted a state printing department under competent direction on a strictly business basis with satisfactory results. It all gets back to the volume of work to be done, and the experience and efficiency of those deputed to do it, and experience and efficiency are not to be had without a complete divorce from politics. Our notion is that the first thing in order is to try out a state civil service plan in existing departments of state activity, and see how it pans before taking on something else as complicated as a print shop, especially when it can be readily taken on any time that conditions warrant.

The Chicago man who shuffled off prematurely, leaving a note expressing a last wish to have neither friends nor flowers at his funeral, is but a counterpart of the men whose lives are being sacrificed on the battlefields of Europe. Without giving utterance to such desire the fallen soldier too often has neither friends nor flowers at his funeral.

If the different local charity organizations are not receiving the usual aggregate of contributions, it must be because there are more of them, and more new calls producing a greater division. Never before were the people of this community more sympathetically disposed toward distress, or more willing to help relieve it to the extent of their abilities.

False Ideas About Women

A Census Study. In the current number of the Woman's Home Companion Miss Ida M. Tarbell, the most distinguished of women writers, undertakes to show the fallacy of certain ideas on the woman question which are spread throughout the country by platform speakers. Her statements are based on a study of the last national census, so far as that ponderous document relates to marriage, divorce, motherhood and wage-earning. Concerning the charge that "less than half the 6,000,000 women of the country marry," Miss Tarbell says: "If we consider the sex as a whole, regardless of age, this is true. We have in the United States now 44,293,983 'females,' including all from 1 year and under to 100 years and over. Fifty-two and seven-tenths per cent of these—babe, maid and woman—are single, that is, literally less than half of the sex are married. But drop out those not yet of marriageable age, and you have a different story. There will, of course, be a difference of opinion about what is a marriageable age; but let us call it 19 or over. If we settle on that, we must drop at once from our estimate something over 10,000,000 of the sex. It puts a different complexion at once on the marriage percentage. As a fact, 70 per cent of those who are 15 years or more old marry; and if you raise the age to 20, 80 per cent marry; to 25, 85.7 per cent marry. "But, grant these figures to be correct—it is hard, even for an orator, to defy a census—and still the platform cries that 'women don't marry as they once did.' The truth is that marriage more freely than they did in 1900 or in 1890. There has been a gain of nearly 5 per cent in the number of marriages of women over 15 in the last twenty years; and 2 per cent, when dealing with nearly 20,000,000, is a considerable number.

Factors About Divorce. "There has been an increase in divorce. In the 20,000,000 married women whom the census takers of 1910 reported, they who had been divorced, considering the difficulties of married life, the number does not appear. It rather gives one a greater respect for human beings to see that they can handle such a complicated relation with such a small percentage of disaster. There is no other human relation that can show anything like so large a statistical proof of success. The number of divorces found in 1910 is greater, proportionately, than the census takers unreported in 1900, still larger than they found in 1890. In each of these ten-year periods there has been an increase of one-tenth of 1 per cent. It is doubtful if this loss be due to loss of faith in marriage. A proportion of it is due to a higher ideal of marriage, an unwillingness to see the relation prostituted by a dissolute, cruel or faithless partner. "A percentage is due, too, to the greater carelessness with which marriages are made under our changing social practices. We have removed largely from boys and girls the protective social devices by which we once guided their relations and choices. They go and come freely, and, as might be expected, marry with less sense of the seriousness of their undertakings."

Showing of Motherhood. Regarding motherhood Miss Tarbell makes this showing: "It is pretty difficult, even with the best of censuses before us, to find out just what has happened in the last 100 years to the population of the United States. It has suffered serious vicissitudes, such as the civil war, making it impossible for twenty years at least to find out what was happening in a large section of the country. It has had a continual but uneven stream of immigration pouring into it. That it has increased is true. 'But it is the immigrant, the including of the Indian, the fecundity of the negro and the 'lower races' which has caused the increase. The true American is not increasing.' Thus the platform. But the thirteenth census speaks for itself. Such a provision would be the greatest purification of the primary that could be adopted. In the last primary in Kansas City some precinct voters, ranging from 150 to 250 in a precinct were cast for a list of twenty-five names out of 125 candidates. Such unanimity does not exist anywhere else in the world. From a speech by Congressman Borland on the floor of the house.

In the Workshops. Miss Tarbell quotes a platform speaker who claims that the family is doomed to destruction, owing to the fact that women are dissatisfied and are going into industry. This speaker says that there are several million young girls in our factories and shops. Miss Tarbell answers this claim with the following statement of facts: "As a matter of fact, far from there being 'several' million young girls in industries, there are just about eight millions (8,075,772) girls and women of all ages, from 10 to 150, employed a part or all of the time in the land, in money-earning work of all kinds—teaching, dressmaking, clerking, business, domestic science. Only about one-fifth of these eight millions are in 'shops and factories,' and, moreover, probably not over half of this one-fifth can be called 'young girls,' that is, are under 21 years of age. There are something like 111,000 women employed in making suits, coats, dresses and overalls in this country; 16,000, or one-half of them, are over 21 years of age. There are 68,000 women in our shoe factories, and 41,000 of them are over 21 years of age. There are something over 148,000 in cotton mills, and 71,000 of them are over 21 years old. There are around 260,000 saleswomen in the country, and 142,000 are over 21."

People and Events. Luck, the fickle goddess, oft plays some cruel capers. H. C. McCroskey of Yale, Okla., laid down and died the other day just as an oil well on his farm began spouting oil at the clouds. A St. Louis undertaker prevented a funeral at the hour set because none of the mourners could produce the cash to pay a \$50 coffin bill. The deceased had \$8 in his pockets at death, but the administrator beat the undertaker to it. The mayor of New York urges policemen to freely use their night sticks on gunmen and gangsters, whose activities needlessly stimulate the cemetery business. As a ventilating measure the remedy carries the endorsement of police doctors. At the rate decorations are being passed around among army commanders at the front some method of chest expansion will be required to make room for the trophies. Perhaps the Roman custom of hanging a few on the back will be popularized. Again, out of San Francisco comes the solemn assurance that fleeing tourists will not be tolerated during the big show. Hotel keepers have formed a vigilance committee to protect tenderfeet against imposition. That settles it. Grab your grip and go.

Editorial Snapshots. Indianapolis News: And when the delegates from the warring powers attend the biennial congress of the American Peace society, they will, of course, have the courtesy to leave off their spurs. New York World: The gentleman in Chicago who claims to have invented indestructible steel ought not to waste any time on the wheat and corn speculators and beef and pork packers of that town. He can make himself the most popular man in Europe if he has any desire to travel. Philadelphia Bulletin: England is reported to have been buying machinery and setting up plants for the manufacture of her own war supplies, and when the war is over these plants will be turned into the production of the commodities of peace. The United States should take the hint and prepare to be self-dependent and self-supporting. Pittsburg Dispatch: Japan explains that it was all a mistake about handling Kiao-Chow back to China. That was, only if Germany gave it up when demanded, but since Japan had to fight for it, that alters the situation. If it had not been this it would have been something else. Uncle Sam remains the only power that gives up anything he gets. Pittsburgh Dispatch: The anthracite coal tax gives an interesting example of the way taxes on corporations can be collected from the people. This tax of 2 1/2 cents a ton was levied nearly two years ago. The companies, to keep themselves whole, promptly collected 10 cents from the consumers. Then they paid nothing to the state, but started a suit, claiming the tax to be unconstitutional. If they lose their suit they will get 30 per cent on the tax. If they win, if they will get it all.

Twice Told Tales. Got Back Three. Attorney Thomas C. Brinsmade doesn't object to a good story even if it's on him. He tells this one: "The other day an old colored man came panting up to me in my yard, where there was a big pile of rubbish. "Morning, John," I said. "Morin', Marse Tom, don't you want that rubbish hauled away?" "What'll you take?" I asked. "Ech! a load, 's I think 'it'll take jes' about two loads." "I'll give you 5 cents a load," I told him. "You remember me, do you, Marse Tom?" "Why sure, John." "Well, you remember when I was up for shootin' craps, and you pleaded me guilty in police court?" "Sure," I said. "An' you charged me \$10, an' I never said a doggone word." "John hauled the rubbish at \$1 a load, and he made three loads of it."—Cleveland News.



The Coloratura Soprano Voice. OMAHA, Dec. 15.—To the Editor of The Bee.—As the dictionaries and encyclopedias seem a bit dry in defining this voice and few understand what is meant by it, a description, a little graphic to be sure, may make it clearer. It applies more specifically to the soprano voice in its ability to imitate the quality, timbre, color, tint or character of musical tones, and more particularly to the wind instruments of the orchestra.

The tone of the saxophone is said to be made up of those overtones or harmonics or upper partials that give it a sound more closely allied to the human voice than any other musical instrument. In the case of the female soprano voice, in the higher registers, the flute is the instrument par excellence to which she would so color her tones as to imitate it. A far more beautiful instrument and belonging to the same order as that of the voice or the wind instruments.

As the different primary colors of the rainbow, when mixed, make different shades, or as we say other colors, so also in tones when the different harmonics or overtones are mixed in certain proportions we get characteristic musical tones and hence the characteristic musical instruments.

The soprano who can sing as the trained artist or prima donna does in these arias and trills in a higher class of musical art, by so coloring her voice as to do it artistically, is said to have a coloratura voice. When the San Carlos opera company, under the auspices of the Shriners, were here recently a good demonstration of this was given. In the opera of Lucia, in the "mad" scene in act three, with all its difficult arias and trills, the prima donna, Ed. vienna Vaccari, the soprano, is seen to make her way to that end of the stage directly over the flute player in the orchestra and there the two are seen in what at times would seem in active recitative or musical talk or as the French would say in aria parlante, and at times it is difficult to tell which is voice and which is flute.

So well has the singer under control the form of her mouth and her nasal chambers that enable her on occasions by resonance to so color her tones by the overtones as to gain the high distinction of being a coloratura soprano, a merit not given to all. GEORGE P. WILKINSON.

Invoke the Law on the Deserter. OMAHA, Dec. 15.—To the Editor of The Bee: I'm not a spy, but some of the present day features of Christmas pangrinate just a little on my sense of propriety. No matter which way one turns, the request—in some instances, almost the demand, for contributions meets the wayfarer. Christmas chimneys, kettles, boxes, all sorts of devices, are presented, and even at the theater a beautiful chorister is engaged in singing coin from the pockets of the patrons for Christmas uses. It makes one wonder if the spirit of giving hasn't swung from plain spurgery to incipient insanity. And then, in the columns of The Bee is seen a request for aid for a woman who has three children; she keeps roomers, and draws a mother's pension of \$15 per month, her rent being \$15. Along with this is the statement that the father, who has deserted this family, is paying for the tuition of the oldest girl at a business college. When Omaha supports a high school of commerce, where all is free of expense to the student, why should it be necessary for the child of a mother who is drawing a pension from the county, to have tuition paid at a business college? And, if the father of this family is able to contribute to that extent, why should he not be required to go further and help support the family he deserted. It seems to me that here is a case for the application of one of our sadly neglected laws—the one that deals with deserters of wife and family. OLD FOGY.

A Helpful Institution. OMAHA, Dec. 15.—To the Editor of The Bee: Will you kindly give place for this in your paper? There is a charitable institution in this city that is not often heard of, or the work accomplished there is not proclaimed on the housetops, but nevertheless it is doing a great work for humanity. It is the Salvation Army home for women at Twenty-fourth and Spalding streets. It has cared for hundreds of young women and children in the past, and the good work is still going on. The home is worthy of help and assistance financially, which I am sure would be thankfully accepted. ONE INTERESTED.

JOLLIES FROM JUDGE.

"When did he come to the turning point of his life?" "When he began to roll in the wealth that was left him." "Well, Rastus," said the colonel, "I understand your club has declined to admit Jollies to membership." "That's a far' kinder," returned the old Jolly. "Ah dunno what de objection to Jollies was, but when dey come to vote, dey done, whiteballed him." "What are you boys making such a racket about there for?" "Why, we're two big nations gone to war." "But what are you both pummeling poor little Freddie for?" "Oh, he's a neutral so he can't fight." "Judge—Officer, what's the matter with the prisoner—tell her to stop that crying—she's been at it fifteen minutes. (More sob.)" "Officer—Please, sir, I'm a thinking she wants to be bailed out.—Nebraska Awar." "Post—How do you get your Christmas tree so loaded down?" "Parker—It's done by the grafting process.—Late.

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Thirty Years Ago This Day in Omaha. The grading of Farnam street has forced a change in the plans for the court house retaining wall. County Commissioners Coffin, O'Keefe and Knight are going east to visit different cities in connection with the court house equipment, and will go over the proposed changes with Architect Meyers at Detroit. John Hochstrasser, manager of the Brunswick-Balke-Collender company at 1014 South Eighth street, has also taken the agency for the Standard Saloon Fixture company. Miss Anna Snyder, soprano singer in St. Mary's Avenue church, was called to Illinois by sickness in the family. C. P. Goodman has gone to Cleveland on business. John H. Donahue, the well known cattleman, has returned to his Omaha headquarters after a short trip in the east. The city council has received the formal offer from George W. Ames and J. A. Wakefield for the Board of Trade of \$100,000 for lot 1, block 19, being the southwest corner of Sixteenth and Farnam, belonging to the city. There is significance in the offer of a reward for the return to J. J. Noble's meat market of a lost brown terrier dog.