## THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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NOVEMBER CIRCULATION.

## 52,531

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, 88,
Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bes
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, 1 stary Public.

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

Now for the last grand rush of the belated early shoppers.

Now, little folks, sleep with both eyes tight shut and he will surely come.

And make it a merry Christmas-for the other fel'ow as well as yourself.

Whatever one may think about the war, Gee Bernard Shaw differs with you.

That raise in rates was a handsome Christwas present for the eastern railroads.

Yet there were some idle I. W. W. boys before the pall of war times fell upon us.

Get your fireplace cleared out, and make sure there are no obstacles in the chimney,

Perhaps the quickest way to start the Missouri river barge line would be to build iceboats.

The underlying difficulty in this jury problem is to get \$5 men to serve as jurors at \$3 a

Note that both Mr. Kitchin and Mr. Garrett aspire to the floor leadership of the democratic household.

The electric light user does not care half so much how the rate comes down, nor why, as that

"Safety first" should also warn people not to load the Christmas tree with too many strings of dry popcorn.

And while cutting out the needless jobs. Senator Dodge, don't overlook those insanity commissioners and their graft.

It turns out that "the Christmas ship" was mighty well timed to reach the war orphans of

Europe, and no time to spare. Harry Thaw sends the friendly gatekeeper at Matteawan \$500 for Christmas, showing that

the lawyers have not yet got it all. Our thanks to many friends for numerous handsome and useful calendars that will not let us forget how time flies in 1915.

Several national Santa Clauses over in Europe are snooping around to see just how hot a bunch they can stick in the other fellow's

It will be a white Christmas for Omaha out in the residence districts and suburbs, but not in the smoke-begrimed, soot-covered, central part of the city.

Incidentally, keeping two separate heating plants going for city hall and court house, where one would easily do the business, also keeps two sets of boiler-room employes on the payroll.

The exchange editor smiles a merry Christmas smile as those empty mail pouches are brought in, showing that as usual at rush times, Uncle Sam sidetracks the second class matter.

The Nebraska delegation in the house has divided on the prohibition amendment exactly as they are divided on party lines, and it is a cinch that the two Nebraska senators would divide the same way.



The day was again one of the coldest experienced in the city, and suffering from cold intense. The thermometer started out at 16 degrees below zero. At o'clock it had gotten up to 11 degrees below zero, and at 6 o'clock in the evening was 9 degrees below, while at midnight it had fallen down again to 15 de-

Trinity cathedral had a children's carol service for Christmas eve, and the First Presbyterian church had a Christmas tree for the little ones, which had been decorated at the expense of Mrs. Grant of Philadelphia, the same tree being taken later to the South Omaha mission on Castellar street.

J. J. Points, a well known member of the school board, was married last night to Miss Alice E. Stewart of the teaching force. The wedding tour will take in the New Orleans exposition. W. N. Lorimer, the general agent of the Deering

Harvester company, was gold-watched by his friends at his office, Thirteenth and Harney, the presentation speech being made by W. J. Kennedy. The firm of Leighton & Clarke, wholesale druggist, has been succeeded by the H. T. Clarke Drug com-

Ole Olson and Miss Louise Gardner were united in marriage by Rev. J. S. Detweiler at the bride's some, 2002 Nicholas street. Prohibition Remains a Local Issue.

The failure of the Hobson amendment to secure the required constitutional majority in the house must be taken as meaning that the question of regulating or suppressing the liquor traffic is, and must continue to be for the present, a local issue. That will, of course, not stop the effort to bring it out again in the next congress or to make it a national issue by forcing it into the next presidential campaign. The consensus of opinion, however, must be that the decision of congress fairly reflects the general public sentiment, which has regarded the liquor question as one to be dealt with locally in conformity with the wishes of the people affected.

The whole question of prohibition is inseparably bound up with the territorial unit by which the decision is to be made. On this point there has been no consistency in the attitude of either side; the prohibitionists clamor for county, city, or even ward option or state-wide prohibition, according as they believe it would produce more dry territory, and their demand for a national prohibition amendment merely aims to accomplish by one stroke what they have been seeking to do piecemeal by state or local prohibition.

It is noteworthy, too, that the vote in the house fails to disclose a division on strict party lines, but rather cuts across party lines, members of all parties answering the roll both "Yes" and "No." The fact, however, that the majority of the votes are recorded favorable to submission will naturally encourage a return to the fray and stimulate the prohibition activity within the several states,

#### Time to Get Over the Scare.

"From a banking standpoint the country never was as rich as it is today," says Secretary Lane of the Department of the Interior. The banks, so we are told, are bulging with the savings of the people, so are the safe deposit vaults, where millions of dollars are piled up at a time when they ought to be in circulation. And there is more agricultural wealth in the country than there ever was before. Our 1914 crops were in many cases record breaking, notably wheat, foreign exports of which are likely to set a few precedents.

Yet, surrounded on all sides with the most amazing resources and products of wealth, we count our unemployed by the thousands, while free soup houses are multiplying. Public and private philanthropy is on the firing line in response to the plea for food and clothing.

As The Bee has more than once observed the serious defect arises from lack of confidence, lack of confidence in ourselves, and lack of confidence in those with whom we do business as tradesmen and as customers, as employers and employes. This impairment of confidence may be explained by a lot of things, among which the war is only one, but the restoration of confidence alone will set all the wheels again moving in co-ordination.

At this time when our country is feeling its share of the effect of the European war, let us not ignore the other primal causes of our domestic lethargy. The fault is part'y our own as well as Europe's, and when we set our own machinery straight and turn on our confidence valves, the European war scare will lose most of Its disturbing effect.

## The Honorable Japanese.

Unofficial, though strong, objection to the allies calling in Japanese reinforcements has been voiced by a former French cabinet member, who says that though Japan sent only 250,000 soldiers-a corporal's guard in this day of "modern" warfare-it would never cease to claim the credit in the event of victory,

If such objection should take official form in France it might easily have the effect of barring Japanese troops, for even England would hardly care to press a point likely to create friction within the allied ranks.

The objection, however, recalls Germany's original alarm, sounded in the behalf of European interests, against a prospective invasion under the provisions of the Anglo-Japanese alliance. Possibly the force of that objection may have been weakened by the introduction of other "Aryan brown" and tropical troops from India. Egypt and Africa, and by the enlistment of the Turks behind the German standards, and yet from whatever angle we view it, it may be hoped that the honorable Japanese will remain in their own country, while the erring brothers over the sea fight out their deplorable struggle.

## Where the Clergy May Help.

Rev. Samuel J. Niccolls of St. Louis, one of the foremost Protestant preachers in the country, confessed to his congregation from the pulpit, his grave mistake in marrying two persons of royal titles a few days before, who had come fresh from the divorce court to the altar.

"I was utterly unacquainted with either party and knew nothing of their previous history or condition," he said. "Had I known then what I know now, I would not have married them. I do not blame them. I blame myself for not having made a more diligent inquiry into the matter."

The minister's frank confession is commendable and besides "an honest confession is good for the soul," but the episode calls attention to a prevailing fault among too many of our clergymen. Dr. Niccolis, as he realizes, should have inquired about these strangers who came to him to be married, just as every clergyman should do with reference to every couple seeking matrimony. Such precaution might not prevent the marriage, nor the subsequent divorces, but it would have the right tendency. It would also lend more consistency to the popular clamor for eugenic marriages, based on prerequisite certificates of sound physical condition. With all the great results promised for this latter device, there is much to be done by the clergy and others vested with authority to perform marriage ceremonies along purely moral lines, Where the clergy becomes careless or indifferent, not to say avaricious, as a few are on the subject, what shall be said of the attendant evils? No consideration should keep a minister of the gospel or an officer of the court from making due inquiry into the relations and conditions of every couple presented for marriage.

While modern industry gives preference to the man below 50, modern war is willing to take him even a year or two above that deadline.

# "Night Before Christmas"

Origin of Famous Christmas Poem In thousands of homes and by hundreds of thou-sands of children and elders these words are being

> Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house, Not a creature was stirring, not even

Nothing, not even excepting Dickens' favorite 'Christmas Carol," has ever been written on the bject of Christmas for children has enjoyed greater popularity than this poem, given to the world ninetytwo years ago under the well known title, "A Visit

From St. Nicholas. The author, Dr. Clement Clarke Moore, was a theologian of note and a linguist who compiled in 1909 the first Hebrew-Greek lexicon published in America. He had written several small poems, but have been forgotten save "A Visit From St. Nicholas." More than that, says a writer in the New York Times, Dr. Moore had a wonderful love for children, which kept his heart young always. He lived in a big, old-fashioned house long since leveled to the ground for rows of prosaic brick and stone dwellings in the old Chelsea district of Manhattan His house was near the corner of Ninth avenue and Twenty-third street, and in his day the grounds sloped down gradually to the river, making it one of the most charming suburban homes in the city limits.

For Home Entertainment.

Dr. Moore had children of his own, and it was his custom every Christmas season to arrange some entertainment for his little ones and their friends. 1822 he wrote his poem which formed the chief part of the household entertainment on the "night before Christmas." He never dreamed that it would become famous, or that the world would remember this classic childhood verse and forget his laborious work in compiling the huge Hebrew-Greek lexicon. The publication of it never entered his head. In the following year, however, a young woman from Troy, the daughter of Rev. Dr. Butler of that city, was visiting at the Moore homestead, and in talking over plans for Christthe good doctor showed her the verses he had written the previous year. She was so charmed with them that she requested the privilege of copying them, and took them home to use in a children's festival.

Then, feeling that others might also like to us the poem, she gave a copy of it to the editor of the Troy Sentinel, and the complete poem was published in that newspaper on December 23, 1823, the first time that it appeared in print. When Dr. Moore heard of it, it is said he was inclined to be somewhat annoyed, Its instant popularity amazed him, and when it began to be copied into foreign languages he was still more surprised. Dr. Moore never received one cent for his soem, but he had what was to him the greater satisfaction of knowing, in later years, that he had given happiness and pleasure to thousands of persons, and perhaps deepened their appreciation of the Christmas

Dr. Moore died in Newport in 1862. The New York Historical society has a copy of the celebrated Christmas poem written by Dr. Moore at the request of one of the officers in 1862, and with it a letter by his nephew, T. W. C. Moore, relating some of the circumstances under which the poem was written. In the letter Mr. Moore says that his uncle told him that a portly Dutchman living on the Chelsea estate first suggested to him the idea of making St. Nicholas the hero of this Christmas ballad.

The Poem Unabridged.

The Form Unabridged.

Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house

Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there:
The children were nestled all snug in their beds, While visions of sugar-plums danced through their heads.

heads.

And Mamma in her kerchief, and I in my cap.
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap.
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter.
I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash.
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.
The moon, on the breast of the new fallen snow.
Gave a luster of midday to objects below:
When what to my wondering eyes should appear.
But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer.
With a little old driver, so lively and quick
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.
More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and call'd them by
name: heads.

"Now Dasher! now Dancer! now Prancer! now Vixen! "Now Dasher! now Dancer! now Prancer! now Vixen! On Comet! on Cupid! on Dunder and Blitzen! To the top of the porch, to the top of the wall! Now dash away, dash away, dash away al!"

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly, When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky, So, up to the housetops the coursers they flew, With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas, too. And then in a twinkling I heard on the roof, The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.

As I drew in my head, and was turning around, Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound. He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot, And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot:

And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;
A bundle of toys he had flung on his back.
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.
His eyes how they twinkled, his dimples how merry!
His cheeks like the roses, his nose like a cherry.
His droil little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow.
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke, it encircled his head like a wreath.
He had a broad face and a little round belly
That shook, when he laughed, like a bowl of jelly.
He was chubby and plump—a right joily old elf—
And I laughed, when I saw him, in spite of myself.
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.
He spake not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,
And laying a nod, up the chimney he rose.
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle:
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight.
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"

## Twice Told Tales

When John Was Jilted. At a social affair, when the conversation drifted to the trials and triumphs of beautiful love, Miss Regina Rambo of Atlanta, who is known as "The Little Daughter of the South," was reminded of an

John Henry was engaged to be married to Maude Marie, Miss Rambo said, when, for some trivial cause the usual quarrel ensued. Drawing herself to an imperious height the flashing beauty removed her

"Take your ring," she angrily exclaimed, "and in return I shall expect you to send me everything in r possession that belongs to me."
"All I have, Maude Marie," sadly replied John

Henry, "is a photograph and a lock of your hair. I don't suppose you will want the photograph, but you might care for the hair as a souvenir. "As a souvenir!" haughtily reloined the angered

"Of other days, Maude Marie," was the joitful response of John Henry, "of the time when you were a brunette."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

## People and Events

Testifying in Chicago in her suit for \$50,000 damfor breach of promise, Miss Nellie Lemon admitted that the arder of her lover cooled down when she sent him presents of silk pajamas and lace curtains. That's why Miss Nellie remains a Lemon.

Fourteen persons who attended the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W. Clark Raynor fifty years ago at Westhampton, L. I., were guests of the couple at their golden anniversary. The fourteen included J Mitchell Stevens, who was best man at the ceremony. New York state plunged into the barge canal

scheme with assurances that the bond issue of \$101, -600,000 would do the job and leave some change. The original huge pile is gone and \$50,000,000 is needed to complete the undertaking. Political contractors wear the smile that wont come off. Mr. Panaretoff, the first minister sent to this country by Bulgaria, brings to this side of the water some

main neutral or plunge into the war according to the prospects of getting what Bulgaria wants. And Bulgaria doesn't care who knows it. The National Association of Vickaburg Veterans is distributing attractive advance literature of the national peace jubilee, which will be held in the Vicksburg Military park October 13-16, 1915. Veterans of

and talk it over while enjoying a feast

rare samples of candor. He says Bulgaria will re



Feeding Prisoners Germany's Burden SUPERIOR, Neb., Dec. 23.-To the Editor of The Bee: Have just received a letter from my brother-in-law, Mr. Carl Sierke, Homeburg, Germany, stating they have in their village (which is about the same size as Superior) 2,000 English marines and 500 English infantry prisoners, who are allowed the privileges of visitors and are treated as such, and not, like some papers state, at hard labor and not enough to eat. However, this works a hardship on Germany, feeding 300,000 prisoners of foreign countries, and the imports cut off. I cannot understand the principle of the Prince of Peace, if he has any principle, opposing the bills of such noble men like Hitchcock and Lobeck. I would like to have the views of your readers for or against the bills now before the United States senate and CODE POSS. ERNST MEYER.

## Military and Industrial Warfare.

YORK, Neb., Dec. 23.-To the Editor of The Bee: Some people seem to have their wires crossed, as indicated by what we hear at the street forum and read in the papers. If we are to believe all we hear, it must be a crime to be good. Unless certain ones get all the benefit, there is a roar goes over the country against the gift, the giver, even against the spirit in which it is given. For instance take the reported tirade

of Representative Buchanan, labor member from Indiana, against the relief that is being sent the Belgians. Among other excuses, he asks why is that not given to the miners of Colorado. In answer to which I wish to say those poor Belgians are in their present sore need by no act or choice of their own, while the miners of Colorado quit good jobs at good wages in order to force their employer into a contract that took from him the control of his own business and from threefourths of his employes their right to work as free men where and for whom they pleased. But instead of being free one-fourth would have told the three-fourths to get out without thought and care for their welfare or that of their wives and children or else come into the union, trade their freedom for the pleasure of paying dues to keep a few big leeches on easy street, who reserve the right to say work when I say so or quit when I say so; and when I read in the papers or hear from the platform this rant about giving to labor its due (always referring to that side of it) I am compelled to ask what about the other threefourths. Have they no rights to be respected? For when an employer agrees to recognize a union he thereby says to the other three, I cannot treat with you

They say, "Boss, are we not as efficient, as honest, as worthy of a chance to earn our living as they?" But all he can say is, "I have no option in the matter. I am told who and how many I can hire, so there. Now don't tell me this is not the gist of this war, as I have been up against both sides of this thing. Then if you will turn to your old papers of last spring you will find the excuse for the strike very different from what is given now. They confessed then that wages and conditions were O. K., but were striking for the recognition of the union. Now they add living conditions as part of the charge, among which is having to trade at company stores. find no fault with that complaint, for I am against that myself, and I am consistent in that as it is a part of my free dom for which I am now contending. While I am granting others their rights I don't want to be compelled to surrender my own.

When I ask for work I don't say is my work-fellow a Jew or an Irishman, an Odd Fellow or a common fellow, but I ought to have an interest in him and his work and he should be given no strings with which to tie or lash me with. FRANKLIN POPE

## Political Pointers

Innovations in political methods, as in other things, swell the cost of government. The last primary election in Oregon cost the taxpayers \$300,000.

Without the aid or consent of Missouri's two senators the president has named a postmaster for Kansas City and a marshal for the western district of Missouri.

Ohio modestly announces that it has four republicans of presidential size-Herrick, Burton, Willis and Harding, Buckeyes will back any one of them to the finish in 1916,

The Citizens' union of New York City thinks the metropolis would be more efficiently managed and much happier with fewer aldermen, and proposes to ask the legislature for a reduction of the number of chairwarmers.

Taxpayers in New York City are wakng up. They have discovered that rural lawmakers have piled on the cities an unjust proportion of the state's burdens. and they propose buttonholing the coming legislature for an equalization of the load. Then the fun will begin.

Back in Massachusetts bull moosers have launched the "Order of the Bee Hive." for the purpose of drawing into closer comradeship, all persons desirous of perpetuating the principles of the progressive party. Membership is open to both sexes, with an initiation fee of \$1 for men, 50 cents for women, half rates for minors. Among other reforms projected within the party is the elimination of 'angels," especially those flapping birdlike wings.

## Here and There

St. Louis Republic: The most important part played by the United States in the war thus far has been the saving of one devastated nation from starvation, and every food ship sent across the water is worth more for the cause of peace than any battleship ever built.

The distinction by W. E. Chaffee of Washington, of having shaken hands with nineteen presidents of the United States, has a certain element of novelty, but is deficient in the thrilling sest, which Nebraska democrats show in striving to reach the hand at the federal ple counter

The masculine fashion oracle of Sait Luke City, notes with some astoni ment that "the return of the whiskers is perhaps the big sensation of the men's fashion situation." Apart from the value of whiskers as a symbol of mussled wisdom, the Salt Lake City innovation sides are to meet on the famous battleground bespeaks the tribute modern prophets pay to their ancient sires.

# Editorial Viewpoint

president, Mr. Herrick well might say with the playwright Kemble, "Perhaps it was right to dissemble your love, but

why did you kick me down stairs?" Pittsburgh Dispatch: They are fine days for Italy. If it feels itself wronged in any way, all it has to do is to demand apologies, and the big powers will see that it gets them. Italy has rather too the kind of a horn I want. "Woman's many men to be allowed to get into the Home Companion." many men to be allowed to get into the war on the other side.

\$70,000,000 to Germany in addition to the hearted?"

War levies exacted from various Belgian "No, he's too pigeon toed."—Cleveland cities. A people that is destitute and starving and whose cities have been laid waste and fields ravaged by war has enough to do to keep soul and body together without contributing enormous sums to the war chest of a hostile army of occupation.

Philadelphia Record: "In the event of war," said Admiral Fiske, in his testimony before the house naval committee
recently, "our policy would have to be to
endeavor to get control of the sea," All the experts say the same thing, but they ought to tell us how this control is to be obtained. No nation has persisted in its endeavor to command the sea longer and more strenuously than the British, and For A yet this nation has not control even of For the waters that wash its coasts.

Philadelphia Ledger: The chief reason for exercising great caution in reopening the security markets was the fear that Europe might flood the American market with American securities which foreign people own. But it appears now that while war may naturally impel Europe to sell our securities, the disasters of war might also induce private investors to prefer to keep their money work in the United States.

## CHEERY CHAFF.

Boston Transcript: Praised by the Post.

"Home is the dearest place on earth," coeed Mrs. Jones.

"It is," replied Jones, who had just received the Christmas bills.—Houston Post.

She-Didn't you think the people at Mra. Gander's reception were all extremely dull?
"Yes, but you know it was authors' day."-Life.

New York World: It is hard to see helieve our Willie would go in for it.

#### CHRISTMAS EVE.

Chester Firkins in the Atlantic. Tonight is all the year to me,
When, out of all the ricened days,
Sorrow is sifted, Beauty stays,—
The winnowed grain of Memory.

The Yule-tide flame snaps blithe below; Bright holly berries burn above; And Fancy builds a dream thereof-dream of summer-'mid the snow.

Autumn, there is harvest hoard all the toiling world's good will: r Winter, there's the wondrous thrill f laughter 'round the laden board.

Back through the ages, unto Them Who in the lowly manger lay, Where stolid kine soft watched by day Above the Babe of Bethlehem.

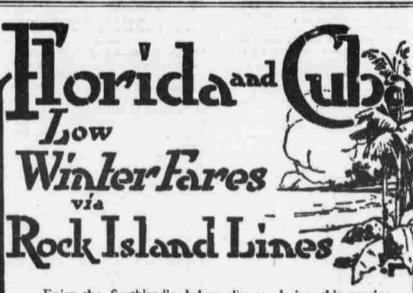
And all the hope—the—joy—that He Gave to all Christmas-tides of Time Lifts here a pinnacle sublime, Tonight is all of Life to me!



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