

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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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 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.

High living too often produces low spirits. Thanks, Mr. Weatherman! Your favors are always welcome.

The bigger the guns, the bigger bore they make of the war.

St. Jackson's day seems almost to have been lost in the shuffle.

And Governor Morehead will have a legislature on his hands in another week.

Another year almost gone and only a few of the hungry Nebraska democrats fed.

Method is always a good thing, provided it does not become the whole thing in life.

Secretary Bryan might counter on the senator by suggesting Edgar Howard as the compromise.

Let the legislature hold an inquest on the office of coroner and bring in a finding on the facts.

In a fight between an a'ra'ph and a submarine, it's an even break as to which offers safety first.

The British raid on the German coast after the German attack on the British ports leaves it tit for tat.

In due time the inquiry into the causes of the great European war will devolve upon the archaeologists.

Despite the fine sleighing conditions, it continues hard sledding for the democratic pie-counter brigade.

Whenever the censors slow up a little, somebody over there flashes that old one about Francis Joseph dying.

That Kansas City school teacher who got forty-nine handkerchiefs for Christmas can afford to weep for joy.

The nation congratulates its chief executive on his fifty-eighth birthday anniversary, wishing him many more and prosperous years.

That Pennsylvanian who was handed an inheritance of \$25,000 on leaving prison, doubtless sincerely believes that "virtue is its own reward."

Striking a mine at sea must be just a little exaggeration of the experience of suddenly getting a blow-out on what looks like a perfectly smooth road.

Nevertheless and notwithstanding, if anybody with the useful money wants to develop our Nebraska water power streams, why doesn't he get busy and do it?

As if there were not already trouble enough on the Texas border, the Houston Post is now running the literary output of George Bailey and Judd Lewis side by side.

Yes, it's a good deal more pleasant to brag about prosperity visible to all who will look, but don't forget that there is still a lot of misfortune and suffering in the dark corners.

When the eastern railroads have had their stockings filled by the Interstate Commerce commission, is it any wonder that the western roads object to playing the role of step-child?

Somebody tries to tell us that rates for fire insurance exacted in Omaha are "reasonable," presumably as compared with similar charges in other cities. They will have to show us. According to our best information, the fire rates are about as exorbitant in Omaha as the underwriters dare make them.

"How long ought Christmas trees and trimmings be left standing?" someone asks. Well, perhaps that is a question for each to answer for himself, but there is one token or Christmas, namely its spirit, that ought to be left standing permanently.

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New Hearing for Leo Frank.

Associate Justice Lamar of the United States supreme court has decided that Leo M. Frank shall not be executed on January 22, nor until the highest tribunal shall have a chance of determining whether he has been legally convicted of the crime with which he is charged. The order granting the young man a hearing before the court of last resort surely will be gratifying to everyone who loves justice and equal rights. Had Frank gone to the gallows without this hearing, millions—probably a majority of Americans—would always have believed he was deprived of his life without his constitutional right of "due process of law." And the stain could never have been effaced from the good name of the state of Georgia.

Frank was convicted in an atmosphere seething with prejudice and threats of mob violence and was not even present when the verdict came in. On this his claim of a denial of due process of law rests. Mr. Justice Holmes had previously questioned the method of his conviction and even the trial judge expressed a doubt of his guilt. Mr. Justice Lamar grants a stay on the ground, chiefly, that the United States supreme court has never determined whether on trial for murder in a state court the due process clause of the federal constitution guarantees the defendant a right to be present when the verdict is rendered.

Whatever the outcome, the hearing of the appeal will go down as a triumph for orderly justice and new proof that individual rights counts before the highest tribunal.

Again the Omaha Spirit.

Without any thought of a New Year resolution for the city, The Bee recently suggested the need of a distinctive Omaha spirit, which would give us "more coherent co-operation," for the things that make for the betterment and up-building of the city, "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, "This is the Omaha spirit."

But with the approach of the New Year, The Bee, on second thought, ventures to suggest that as citizens of a great metropolis with a greater future, we could do no better than to commit ourselves more resolutely than ever to this proposition. Why not make it our concerted New Year resolution?

The year, 1915, will undoubtedly be for the entire country a year of great construction work, of advancement and improvement and Omaha will, of course, share in this splendid progress. But looking even beyond the immediate future, can we not see the need, therefore the wisdom, for closer unity of sympathy and action for the city's welfare? If so, we again commend this "Omaha spirit" to the consideration of our people.

A Satisfied Customer.

Did you ever hear such a remark as this: "I've gone into that store for the last time. I've been there two or three times and each time I go in with my mind made up as to what I want and come away with exactly the thing I don't want?"

The answer is that some clerk more zealous to make a sale than to please, has messed things up very badly for his establishment by inducing or persuading this patron to buy an article which he did not want. Most any skillful clerk is eloquent enough to do such a thing if he sets his head to it. But the clerk who appreciates the indispensable value to his store of a satisfied customer will hesitate to use his powers in that way. While it is strictly the business of the clerk to make the best possible immediate sale, it is a larger part of his business to build up and hold trade, and that is not done by cunningly forcing a patron to choose between two articles the very one he especially objects to, even though the margin of profit be wider than on the other.

Salesmanship is something of an inexact science, as successful merchants and salesmen, of course, realize and the more of the sound theories that get into practice over the counter, the better for both the man behind the counter and the one behind him. No store can have a more valuable asset than a satisfied customer.

Hayward's Upward Climb.

The official announcement, already foreshadowed in The Bee, of the selection of William Hayward, a native Nebraskan, to be legal adviser of Governor Whitman of New York makes all his friends hereabout rejoice to know he is climbing steadily up the ladder. It means that Hayward is making good in his new field, and that as the governor's enthusiastic and loyal right-hand man, he will share whatever political fortune awaits Mr. Whitman, whose future is generally conceded to be bright with promise.

That Hayward was born in Nebraska and got his start here must be specially gratifying to all his friends, the only note of regret being that his exceptional talents and aptitude were not appreciated at their true worth by those who should have given them recognition. For it is a matter of common knowledge that it was the refusal of his neighbors to back up his ambition to represent the First Nebraska district in congress that impelled him to remove to New York, which counts Nebraska's loss as its gain. Whether our own people will see the moral and heed the lesson remains to be seen.

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In the Wake of the War

Subterranean Fighting.

A Paris correspondent of the London Times who was permitted to explore the front by the French authorities, notes some of the strange aspects of modern warfare, particularly the subterranean methods of fighting on the western front. "I am not a war correspondent," writes the Paris representative, "and to me the most curious revelation of my trip to the front is the fact that the signs of war are more evident in the lines immediately behind the front than in the firing line itself.

"The men in the trenches, in spite of shell fire, are able to push on, but they have come back again to the old hand-to-hand fight in which barbed wire is their great enemy. We have returned to the medieval business which gave the name to our grenades. Hand grenades are tossed from one trench to another. Trench guns, which throw a shell some fifty or 60 meters, are again in use. Catapults and other archaic instruments of war have come into vogue once more.

"Even the harpoon is being used against that deadly enemy of the advance, barbed wire. This is the greatest obstacle to progress. Among the French troops there is never any lack of men willing to be killed in cutting away for their comrades the barbed wire by means of nippers. Eighty per cent of the men who volunteer for this duty do not return, but other means are less costly. The harpoon has been found extremely effective. A spear with a hook at the end of it, attached by rope, is thrown over the barbed wire entanglements, and then the company in the trenches pulls with a will, trying to rip away the obstacle in front of it. This will, no doubt, be perfected, and we shall have a gun to fire a harpoon and a winch to wind it up and root out the barbed wire in which it is entangled. We shall have tortoises, resembling the old legendary formation of Rome, which will enable men to advance on barbed wire cutting expeditions without the appalling loss of men which they at present entail."

Romance of the Sea.

"Two extremely interesting facts stand out from the record of Admiral von Spee's squadron and from that of the Emden," says the New York Post. "It was believed before this war that the greatest difficulty would be in getting coal if it did not belong to a nation with coaling stations throughout the world. But these German vessels had no difficulty whatever in coaling. What troubled them was their inability to secure ammunition. It is reported today that the Gneisenau had shot away all its ammunition some time before the end came, and the Scharnhorst could not have been made better off, for the two boats of the action off Coronel. From the official report of the gallant captain of the Emden to the Kaiser, it appears that he, too, ran out of ammunition. He then actually turned his vessel towards his pursuer, in the hope of sinking it by means of a torpedo or by ramming it, but in a few minutes his funnels were shot away, his steam fell off, and there was nothing left but to run it on a near-by reef. The deadliness of these modern battles for the loser appears not only from the fact that, like the Monmouth and the Good Hope, the Gneisenau went down with all on board, but from the official statement that, while about 110 men were killed on the Emden, only eight were wounded. The knowledge that scarcely a single German vessel has surrendered under fire, and that the crews have chosen rather to perish than haul down their flag, as did the men of the Gneisenau, is producing a tremendous feeling of pride and elation in Germany, where they consider that their navy of only thirty years' standing has proved itself the equal of the British in ability, daring, and a courage which welcomes death for the Fatherland."

Tommy Atkins' War Charter.

Tommy Atkins' fondness for slang is proverbial. The official dispatches have told how he dubbed the largest German shells "Black Marias" and "Jack Johnstons," but, naturally a lot of trench chatter has not found its way into the official communications. Why engagements are known as the "zoo," "Flugwagners" and "hello-wobblers" for signal men are fairly obvious nicknames, and the latter's grin when they hear them is only equaled by that of the members of the medical corps, who are known by the somewhat undignified names of "poultice wallopers" or "lunased lancets."

The Ordnance store corps has been nicknamed the "sugar stick brigade" on account of the trimmings on its uniform. Tall men in the army are generally referred to as "fatters," and more often than not a cavalryman calls his horse his "long-faced chum," buglers being "fiddlers" or "wind-jammers."

In ordinary conversation "Tommy" speaks of his clothes as his "lobber" and the canteen as the "tank." To be in hospital is to be "in dook," while money is referred to as "oot," "rhino," "the ready," "pewter" or "shiners."

A reservist is a "dagout," a recruit a "rookie" and a veteran an "old timer." A shrewd sergeant in the artillery is a "spoky," while the long service medal is called the "root" medal—"root" being the slang term for bread, because the owner has eaten most. Puttees are known as "war socks."

Sounds of Cannonading.

"English people who fancied they could hear the sound of cannonading across the channel," says the London Chronicle, "may not have been deceived. For Flamman, who gave much food for the phenomena of sound, has collected instances of far-traveled waves that put Folkestone in the shade. During the siege of Paris, he declares, Krupp's cannon—that most expeditious of all vehicles of civilization in the eyes of the statesmen of this planet—could be heard as far as Dieppe, ninety miles. The firing of March 30, 1814, which sounded the doom of Napoleon, was heard between Lisieux and Caen, 375 kilometers distant. Arago makes himself responsible for the statement that a horrid noise of Waterloo could be heard at Creil, 200 kilometers away."

Twice Told Tales

The Knack.

"The Germans, lacking gasoline, are making a substitute for their automobiles out of fat," said Senator Gallinger. "The Germans with their submarines and Zeppelins and Taubes and what not, can put modern progress to good use."

"In this knack of turning all sorts of modern things to good use, the Germans are like the inventor who visited the capitalist and said: "I've got an invention here that will make both our fortunes. It is an alarm clock that we can guarantee—that we can positively guarantee—for it will make every single purchaser jump out of bed like a cat."

"Humph. That's what they all say. But let's hear her ring," said the skeptical capitalist. "She don't ring," said the inventor, smiling proudly. "She hocks."

People and Events

Only four more days to the water wagon. Make your reservations early.

Once more your jolly Uncle Samuel contributes a mile to the joy of Omaha. Pumper fees are listed as a taxable commodity. Cut out the funeral and fees.

A state census of New York will be taken in 1915 and 4,000 prospective census jobs lend a tone of surpassing joyousness to the change of the state administration.

Despite the penetrating intelligence, logical reasoning and intuitive force burning the record, the present year cheerfully passes to 1915 the unanswered question: "Who started the war?"

According to a report filed by the heirs at Oakland, Cal., Josiah Miller left real estate worth \$11,966. The post of the Sierras was shrewd enough to get his books on some of the land he sang about.

The Princess de Sagan, formerly Anna Gould, has the distinction of having both her present husband and her ex-husband, Boni de Castellane, serving in the French army. Under such circumstances even a princess may cherish diverse hopes.



The Water Power Question. LOUP CITY, Neb., Dec. 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: I do not care to occupy so much space in your paper, and wish that some other person might look after this subject of water power. Dr. Condra, one of the water power commissioners, in one of the state papers, says: Just what is to be done on these projects is a problem. They cannot meet the conditions of the grants. The total grant of more than 10,000 horsepower is more (electricity) than would be utilized by the people. It is true, however, that public opinion in our state is not yet in favor of this policy—state ownership. The success or failure depends upon the ability of the officials. Those who would direct it should be free from financial interests, and the market should be insured before installation is begun.

Why should a water power commission decide for the people as between private ownership and state ownership of water power improvements?

One of the principal charges I have against this commission is that it has carefully suppressed water power information that should have been carefully prepared in pamphlet form and distributed to the people, by which the people may decide this issue of ownership rather than a commission.

When the doctor makes the statement that 100,000 horsepower of electricity is all that would be utilized at present, and that "the market should be found before installation is begun," he places himself with the special interests. Some of our people modestly lift their hands to high heaven when they think of appropriating money to a municipal state ownership cause, but they are as quiet as a kitten when Nebraska appropriates \$2,000,000 to move a school in which only 1 per cent of the people derive any benefit.

If we ever expect to use electricity as a heating agent, the price must be reduced to \$10 per horsepower per year, which would equal hard coal commercially. If we are to develop our water powers by private ownership, cheap electricity cannot be had, because of the inefficiency of the methods of privately developed plants. The amount of current consumed depends on the price. Hence the fact may be clearly seen that the consumption of electricity depends largely on the construction of the power plants. Our water power commissioners may be efficient grammarians and school teachers, but their abilities in engineering is just a little lopsided. Even though they say nothing in their report, the grammar should be correct. Give the people the information, then "let the people rule."

WALTER JOHNSON.

Socialism and Dr. Liebknecht.

OMAHA, Dec. 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: The papers report that Dr. Liebknecht, socialist member of the German Reichstag, has been forced into military service. What for? They fear the revolt of the people, should they shoot him on the fake charge and conviction for high treason and, therefore, force him into the army where they adopt the method of the hero and gentleman to legally execute him under the cloak of warfare.

But if the perpetrators of that scheme believe they can thus stop or even check the growth of socialism and the growing opposition to imperialism and militarism they are sadly mistaken. There are other Liebknechts in Germany, the same in spirit, who are eagerly willing to stand and work and die, if they must, for the same ideals he stands for, in numbers they will not dare to silence by death.

You can no more eradicate the spirit and philosophy of socialism than you can blot out of the hearts of men the desire for freedom and justice.

R. B. BENDA.

Charity at Home and Abroad.

DORSY, Neb., Dec. 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: Dear Sir—I read with interest the letter written by a member of the Belgian Relief commission of Upland, but beg to take exception to it on behalf of the poor of our own country.

One may not have place for charity in Upland, but what of the dozens of poor children of Omaha, the thousands of Chicago, and tens of thousands of New York?

No one could refer to our own problems as something infinitesimal if he had been with us, not thirty days ago, on Fourteenth street in New York City and seen bread lines, composed of women, children and strong, able-bodied men, out of work for no fault of their own.

I wish to be truly neutral regarding the ravages of this European war, but those who are acquainted with the conditions over in Belgium know that it is not quite so innocent as many Americans are led to believe, that the women and children of a country must cast their lot with the government of their husband's country. That if country or man does bind himself to obligations he cannot fulfill, one must suffer the consequences thereof.

Not so with the poor of our larger eastern cities, who suffer through conditions brought on by the failures or faults of our own government. Therefore, the poor of New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, etc., look upon our great train loads of flour and food for aliens as a great good pervaded. That true charity should begin at home. That though Upland be so fortunate as to be without need, even its next door neighbor may be grateful for its infinitesimal offering.

A READER.

That City Hall Meeting.

SOUTH OMAHA, Dec. 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: Had all voters of South Omaha been present at the meeting held at city hall on the evening of December 23 and heard the harangues against annexation there would have been such a tremendous demand for the immediate consolidation of South Omaha with Omaha that it would have swept all before it like a prairie fire.

The same old gang had control of that meeting and had hung on the neck of the city for so many years that it is hard to remember when they did not have control.

One man who has been at the public crib for the last twenty-five years said he had never in that period of time heard one reason why we should be annexed to Omaha. That man should be reason enough for annexation, without enumerating the many other reasons why we should be annexed. The howl about the people of South Omaha about to lose their liberty is rot and only gangsters could use that kind of language.

When we shake off the barnacles that have clung to the life of the city for so many years and assert ourselves by annexing to a city that will give us new life and hope down here we will then be attaining our liberties as American citizens instead of being enslaved.

When we vote on the question, in case the legislature does not annex us, which I hope they will do, there will not be any

more voting machines to manipulate, nor will the voting machine manipulator be here, and with the election boards as now constituted, we will be given a fair ballot and a fair count of the ballots as cast. The city of South Omaha will never prosper as it should until we are annexed to Omaha, when things will take on a great boom.

From the complexion of the meeting last Wednesday evening it looks as if most of the so-called improvement clubs are under the control of the same old gangs that have brought hardship to the taxpayers of the city. F. A. AGNEW.

Editorial Shrapnel

Washington Star: Discussions in congress with reference to preparedness for war may grow sufficiently acrimonious to call for a little cooling from the dove of peace for strictly home consumption.

Buffalo Express: Disposition to jibe at peace propagandists who six months ago predicted there would be no war overlooks entirely the rival predictions of the jingoists that preparedness would prevent war.

New York World: The question at Washington? If Congressman Hefflin had been allowed to accept Congressman Moon's invitation in the house to "say it outside," would Congressman Hefflin then have been Moonstruck?

Baltimore American: The new governor general of Belgium announced that he intended to do everything in that country to enable the weak to get to their feet. Then the collection of the war tax of \$20,000,000 was ordered, possibly by way of encouragement.

New York Post: The members of the Emden's crew who escaped stole a schooner, mounted Maxim guns and then sailed off in it to attack commerce on the seas, have, in the natural order of things, been run down. But no one of what ever sympathies, can refuse admiration of their splendid audacity.

Springfield Republican: The abolition of the office of assistant postmaster by the postoffice appropriation bill, just completed in committee, has a spolia-hungry look. The assistant postmasters are protected in their positions by civil service rules. In order to turn these places into party patronage, the house committee, apparently, proposes to abolish them and substitute something new. Would the new positions of "superintendent of finance" and "superintendent of mails" be placed in the classified service and protected against the spoilsmen?

LAUGHING GAS.

"You don't seem anxious to get home to your dinner." "I don't care for the menu I'll get." "What is it?" "When my wife finds out I forgot to mail her letter, the first course will be tongue served up with hard sauce."—Baltimore American.

"Is your car a good one?" "Discriminating people choose them." "I don't care for the menu I'll get." "More of our cars are stolen than any other make."—Pittsburgh Post.

The victim of footpads was recounting his experience. "It is true that I was not armed," he explained, "but I was well legged."—Philadelphia Ledger.

"People who speak English do funny things, don't they?" "How so?" "Why, they put stops on organs to make them go."—Baltimore American.

"It must be nice to play Santa Claus and bring folks of joy to happy tads," remarked the bachelor. "Well, yes, it works that way," assented the father of a large family. "Last year not one of my kids was satisfied with what he got."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"My son," said the solemn parent, "you have reached an age when I feel it my duty to inform you that I have been imprinted on Santa Claus for your benefit all these years." "That's all right, father," replied the precocious youth. "There shouldn't be any hard feelings between us. I have fooled you about some little matters from time to time."—Washington Star.

AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL.

Katherine Lee Bates. O beautiful and spacious skies. For amber waves of grain. For purple mountain majesties. Above the fruited plain!

America! America! God shed his grace on thee. And crown thy good with brotherhood. From sea to shining sea! O beautiful for pilgrim feet. Whose stern, impassioned stress. A thoroughfare for freedom beat. Across the wilderness!

America! America! God mend thine every flaw. Confirm thy soul in self-control. Thy liberty in law! O beautiful for glorious tale. Of liberating strife. When valiantly for man's avail. Men lavished precious life!

America! America! May God thy gold refine. Till all success be nobleness. And every grain divine! O beautiful for patriot dream. That sees beyond the years. Thine alabaster cities gleam. Undimmed by human tears!

America! America! God shed his grace on thee. And crown thy good with brotherhood. From sea to shining sea!

Advertisement for Benson & Thorne Co. featuring a 'Real SALE' starting Saturday, Jan. 2, 1915. The ad includes the company name, address (1516-18-20 FARNAM STREET), and a call to start the New Year right by reading their ad in Friday's paper.

Advertisement for 'The Twins' featuring a photograph of two young girls. The text describes how they were found and offers to give them to a family in Omaha. It includes details about the girls' ages, their current situation, and how to see them at the Bee Office.

Advertisement for a 'Third Sled FREE This Week'. The ad describes a sled that will be given away to a child in Omaha. It includes details about the sled's features and how to see it at the Bee Office.