

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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FEBRUARY CIRCULATION. 51,700

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss. Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the average circulation for the month of February, 1915, was 51,700.

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

April 2 Thought for the Day. Selected by May Seaman. Happy and strong and brave shall we be, able to endure all things and to do all things, if we believe that every day of our life is in His hands.—Van Dyke.

Now, all together for a still greater Greater Omaha! War or no war, the chautauqua season will open on usual schedule.

Postponing an election already under way is evidently not as easy as it looks.

Let April showers bring spring flowers and help the street cleaning department at the same time.

Those Dundee-ites need not be so apprehensive. They will be full partners in the Greater Omaha family—not neglected step-children.

A million dollars all at one time for new school buildings will be going some. But Greater Omaha will travel in the million-dollar class.

Legislative adjournment is booked for next week, and then perhaps our Waterboarders may find time to figure out that overdue water rate reduction for us.

The urgent need of keeping the Auditorium so it can be used for public meetings, big conventions and large amusement assemblages must now be all the more apparent.

Yes, and what has become of that League of Omaha Taxpayers, while the graft-greedy sheriff and his hired lobbyist have been trying to put the jail-feeding steal over on us again?

That Greater Omaha bill is said to have been passed on the strength of "a gentlemen's agreement" for legislative action to postpone the spring city election already under way. We shall soon see what we shall see.

The School board is eminently right in prohibiting the use of the school buildings opened as social centers for pay entertainments. Let the schools be available to all on the same conditions and let money-making promoters go out and hire a hall.

Municipal campaigners at Lincoln show alarming familiarity with the "short and ugly word." With the material already tagged, a branch of the Amnias club can be launched with full charter membership.

Old Man Winter runs the risk of being classed as a moral reprobate. Common decency should induce him to come off and give the spring dandel a chance to stand up and view the Easter bonnet display.

The Federal Industrial Relations commission is about to give the public a valid excuse for existence by tackling the problem of Pullman porter tips. The taproot of the high cost of living will be laid bare presently to the gaze of an anxious world.

Thirty Years Ago This Day in Omaha. Compiled from Bee files.

A conference of assessors from the county clerk's office agreed on several lines of action, among them to assess the effects of United States army officers as though they were in civil life, to tax dogs and to view the property assessed whenever possible.

The device of Elias Gish of Drexel & Mann's, for decorating the window pictures of actresses with glass eyes, jewelry and clear stamps, is certainly novel, and bids fair to make him famous.

General O. O. Howard returned from Washington and resumed his duties at headquarters.

Mr. Newton, Union Pacific superintendent of buildings and bridges, removed his headquarters to a room at the Union Pacific depot heretofore used as a conductors' room.

The program of the Ladies' musical was given by the Misses Rustin, Poppenon, Merkel, Mrs. Hall and Messrs. Northrop and Neasey.

During last night's heavy thunderstorm, lightning struck the wire of the electric light in the Paxton hotel and temporarily extinguished the lamp.

The Omaha postoffice sold \$2,175 worth of stamps and \$1,119 money orders during March, the largest month's sales on record.

Omaha's Public School System.

Asking that another million dollars in bonds be voted for the purpose of providing needed quarters, the Board of Education has in a very practical way emphasized the fact that Omaha's public school system has grown beyond the understanding of the citizens. It is our most important public undertaking, and the extent and equipment of the plant for making citizens should be in keeping with its relation to the community.

In addition to the natural growth of the schools, incident to the development of the city, the extension of territory incident to the consolidation of the several communities involved in the annexation movement will add to the problems and responsibilities of the board. South Omaha, Dundee and Florence had all bulged well with their public schools, but all will be gainers by reason of being included in the larger unit.

Omaha citizens have always had great pride in their schools, and have made the most liberal provisions for their maintenance. The present proposals of the Board of Education are made after a full investigation of the immediate needs, with an eye to the future, and will doubtless receive the approval of the citizens. And in this approval the newly acquired citizens of Omaha may see the assurance that their school needs will be as amply taken care of.

A King on the Water Wagon.

England's monarch has joined with other rulers of warring nations, and has determined to make a great personal sacrifice in his patriotic zeal. He agrees to stop drinking intoxicants if the others will do the same, and thus by example he hopes to set at naught the ravages of the rum demon until peace has been declared. This is, of course, a fine exhibition of royal devotion to the cause of his country, yet some of his loyal subjects are inclined to insist on the right of a Britisher to do what he jolly well likes when he wants to. It's not so much that they are enamored of the drink habit, or that they are not eager to aid in carrying the Union Jack to victory, but they just can't quite see the connection between surrendering what has been theirs ever before that day at Runnymede and the triumph they feel certain is to be theirs at no distant time.

Whatever of serious consideration has been given to the Lloyd George proposal for prohibition has been of a tone that warrants the conclusion that England will hesitate to adopt the plan, even as a war measure.

The Death of a Rothschild.

Lord Nathan Mayer Rothschild, a peer of England, is dead in London. This fact became of interest chiefly because the dead man was a member of the great house of Rothschild, whose name has stood for wealth and the power of wealth for more than a century. The romance of the Rothschilds is always interesting, and yet it is of small moment compared with the material achievements of this combination of bankers. Other names have been more often seen in print, or heard in public, of late years, but always have the Rothschilds been reckoned with before the final action in great credit movements was determined. European governments have been the chief clients of the firm, and it is on record that their patriotism has ever been placed ahead of their selfish interest.

Nor has the energy of the accumulated wealth of this house been exclusively devoted to the financing of government schemes or the support of private ventures. Millions of its money has been spent on public and private philanthropy, most of it in a way that will never be known to the public. It has been characteristic of the Rothschilds that their charity was not used for advertising purposes, and in this their position is in singular contrast with the example of some other very wealthy men.

All this would be commonplace were it not for another fact. The Rothschild wealth has been accumulated through banking operations almost exclusively. Occasionally a venture into commerce or industry has been made, but banking has been the main occupation of the house. And, so far as known, none of the two billions of wealth ascribed to its members has ever been obtained by "grinding the face of the poor."

It is to Laugh.

All the funny things do not happen in funny sunny Spain. On the contrary, the funniest of funny stunts are sometimes pulled off right here in Omaha.

Here is our amiable local contemporary, the World-Herald, handing out a double-decked bouquet of posies to the Commercial club and the members of its special committee, and the law-makers instrumental in putting the Greater Omaha consolidation bill through the legislative mill, and congratulating them on their good work which that paper did its best in all sorts of underhanded ways to block and prevent. The World-Herald, after fighting the project from start to finish, has the gall now to declare that it "never had the slightest doubt" that consolidation would in the long run "prove to the best interests of the annexed territory as well as Omaha proper." In other words, that paper brazenly condemns itself as having been working against the best interests of this community, but evidently hopes to get away with it by joining in the applause over the successful achievement of what would never have been accomplished had it had its way.

A Spanish commission is in New York negotiating for wider trade relations with the United States.

The war has disrupted the local trade of the country, making necessary new channels for exchange of goods. Sabre rattling has no attraction for Spain at present. With commendable prudence the country devotes its energies to building up the arts and industries which ennoble peace and advance the happiness of the people.

The problem of providing jobs for the jobless is nearing solution. Terrance V. Powderly promises to give the problem earnest attention. What Mr. Powderly does not know about jobs, especially the art of acquiring federal jobs, is not worth seeking further.

Wisconsin and Iowa legislatures have enacted anti-tipping laws. Provision for enforcing them will touch the respective state treasuries for several liberal tips.

War and the Workingmen

Arthur Bullard in The Outlook. THAT the war will work profound changes in the social and political structure of Europe is admitted as a truism on every side.

For many years the organized workers of Europe have been ardent apostles of peace. It is they who furnish most of the "food for cannons." It is they—in the last analysis—who bear the burden of the appalling cost of armaments, and the working class has the least to gain from a successful war. It was natural that they should love peace and hate war and the military classes.

When war became imminent, the workers of all countries strove valiantly to prevent it. Even in Berlin anti-war demonstrations occurred up to the last minute. In Paris, Jaures had just returned from such a demonstration when he was assassinated. But when, in spite of their efforts, war broke out, the various socialist and labor organizations with almost one unanimity decided to support their respective governments.

Universal military service is, in its social phase, democratic. The sons of bankers and butchers fight side by side in the trenches. Friendships which would be the exception in face of the prejudices of peace become common in the camaraderie of danger. As often as not the workman gets mentioned in the order of the day and gets his sleeve-traps before his boss. And many people are prophesying that this sacred union will last after the strain of war has ceased.

From Germany we have very little—and conflicting—information. At the outbreak of the war the majority of the socialist party and the labor unions of the Reich had been attacked, but this was a defensive war, and they therefore rallied to the government. It was officially announced that the German people were entirely united. However, hardly a week had passed before the government found it advisable to suppress some of the workmen's papers.

Russia is the only country where an organized socialist party has definitely opposed the war. In the Duma the deputies of one of the socialist parties—and not the largest one—refused to vote for the war credits. Several of these deputies are now being tried on a charge of high treason. But this affair does not have as much significance in Russia as it would have in the more advanced western countries of Europe. The police repression is so stringent even in times of peace that there is no chance for open democratic discussions within the socialist movement. There is no way of knowing how nearly the action of these deputies represented their constituents. As far as the censorship allows us to judge—and this is not far—it seems that the Russian workingmen and peasants, where they are not enthusiastic for the war, have accepted it without opposition—just as they would accept an earthquake or a famine.

But in Russia there has been no such union sacred as exists in France and Belgium and is claimed in Germany. The government has, to a certain extent, accepted the collaboration of the educated middle classes. The municipalities and county councils have been allowed a new degree of liberty in the organization of Red Cross and relief works. This may well lead to a permanent improvement in Russian politics. It may even be—as the Russian intellectuals believe—a definite step towards a liberal constitution. But as far as the common people go—the city workers and the peasants—the czar accepts their sacrifices as his divine right. He has made no suggestion of giving them any political rewards for their patriotism.

In England the opposition to the war did not come exclusively, or even mainly, from the working class. The three members of the cabinet who resigned because they were unwilling to accept responsibility for the war were liberals. One of the leaders of the labor party, Ramsay MacDonald, and the Socialist Keir Hardie were at first bitterly opposed to the war. But they have changed their position, and at the recent conference in London of the socialist and labor organizations of the allied countries they both voted for the resolution which was proposed by the French and the British delegates—their entire support to the war until the definite defeat of German militarism.

In England, perhaps to an even greater extent than in France, the voice of the rank and file could make itself heard, and so could prevail over the individual convictions of the "leaders." For all practical purposes the working class of England has been unanimous in its support of the government in this war. Its patriotism has been much more evident than that of some sections of the middle class.

The labor organizations have done valiant service in the routine, detail work of relieving the distress caused by the war. Their committees have faced and to a large extent solved the problems of unemployment. They have recruited the necessary skilled artisans for the government factories. In a hundred ways they have cheerfully and ably co-operated in meeting the new situation caused by the war. The railways furnish a good example. The military authorities took over the entire transportation system at the outbreak of the war. In each station you find a military commandant who generally does not know the difference between a flat car and a flying machine. If it had not been for the loyal help of the railway unions there would have been an unimagurable mess.

Another action of immense value to the war effort was the responsibility which the workers accepted of supervising the carrying out of government contracts. The time-honored practice of cheating the government on shoddy material has almost died out in England—thanks to the patriotism of the unions. Never before has the British war office—or any other war office as far as I know—received such full value for its money. The British soldiers are not being shod with paper shoes, nor poisoned with condemned beef. The army furnishes are forced to an entirely new integrity. It might be possible to estimate the value of this service in pounds and shillings, but its greater significance, quite beyond computation, lies in the increased comfort and health and effectiveness of the men at the front.

But of all the patriotic services of the British workingmen the most costly to them and valuable to the nation has been their surrender of their wage demands. For years the industrial situation in England has been developing towards a crisis. The workingmen of the principal trades of England had been planning to strike together last fall. They were going to present their demands—and, if necessary, strike for them—simultaneously. It is more than probable that the German government was fully informed of these plans. If the workers had carried them out, Great Britain would have been paralyzed industrially. It was every bit as serious a menace as the Irish crisis. It is not too much to say that the workers held the fate of the British empire in their hands. Their plans were frustrated. But the moment war was declared they were patriotically sacrificed all their hopes of immediately improving their condition. All strike plans were at once called off.

The war has progressed now for six or seven months. The cost of living in England has gone up steadily. The English take pride in showing that they are carrying on "business as usual." And many statistics have been published to demonstrate that the cost of living has not gone up as much in Great Britain as on the continent. But the increase in the price of the products which the poor consume has been very much greater than for more expensive food-stuffs. The rise in prices has not hit the middle and upper classes very hard, but it has been staggering for the workers. At the outbreak of the war the German empire took many steps to prevent speculation in food. Recently it has commandeered all bread-stuffs. The "K. K." war bread, while a hardship for those accustomed to luxury, is not much more expensive than and quite as good as what the working class is accustomed to. In a number of ways the "despotic" German government has taken pains to see that the burden of the war shall not fall on those least able to bear it, on those who furnish the muscle and blood for the conflict. The "liberal" ruling class of England have not taken such measures.



Rabbi Cohn Protests.

OMAHA, April 1.—To the Editor of The Bee: I see by the paper that the mayor has again issued a religious proclamation, setting apart a part of Friday afternoon as a public holiday.

I am sorry, but I must again record my protest. This is an infringement upon the rights of American citizenship. Our constitution expressly declares that "government shall make no establishment of religion." In spirit, if not in letter, this applies to municipal as well as to state and national government. It is the glory as well as the safety of our country that here church and state are absolutely separate. No public official has a right to issue a proclamation with regard to religion, particularly not with regard to any special kind of religion. No one form of religion more than any other form belongs to the city, state or nation. The mayor is the mayor of all the people and not only of those professing a special creed or religion, but they in the majority or in the minority.

It is the special excellence of our institutions that they respect the rights of minorities, particularly where religion is concerned. Our country guarantees religious liberty. America would not be America without that. No form of religion is to be preferred above another or to be given official recognition. Government and every governmental official, from the president of the United States down, is to be absolutely neutral as regards religion, or he violates the very fundamental principles of Americanism.

This is no light matter, it is vital. I am sure the mayor does not realize the full significance of such action on his part or he would refrain on any and every occasion from issuing a proclamation that has anything to do with religion. A moment's reflection will show the danger of it. Lastly, he might just as well issue a proclamation to the opposite effect of what he has, that no one, for instance, should keep any part of Friday or Sunday, or any day, or that everybody should keep some particular day, the day of atonement, for example. Best of all is to keep his hand altogether off of such matters. With all due respect, this is not a province of the mayor's. Religion, by a deliberate enactment of our patriotic fathers, knowing from history its cost in tears and blood, is absolutely a private matter between the individual and his God. Those that wish to take a holiday between the hours of 12 and 3 on Friday, or on any day, can do so without the proclamation of the mayor. Let us not play with fire. Let us keep America inviolate, the pure and noble country that it is, practically as well as theoretically the home of a perfect religious liberty. In the end and in the long run this would prove the best for all.

I make my remonstrance public, as this is a public matter. For the highest, deepest interests of all, I do sincerely hope that no public official will take official cognizance of any particular form of religion. Surely there are other things that we can attend to in our great and growing city besides issuing religious proclamations. Yours in the name of true Americanism.

FREDERICK COHN.

Make It Unanimous.

SOUTH OMAHA, April 1.—To the Editor of The Bee: Since the annexation bill has passed both houses of the legislature, a great many who have been strongly opposed to the bill say they will not only vote for it, but will work for it from now until the election. Some express themselves in favor of making it unanimous.

All annexationists and anti's should now forget their differences and work together for an "era of good feeling" and by all of us forming one solid phalanx, we can get whatever we ask of the greater city.

Those who fought against annexation put up a game fight and are to be congratulated. For they went down to defeat with flying colors. Some of the best and largest hearted men of South Omaha have been against annexation, while many men of the same caliber have been for it.

By all of such men of both factions uniting we can form an invincible host and we will take on a new impetus by being connected with the hustlers of Omaha, who have done so much for that city. Men who can win over a house that was almost hostile to the annexation bill when it was first sent to it, and who finally secured an almost unanimous vote for it in both houses of the legislature, are the kind who will see that our interests in this part of Omaha are taken care of and that we will gain greatly by annexation.

While some did not understand the motives that led some of us to take sides on the question, yet that should now be forgotten, and for all time to come from now on we should all of us work to uphold the south part of Omaha as the other parts of the mighty city have been built up in the last few years.

F. A. AGNEW.

Britain's Drink Question.

OMAHA, April 1.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am pleased to see your editorial, "Will Great Britain Go Dry?" and fully agree with you that it may well be doubted if the people of England will patiently submit to such exercise of regal prerogative even as a war measure. I am sure English-speaking people differ somewhat from the Russian Moujik, who can only be handled with a club.

At the same time, if the English government tries to reduce the consumption of alcoholic liquors under present conditions, it has at least a semblance of excuse, instead of such action or agitation being based on largely on misrepresentation, as it is in this country. For an example, the Nashville Tennessean reports in its issue of March 11 an address by Dr. Carolyn Geisel, a member of the prohibition flying squadron, in which she makes the astonishing statement that 14,000 men and boys were killed in California in one year because of drink. Now, the United States census bureau of mortality statistics, page 24, reports total deaths in California from all causes, among men, boys, women and girls, in 1912 as 28,988, and yet she says in the same address that she is opposed to dealing in fancies, and it is largely, if not entirely, upon such fabulous and mendacious misrepresentations that people vote the prohibition ticket.

I notice also in the news column of your issue that the Chamber of Commerce of Bradenton, Fla., yesterday adopted a resolution in favor of prohibition—but with compensation to the holders of liquor licenses.

SUNNY GEMS.

"JESSE always knows just what would save the country. He takes in every point." "And what does his wife do?" "Oh, she takes in washing."—Baltimore American.

"What I want to do," said the thoughtful man, "is to keep politics out of business." "That's all right," replied Dustin Stax. "And I'm going to help. I'll never write a check for another campaign."—Washington Star.

"Mother—I hear that Harry Smith is the worst boy in school, and I want you to keep as far from him as possible." "Tommy—I do, ma. He is always at the head of our class."—Boston Transcript.

"KABIBBLE KABARET AS MINE OLDEN FEL MEDEL. MINIK SAYS: 'A DOG IS A WONDERFUL ANIMAL. HE IS LIKE A FRIEND, BUT YOU CAN ALWAYS TREAT HIM LIKE A DOG!'"—Hedberg.

Hokus-Fludub has been mixed up in a lot of shady financial transactions, and yet he is never caught." "Fokus—that's just like Fludub. I remember when we were boys and a tin can was to be tied to a dog's tail. Fludub was always the fellow who held the dog."—Life.

"My engineers believe those new building lots are worth their weight in gold." "Yes? I supposed they were still platin' 'em."—Judge.

"What makes you think that government ownership would solve our economic difficulties?" "I never said it would solve them," replied Senator Sorghum. "But it might solve the monotony of discussion by creating some new ones."—Washington Star.

"I'm learning to make fudge and taffy," said the prospective bride, "so that I can please my husband with some after we are wed." "Fudge and taffy is what the men

like," responded the old married woman. "That suits 'em, whether you make it or whether you talk it, my dear."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"If I could get someone to invest \$5,000 in that scheme of mine I could make some money." "How much could you make?" "Why, \$5,000."—Kansas City Star.

"Can you tell me, etc." asked the adroit handkerchiever, "where an honest man can find hard work in return for a square meal?" "I could," replied the experienced and disillusioned citizen, "but I make it a rule not to answer questions wholly idle and academic."—Richmondville Times-Dispatch.

WAR VERSUS NATURE.

War breathes of vengeance, of hatred and greed. A triumvirate which can never succeed in the work of creation. And when raging on earth, depriving the world of its just share of mirth, Are we following paths that our feet should have trod? Are we working out plans laid down by our God?

No laurels or glory in battle achieved; An equal the honors by nature received; For nature replaces, but never destroys, And we should aspire to what nature enjoys.

For evil or good we are here in our place, To destroy or preserve the nations and race.

Then shall we be slaves of passion and greed, And blinded by rage, commit act or deed That can never be praised, but always be blamed, And by which our children will ever be shamed; Which civilized nations must ever pride, The slaughter of millions for avarice and pride?

Must we wait until death seals our eyes here on earth, To know the true meaning of holier birth? To know that the blood of a brother, it shed, Is a blot on the banner of love, shining red?

That can never be washed from its pen-noms away, But will stand out in flame on the last judgment Day? OMAHA. DAVID.

NO ALUM IN ROYAL BAKING POWDER

Do you realize the importance of your fuel? Without a new Gordon your clothes won't look quite right

Protect Your Smoke Appetite. A man can smoke a heavy cigar after dinner and thoroughly enjoy it. He lights up another heavy one but the same enjoyment isn't there. What's wrong? Two heavy cigars are too much! That's the time a man needs a "modulated" Havana cigar—a blend where mildness and rich Havana flavor meet—as they do in Tom Moore. "They always come back for Moore" TOM MOORE CIGAR 10¢ LITTLE TOM 5¢