

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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APRIL CIRCULATION, 53,406

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 April, 1915, was 53,406.

DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me, this 1st day of May, 1915. ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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

Thought for the Day. Selected by Mrs. W. R. Matthews. A garden in a loecome thing, God wot! Rose plot, Fringed pool, Ferned grove, The earliest school, Of peace, and yet the fool, Contends that God is not— Not God, in gardens, when the eve is cool! Nay, but I have a sign: 'Tis very sure God walks in mine.' Thos. E. Brown.

Colon's period of stress is on. A \$2,000,000 fire is a serious setback to a warm community.

Volunteers who fail to do their duty on Tuesday forego every valid excuse for kicking if municipal affairs don't go to suit them.

Clean-up time is not limited to a man or to a political campaign, or to a day or a week. It improves with practice all the year round.

Joint indictment of capital and labor in Chicago is a compulsory "got-together" system which neither side relishes but must endure for a time.

The Hague convention of women peace advocates has formulated its views. Now comes the more difficult task of carrying the message to heedful ears.

Advance notice of clean-up movements in grain pits are never given. Experts in that line dislike band wagon accompaniment. It distracts attention from the job.

Both sides are reported dissatisfied with the railroad arbitration award. But the general public is satisfied with transportation peace assured for the year, and that is one factor in the outcome.

The people occupying the territory to be annexed into Greater Omaha may not be permitted to participate in the political game this time, but they can have just as much fun as any of us watching it from the bleachers.

No provision of the constitution is violated, nor is any states' right doctrine invaded, by citizens of Nebraska petitioning the governor of Georgia to exercise his power of executive clemency in the Leo M. Frank case.

The charge that both tickets are composed of "men of honest report, full of wisdom," is the nearest specimen of political neutrality produced in the campaign. Moreover, the author runs no risk of prosecution under the "anonymous circular act."

The end of the war as a sporting proposition is quoted by London Lloyds at 17 to 1 to end by August 31. Even money is the wager that war will terminate before January 31, 1916. The figures are useful as showing the rout of guessers of an early finish.

Congressman Gardner's attack of inavasionitis does not respond to the treatment of improved Cap-Cod weather. His latest bulletin shows increased irritation of the vocal membrane. The phantom Spanish fleets of seventeen years ago threw such a scare into Bay States that some rattled nerves defy the healing touch of time.

Thirty Years Ago. This Day in Omaha. The Omaha base ball club went up against Indianapolis at the Sherman Avenue park, and were pounded out to the tune of 13 to 4, to the disappointment of the local fans.

Melville L. Landon, better known as "Eli Perkins," is stopping over in Omaha.

Hon. W. A. Faxon returned home from the west looking rugged and sunburned.

A. Allen is to be special traveling agent for the E. & M., with headquarters in Omaha.

"Doc" Middleton, the famous Nebraska bandit, was in town, but left at 4 o'clock for the east.

The Omaha Light Guards have rented Williams' hall, formerly occupied by the public library, as a drill room.

The hours for street cars to run at night are extended from 11 o'clock to midnight, and the drivers will be paid according to service, the allowance being \$1.50 and \$1.50 a day. The men are complaining and threaten to strike.

According to Postmaster Cushman's report, \$16,321.90 postage stamp sales were recorded in April, being an increase of \$5 per cent over the year before.

The Rees Printing company have disposed of their rubber stamping department to Messrs. Ornes & Associates, who have set up business at 1924 Farnam street.

The Benefit of the Doubt.

The rule of the English common law is that every man accused of crime is presumed to be innocent until adjudged guilty after a fair trial by a jury of his peers, and that he is entitled to the benefit of the doubt if the evidence is inconclusive.

In the case of Leo M. Frank it is no longer a question of whether he has been legally adjudged guilty because the supreme court has held, although with two dissenting judges, that the proceedings technically conform with the law, and that the verdict must stand. Aside from this, however, in the court of public opinion, Frank is still being accorded the benefit of the doubt, not only as to his innocence, but as to whether he really had a fair trial, and also as to whether the supreme court should not have entertained his appeal from the ruling denying his application in the lower court. The all-most important fact which has been generally overlooked, is the declaration of the judge who presided at the trial refusing another hearing with this excuse:

I have given this question long consideration. It has given me more concern than any other case I was ever in, and I want to say right here that, although I heard the evidence and arguments during those thirty days, I do not know this morning whether Frank is innocent or guilty. But I was not the one to be convinced, the jury was convinced, and I feel it to be my duty to overrule the motion.

If the judge who heard the case was in doubt as to Frank's guilt, although the jury was otherwise convinced, surely the doubt entertained by thousands of justice-loving citizens throughout the nation warrants their petitioning the governor of Georgia for commutation of sentence, which can in no way impair the majesty of the court or the supremacy of the law.

The Politics of Non-Partisanship.

Nonpartisanship is always the slogan by which minority party candidates for office seek preferment or power which they otherwise could not possibly hope to secure. But nonpartisanship in office and nonpartisanship in seeking office are two distinct things. Making local application, and talking about it without dissembling, our "nonpartisan" commission plan of city government has in fact given us for the last three years a democratic machine entrenched in the city hall. It has done this by virtue of the fact that a majority of the seven commissioners are nonpartisan democrats, and where the balance of political power lies, lies also the mainspring of political activity. We do not say the city hall would be free from partisanship if republicans were in majority, but what license have the democrats to dominate and use for partisan advantage the government of a city like Omaha, among whose voters they are in striking minority?

Inasmuch as one political party or the other is sure to control, The Bee does not hesitate to express the wish that the outcome of the impending city election will transfer the balance of political power from nonpartisan democrats to nonpartisan republicans. Therefore this suggestion. For whomever else you vote, vote for Hummel, Jardine, Kugel and Zimman.

Downing the Dandelion.

The dandelion has some uses, public opinion to the contrary notwithstanding. Its tender leaves often adorn the table as edible greens; its tap root, running down to the center of the earth at times, sometimes serves as a substitute for chloory, which in itself is a substitute for coffee, and under the name of taraxacum the active principle of the plant appears in the pharmacopoeia as a cholagogue. But nobody ever heard of the dandelion being listed among the ornamental flowering shrubs or plants designed for lawn decoration.

The persistence of the yellow pest is equalled in nature by only one thing, the English sparrow, which is even more useless. The fecundity of the Nebraska soil makes the task of eradicating the dandelion one of stupendous proportions. The eternal application of all known remedies by everybody is the only available solution. The problem is complicated by the careless man, who is willing to let his lawn go to waste, and who allows the weed to bloom and ripen and scatter its seed over his neighbor's plot, thereby nullifying all the effort the careful man has put forth.

The Civic League's Garden club plan for a campaign against the yellow nuisance is a good one; swat the dandelion as well as the fly, but the swatting must be perpetual in order to win. And we always have with us the comforting knowledge that from the middle of December until the middle of April we have very little trouble with either of these pests.

New Deal at the Penitentiary.

Nebraska is just entering on another experiment in connection with the handling of labor at the state penitentiary. Hereafter, the convicts will work for the state, instead of for contractors. The new law simply shifts control, and scarcely affects the condition of the prisoner. The governor recommended to the legislature that some provision be made for the employment of prisoners on roads or other outside construction work, but this was ignored by the lawmakers, and the prisoners will be utilized in industrial operations carried on within the prison walls. The principal change is that the state will have to sell or itself use the output of its prison workshops. The Board of Control should carefully investigate the problem, and recommend some comprehensive plan for handling convict labor to the next legislature.

Railroad building in Alaska promises to be even more precarious than holding white men as section hands in the west. A promising "strike" will stampede a construction gang as quickly as a fire alarm rallies a crowd. Unlike the western roads, the government cannot recruit its forces from Chinese and Japanese. The yellow race is a scarce article in Alaska.

In weighing the words of foreign critics of American neutrality allowance must be made for the irritation of disappointed hopes. Results thus far have not come up to the expectations of either side, and the pen welders, unable to jab the enemy, ease the pressure by swatting the innocent spectators. It is a harmless diversion for unbalanced minds.

Japan is charged with a desire for "a place in the sun." Nipponese ambition is not so boundless. For the present the role of stepmother for the Son of Heaven will appease the brown man.

The Political Caldron

NOBODY is asking for his money back. The political show has satisfied the most fastidious taste. The innards of the dictionary have been torn out in an endeavor to extol virtue and expose vice. It has been a campaign of enlightenment and heat, to say nothing of the piece de resistance, the new electric light and power rate ordinance. Every phase of history, from George Washington crossing the Delaware to Edward Simon crossing the Douglas street bridge, has been touched upon in this great educational soiree, this political institute.

The ramifications of a city campaign are as varied as the winds that blow. The passions of men have been aroused. Men who have been considered desirable citizens in their own neighborhoods have been designated as fourth-class. One candidate was called a "devil in his own home town." Such words as "hypocrite," "liar," "coward," "bunk," "sexton of a graveyard," "boss-controlled," and "dern" have been used with vehemence and frequency.

It will soon all be over. Political history again will have been written and men will return to their pursuits of peace. The strident voice of the political spellbinder will be silenced and the good old world will resume its aploomb and the public mind will have to turn to such prosaic things as swatting the fly, pulling dandelions, cutting the lawn, reading the base ball scores and riding in jitneys.

If the casual observer might take the campaign managers at their words, there will be fourteen instead of seven candidates elected tomorrow. Listen: "The big six will be elected," says Chairman Sutton. "The square seven will be elected," declares Chairman Flynn. And even the political orphan says he expects to be elected. The republican committee maintains seven republicans will go in. Somebody is mistaken, that's all. Difference of opinion makes horse races and political campaigns interesting.

It would also seem to the uninitiated that some bitter estrangements have been made during this campaign. It would appear that Mayor Dahlman hates the very ground upon which Chairman Sutton walks. Yet after the campaign is over the mayor and the judge will probably meet on the street and, perhaps, the mayor will ask the judge for a match, or for a job in the city legal department. It's only a stage battle, after all. These men do not mean to carry through life all they say about one another. It's politics.

The campaign has developed a crop of orators, just as predicted. John Rice, of the administration forces, gave evidence that he did not go to school in Fremont for nothing. He was one of the best speakers in school at Fremont and during the last few weeks he learned how to pluck the colors from the rainbow and fashion them into alluring word pictures. He talked until he had to quit, but only because his throat gave out on Saturday.

Tomorrow each side will make the final effort to enlist a following for their respective causes. Getting out the vote is just now the chief concern. The anti's contend that the larger the vote is the better will be their chances, but Chairman Flynn of the square seven declares the anti's have no chance at all. The mayor says he is going to throw the anti's into the deck on Tuesday. The anti's say they will hold a clean-up day festival.

The campaign has increased the popularity of street corner oratory. Men, who a few years ago would have frowned upon the idea of cart-tail speaking, jumped into the fray and added to the "tumult and shouting." The once dignified judge and the cowboy mayor met in the open-air forum and exchanged a few handfuls of shrapnel, but both are able to be about and the political nurses report their conditions satisfactory.

Seen in his training quarters, Chairman Flynn made this statement: "We are in the pink of condition. On the afternoon of the election, we will lead the forces to victory. We will enter the ring at the top of the bell and there will be no fighting in the clinches. We have discovered a new punch that will be introduced on Tuesday, and you may say that there can be only one result of the contest."

Chairman Sutton did some Sunday road work, enjoyed a rubdown in the morning and did some shadow boxing in the afternoon. He ate a hearty dinner, read the newspapers, played a game of checkers and retired early. Many curious people visited his training quarters, but only a few were admitted to the presence. To a political war correspondent he said: "We are going into the arena with the fight already won. That talk of the administration people having a new punch coming in the afternoon has been confined to leaflet and the remains of the opposition. Never tap me in my life. Can read without my glasses and the doctor says my heart action is normal."

Twice Told Tales

Had Him Guessing. Walter Roberts, the theatrical man, is usually ready with a quick answer to any question that is put to him, but once upon a time he was clearly puzzled. A woman had approached the ticket window and said: "I would very much like to know if the show which is now going on is moral and proper."

Walter cast a scrutinizing glance at his questioner, but that was all. "Why don't you ask my question, young man?" demanded the woman at the window.

"Because, madam, frankly speaking," said Walter, hesitating, "I'm not a good enough judge of human nature to know which way to answer without losing a patron."—Louisville Times.

A Kindly Superintendent.

A Chicago man with business interests in Missouri tells of an incident at a railway junction therein. He was very hungry, with only two minutes before the departure of his train.

"Sandwich and coffee quick!" he said to the counter man. "Haven't time for anything else."

"Easy, friend," said the other. "Take all the time you want. Cast your eye over this bill of fare and I'll phone the superintendent to hold the train a while."

"Hold the train while I eat?"

"Sure. This is a branch road, and there's no other train coming or going over it this mornin'. The superintendent will want you to have a good meal—he owns this lunch room."—St. Louis Republic.

People and Events

One of the latest wonders of California is the bone of a mammoth, which scientists say has been buried there for 25,000 years. A sea serpent is the only thing needed to complete the stock of incomparable wonders for awing visitors.

Assurance are given by the Kansas City Star that a man who carries a thirst to Leavenworth, will have to go the water route or bring it back to Missouri. Recent additions to the Indiana colony at Leavenworth except the inconvenience with patriotic fortitude.

As a result of an undertaker's cut rate war at El Centro, N. M., indigent dead will be decently interred for the trifling sum of one cent each. When the costly promise to have a good meal—he does not care for the money, but needs the service.

Old-time fiddler contests are enlivening life in Texas. Challenges carrying the big deaf are putting rosin and peg into the sporting extras of the Lone Star State. If the fiddlers wield the bow as vigorously as they talk for publication, nothing short of a concrete bridge will hold the catgut.

Opportunity did not have to push the button a second time at the office of the late John Cudahy of Chicago. It is a more likely opportunity was met half way and had to speed up to keep the pace. Cudahy had the speculative dash, which does successful team work with foresight. One year he was a six-times millionaire, the next year the fortune was wiped out and he was \$1,500,000 in debt. Then Cudahy buckled down and paid off the debt in five years and died a rich man. That is the bread of American enterprise and grit that gives an air of romance to the grain pits of Chicago.

The Bees Letter Box

More Important Questions.

SOUTH OMAHA, May 1.—To the Editor of The Bee: Before the people of South Omaha vote \$50,000 bonds for the use of the park board, a just-suffering public would like to see a statement of disbursements made by the board of the \$15,000 they handled two years ago.

Before any more parks are bought the ones we now have ought to be fixed up in decent shape. The swimming pool in Syndicate park was such a nuisance last year that very few would shed any tears to see it destroyed, instead of building any more of them.

So many rumors have been circulated about the cost of the driveway in Syndicate park, that taxpayers would be pleased to see an itemized statement about it. If the park board need the money, let them make a showing of what was done with the \$10,000 they had two years ago. SOUTH OMAHAN.

Inside of Riggs Bank Case.

OMAHA, Neb., May 1.—To the Editor of The Bee: The attached paragraph from The Bee seems to indicate that you have not had the latest news in regard to the Riggs bank case. The Los Angeles Times of a week ago today had an exclusive dispatch from Washington telling of an interview of Louis D. Brandeis with the president in which it is told that the president was informed that his son-in-law, McAdoo, and Mr. Williams had nothing to stand on and that he (Bran迪斯) did not wish to go on with the case unless there was more evidence than had been shown to him and that Wilson had taken charge of the Riggs' bank matter. It would suggest that the son-in-law, McAdoo, and Mr. Williams had no right to stand on and that the Riggs bank matter is that same bunch that has and continues to mislead Omaha in the Kansas City Reserve bank matter, and which it is evident that they do not intend to set to rights. T. J. H.

The G. A. R. Encampment for Omaha

OMAHA, May 1.—To the Editor of The Bee: It does not appear to be very well known that Omaha has a splendid opportunity to secure the encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic for 1915.

The Omaha Real Estate exchange at its last meeting appointed a committee consisting of W. H. Green, Frank H. Myers of Benson & Myers, George T. Morton of Harrison & Morton, George Lasbury of the Omaha Real Estate exchange, and W. H. Wallace to investigate the wisdom of inviting the Grand Army to meet with us. On investigation this committee has come to the conclusion that the facts set forth by representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic are all backed by the history of these conventions in the past. The committee has recommended to the exchange that the various civic bodies of the city set together and present a prompt and hearty invitation for this meeting next year.

Cities which have had the meeting before—a number of them—are asking for it again. Denver has had it twice and will take it again, and so also would Chicago, which city has had it three times. Los Angeles wants it, although they have had it before, and so with a number of other cities. The meeting is not going a-begging. Fortunately, for several reasons, leaders of the Grand Army of the Republic feel kindly toward Omaha, and our chances are good.

There seems to be a peculiar fitness at this time in having this body of noble and highly respected people to meet with us in Omaha. If the encampment comes here it will be the first time that it has ever met in this great agricultural region. It has been held in Minneapolis and St. Paul, Chicago, Denver, but never near to this great farming country, of which the center is Omaha. Vast numbers of soldiers after the civil war located in this region, and we ought to bring the encampment, once at least, as near to their doors as possible. For a semi-centennial meeting Omaha presents the most central location. However, other cities in this part of the country, Des Moines for one, are asking for this meeting.

The cost of such a gathering is in no sense prohibitive. It will not cost to exceed \$50,000, and Chattanooga did not pay that amount. Neither will the size of the city be a great handicap with our known hospitality and our improved hotel facilities. We are in better position to take care of this convention now than St. Paul was when she had 300,000, or Denver was at her first meeting, or Columbus, or Toledo—much better than Salt Lake or Chattanooga.

What other cities of our class have done Omaha should do if we expect to get the crowds, as we say we do. Let's go after it, and let's go after it right. GEORGE G. WALLACE.

Abstinence and Longevity.

OMAHA, May 2.—To the Editor of The Bee: On April 17 you published a synopsis of an address by Arthur Hunter on "Insurance and Longevity," delivered by him at the annual meeting of the Association of Life Insurance Presidents, a copy of which I have before me. The address is exceedingly interesting, even though the deductions drawn by Mr. Hunter from his mass of statistics may only be partly correct, because an element of uncertainty necessarily enters into a large per cent of death cases when determining the real cause of death, especially when considered in connection with the statements made by the insured as to his general habits, when he applied for insurance, as to the use of liquors in excess, their moderate use and total abstinence.

The extract from his address says: "Beyond peradventure or doubt abstainers live longer than users of alcohol. Now what Mr. Hunter said was as follows: "In my judgment it has also been proven beyond peradventure of doubt that total abstinence from alcohol is of value to humanity. It is certain that abstainers live longer than persons who use alcoholic beverages. The low mortality amongst abstainers may not be due solely to abstinence from alcohol but to abstinence from tobacco and to a careful regard to one's physical well-being."

It would seem that conveys a somewhat different meaning from the abbreviation published by you. At the same time there are eminent authorities who would challenge Mr. Hunter's conclusions that abstainers live longer than persons who use alcoholic beverages moderately. Mr. Hunter himself, a little further on, says: "It is probable that among those who were very moderate users of alcoholic beverages there were comparatively few who eventually used liquor immoderately; but among those who took more than a glass of whisky or its equivalent a day there were probably a goodly number who increased their daily consumption after having applied for insurance, and who eventually drank to an immoderate extent." Yet in the deductions from his statistics these would be classed with the very moderate users, i. e., the results of the immoderate use would be charged up to the moderate use.

That certainly produces an element of uncertainty. The object of Mr. Hunter's address before the life insurance presidents appears on the title page of his published speech, and reads as follows: "Effect of alcoholic beverages, overeating, under-eating, social diseases and occupation upon length of life as disclosed from scientific investigation of 2,000,000 insured lives." Therefore, he classes overeating with excessive use of liquors. There is another serious defect in deductions based on such statistics, and that is the temptation of the average applicant for insurance to misrepresent in answering the questions propounded to him as to his personal habits. Thus an applicant who may use liquors excessively may speak of himself as a moderate drinker, as otherwise he might be declined as a poor risk. The result is that statistics referring to moderate drinkers are often gathered from men who use liquor to excess, but who conceal that fact. It is, reversely, like men answering for a crime who try to minimize their punishment by claiming that they were drunk, although the probabilities are that they were entirely sober.

MIRTHFUL REMARKS.

"I shrink from the ordeal," she said, but there was triumph in her voice. The lady was dying and exclaiming to reduce her flesh, and the scales had just shown that she had sloughed off thirty pounds.—Judge.

Randall—Delaney is very glompy—says he doesn't care how soon he dies. Rogers—Then he ought to consult a specialist.—Life.

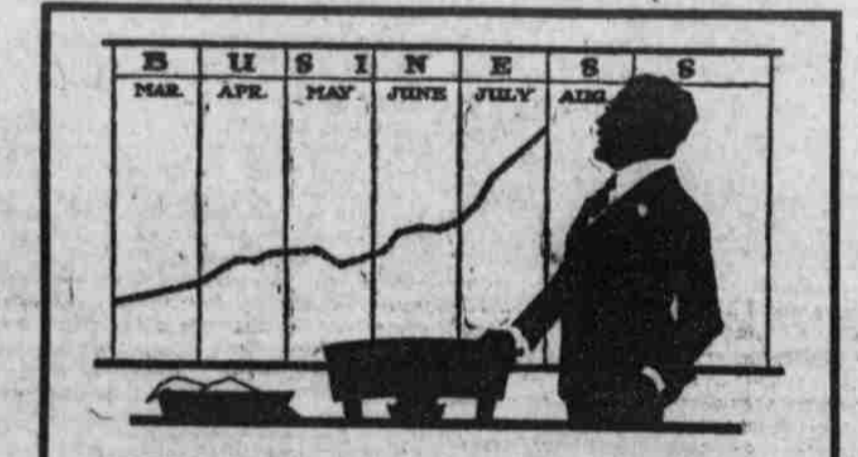
"How many people were at the meeting last night?" asked the wife. "Fourteen," replied the man in the case. "What kind of meeting was it, dear?" "Oh, a mass-meeting."—Philadelphia Ledger.

"Are you going to the exposition?" "None, can't afford it." "But your wife bought an entire new outfit to wear at the exposition." "That's why we can't afford it."—House-ton Post.

"Did you see where some expert had achieved a seedless apple?" "Yes, but life will not be altogether worth living until somebody has evolved the boneless shad."—Baltimore American.

MOVING PICTURES.

On Farnam street, where Sixteenth joins, one day I idly watched the masses on their way. And as one walking slowly comprehended, I knew these for my life-long, well-tried friends. Who from the world of fiction strayed away, Escaping from the printed page, that they might haunt me with resemblances O' unique and form. I did not dare to speak. And scarce believed so many years had flown. For Dickens, Scott and Hawthorne must have known these self-same folk. They were all here, and more: Mark Tapley, yes, and Pickwick by the good God Don Quixote, without lance or shield. Robert Burns and gentle Eugene Field With all their characters. Then Tiny Tim And Jenny Wren came by with Sunny Jim; Then Scrooge and David Harum with a friend. Then Mr. Opp and Beauty and the Beast; Perimeter and Abe Potash, come to life; And then poor Sir, Caudle with his wife; And Jean Val Jean with Cosette by his side. Then Edwin dear, and Angeline, his bride; And Sary Camp and Betsy Prigg in tears; And Mary, Marthas, Clara, Vera do Vera; Shy Minnieha, too, and Susan Clegg; And surely that was Anny, Joe and Meg; Gay Wallingford and Blackie Daw, his pard; And Blaise without her Abelard. Here were they all, our friends, the saints and crooks. To make the characters of future books. From every walk of life they came, to meet On a realizing plane, the public street. Where each, enmeshed in his own selfish lot, To jostling stranger gave no second thought. Though 'twould bring smiles and tears If these self-same pictures on a movie screen. Omaha. —DAVID.



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