THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Address communications relating to news and efficient in the state of the second state

APRIL CIRCULATION.

53,406

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss.: Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bes Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the average circulation for the month of April, 1915, was 83,606.

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

May 31

Selected by Mrs. W. H. Russell How oft we look upon God as our last and feeblest resource! We go to him because we have nowhere else to go and then we learn that the storms of life have driven us - not upon the rocks. but into the desired haven. - Words of Faith.

Vote for Greater Omaha tomorrow!

Vote early tomorrow and avoid the rush.

Old Sol must have been saving his smiles for the June brides.

Now altogether! And put Greater Omahs on the map in big legible letters!

The next wheels to turn will be the wheels of the board of equalization machinery grinding out revised tax assessments.

Despite the entrance of Italy into the muss, war will not justify its reputation until the Balkan bantams get busy.

Those Mexican bad boys seem to have arquired the habit so they would not know what to do if they quit fighting.

A falling off of \$12,000,000 in dividend payments due in June still further underscores what Sherman said about war.

So far as the re

Germany's Answer.

While the full text of the German reply to the demands made by the American note, dealing with the Lusitania case, is yet to be given out, the forecast conveys the impression that the kalser's government is not willing to concede all the points raised by Mr. Wilson as essentially necessary to the maintenance of friendly relations.

No answer is given to the specific demand for assurance that safety of travel at sea would be secured, at least to the extent that passengers and crews of ships to be torpedoed would have time to leave in boats, if not taken off by the attacking vessels. Nor is any reply made to the other specific demand that the rights of neutral ships to traffic between neutral ports be more scrupulously regarded. Both these points are omitted. Instead the good faith of the United States is indirectly called in question, by the insinuation that the Lusitania was armed, and that it was used to transport soldiers, and that the Americans on board were present merely as a screen for the illegal operations of Great Britain. If the Lusitania were armed, it would have been the duty of the United States to datain it in harbor, and it would have been equally a violation of neutrality to have permitted the embarkation of soldiers on a passenger boat.

Other questions raised by Germany, such as that which refers to the diplomatic dealings between the United States and Great Britain, indicate the intention at Berlin to prolong the correapondence if possible. The diplomats of Wilhelmstrasse are adepts in their art, and it is only giving respectful recognition to their intelligence and ability to may they must have known the note sent through Ambassador Gerard would not be satisfactory to America.

If these conclusions are correct, they mean that Mr. Wilson will have to meet Germany on its own ground. The resources of diplomacy have not as yet been exhausted, and further correspondence may serve to relieve a situation that just now seems serious.

Now for the Greater Omaha Vote.

The refusal by the district court of the application for an order enjoining the holding of the special election clears the decks for action upon Greater Omaha consolidation.

According to the terms of the merger law, as enacted by the legislature, the only prerequisite yet needed to make it effective is the recorded approval by the majority of the voters in the entire area to be affected who cast their ballots. In other words, the special election to be held tomorrow, in which every qualified voter residing in Omaha, South Omaha and Dundee is entitled to participate, will determine consolidation.

While the avowed opposition has been confined chiefly to office-holders, public works contractors and special privilege favorites, it nonetheless behooves every one interested in Omaha's future growth and prosperity to help sweil the majority for merger big enough to leave no room to question that consolidation is the real desire of the people as a whole.

What of the Submarine?

The inevitable logic of the American note to Germany on the Lusitania affair is that unloss the activities of the submarine can be kept within a due observance of the established rules of war, its use will have to be discontinued. The note does not make this statement in so m words, but it practically sets up limits against the employment of submarines for operations upon merchantmen, whose destruction the international code permits only after notice. search and opportunity to take off noncombatant passengers and crews. The torped shooting submarine and bomb-throwing airship are in the same class, because their serviceability as engines of war does not recognize the distinction between the armed enemy and the innocent bystander. In defense of the submarine, it is urged that it is merely one of the parts of the war machine, and that the reason it contravenes accepted usage is that the usage antedates the perfection of subsea navigation. It is also pointed out that all the different powers-not only those angaged in this war, but the neutral nations as well-have equipped their navies with submarines, and are building more of them just as they are adding aviation corps to both land and sea forces. If these more modern mechanisms of destruction are to be outlawed, why, it is asked, should the non-participating countries be spending so much money for such purposes? There are at least some interesting questions raised here, but they do not go to the heart of the subject. The development of the war business is supposed to be in the direction of humane treatment of the victims, and confining hostilities to the actual armed belligerents. The airship has vindicated itself for scouting and communication, and can hold its place without dropping bombs. Whether the submarine can prove itself worth while if restricted to the field of naval scouting, and, possibly, attacks upon armed battleships, is yet to be demonstrated. Many deadly engines of warfare, however, have been devised from time to time. but still discarded, not because wanting in destructiveness, but because violating the spirit or humanity. As a first step in naval disarmament, the limitation, if not the elimination, of the submarine should command the approval of all the civilized people of the world.

THE BEE: OMAHA, MONDAY, MAY 31, 1915.

Recollections of "Ranger"

Al Sorenson's Examiner. FEW days ago Uncle Sam, through one of his A faithful gray uniformed measurgers, delivered to

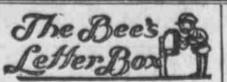
me a message that Colonel J. H. Pierce is alive and kicking in Oakland, Cal. That harks me back to the early days of The Omaha Bee. Along about 1873 or 1874 John H. Pierce, who was then struggling to carn his bread and butter as a stendil cutter, came to

The Bee and secured more remunerative employment sa a subscription canvasser and country correspondent, alias iown writer-up, and a mighty good anvasser and writer-up he proved to be. Pierce was somewhat of a genius-an all-round energetic, versatile cuss. He was a tight-rope walker. One Fourth of July he was the star attraction. He attempted to walk a light rope from the third story of Miltal Rogers' hardware store to the fifth story of the Paxlon, but the rope being at too steep an angle at the Paxton side of the street, he failed to climb the angle, but walked backward, to the place of beginning, without once losing the control of his balance pole or his presence of mind, notwithstanding the yells and jeers of the assembled multitude, may of whom expected to see him fall to the ground with the proverbial "dull sickening thud.

Another adventurous exploit of Pierce was formed in the summer of 1876 or 1877. He was to be the stellar feature in a Pourth of July celebration promoted by The Bes. In 1873 a balloon at named Steiner came to Omaha and made an ascension from Eleventh and Farnam streets, and landed over east of Council Bluffs. His balloon was brought back to Omaha and put in cold storage until Steiner could pay his bills incurred in the flight which had proved a financial fissie. The balloon was taken out of soak by The Bao with a view of having Pierce make a fight from Omaha to the Black Hills, starting on the Fourth of July. The attraction was advertised far and wide and a big crowd to Omaha on the aforesaid date drew But the balloon failed to go up, and great was the disappointment. Andrew Rosewater fell down in his attempt to fill the gas bag with carbonic acid gas out at the race track, now known as Kountse place. His temporary gas plant couldn't fill the bill, or the bag.

few days later the balloon was brought down town and anchored in Jefferson square, and it was an nounced that the ascension would be pulled off som day in the near future when the bag would be filled with gas from the city gas works. One morning, about s o'clock, Pierce examined the balloon and found it filled with sas. He determined to make the ascension and, getting into the basket, had it cut loose. But the aerial ship wouldn't go aloft. Pierce then unfastened the basket and climbing onto the iron hoop which held the rope he gave the word to let go, and up the balloon went several hundred feet, gantly salling to the north. Pierce lost his nerve and called for help to the astonished spectators on terra firma. The balloon finally descended of its own free will, but being struct by a lively wind was carried across the surface of Florence lake. Pierce was uninjured, but jarred as to his nerve center. Upon feeling in his right-hand vest pocket he discovered a fish about four inches long. which had been scooped up by the balloon in its fligh; across the surface of the lake. This adventure led some people to believe that Pierce was somewhat

The next exploit of Pierce, whose nom de plume was "Ranger," was the publication of the Western Magasine, which proved a literary success and a financial He was far ahead of the times in the new failure. west. Pierce took a prominent part as acout and correspondent in the campaign against the Sloux in 1876, under General Crook. He had served in the civil war and was, therefore, no novice in warfare. Colonel Pierce drifted west, continuing his versatile and varied career. An illustrated circular, which he recently sent me, pictures him as follows: At the front in '61; a soldier in the Slouz campaign: editor and poet; pub-lisher: inventor and manufacturer: minister; Santa Claus, etc. Colonel Pierce, who has attained the allotted span of life-three score and ten-wears a long snow-white patriarchial beard, and at opportune times increases his income by representing Santa Claus at popular entertainments, and he is in frequent demand as a children's entertainer. In this way he has won the title of "Santa Claus, King of the Fairies." On the streets of Oakland and San Francisco he is a conaptcuous character-the observed of all observers. When he is not otherwise engaged he puts in his time in his Oakland office and sanctuary, his letter-head reading as follows: "John H. Pierce-Minister-In-



The Renominations Are Distinct.

OMAHA, May 29 .- To the Editor of The Bee: I see an article in your paper which says that "At a meeting of the national conference of the Dunkards of the United States and Canada today the denominational representatives unanimously decided that members should not own automobiles." This is a mistake, since the annual conference of the Chruch of the Brethren (commonly known as Dunkards), will not convene until in June, and they will meet at Hershey, Pa. The conference referred to is likely that of the Old Order Brethren. Will you please make the correction? M. R. WEAVER Pastor, Church of the Brethren, 2015

North Twonty-second Street.

South Omaha Park Bonds.

OMAHA, May 30 .- To the Editor of The Bee: The people of South Omaha are being asked to vote for \$50,000 additional park bonds on next Tuesday. In 1905 South Omaha voted \$40,000 for park bonds, and in 1911 \$15,000 more bonds were issued for parks, thus making \$55,000 already issued for our narks. In the last five years an additional sum of \$31,000 has been expended on the parks, and from the above it would seem that the park system of our city has been pretty well provided for.

As our city is resonably sure to be annexed to Omaha, that city has already made arrangements to put our parks in first class condition, the same as their present parks, in case of such merger, Omaha has also promised to connect our parks with its boulevard system and make all the parks of the Greater Omaha second to none in the country.

As our taxes are already sufficiently high to suit the average taxpayer, it would seem from the above that the issuing of the above bonds at this time is not necessary, and the people of the city should vote "No" on the bond question.

SOUTH OMAHA ANNEXATION PUBLICITY COMMITTEE.

Making Heroes Out of Crooks. OMAHA, May 2.- To the Editor of The Bee: I have been a reader of your paper for six years and praise it very highly. but when people read such articles like the Daily News prints, I think it's time for Omaha people to take a hand. They make heroes out of crooks and criticize the police without reason. They have hollored about not doing nothing on that nurder. I know better for they have done every thing that could be done and the Swedish people did not say any such thing as was printed in that sheet. It's high time that our business men do some thing with such lying paper, scaring everybody out of this city. It's no credit to our town. Hoping you will print this article.

MRS. ANDERSON. 1424 North Sixteenth Street.

Is This the Way Out?

OMAHA, May 29 .- To the Editor of The Bee: It is reported that the officials of the Omaha Electric Light & Power company have expressed their willingness to submit their books for examination by competent public accountants, for the purpose of determing the equity of present rates as between the company and its patrons. It occurs to me this offer should be taken as made in good

SMILING LINES.

Noah beheld the flood. "And not a blessed place to intern," he ried.-Philadelphia Ledger.

"Did you see where a man his wife of pouring oil over him and then setting fire to him?" "Maybe she wanted a change in the way of seeing him lit up."-

"I hear they have you in graniteware in the basement," said the first depart-ment store clork. "Tea," responded the other, "you might say I'm down to hardpan. How about

ZERD IS A NOTHING

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"Early to bed and early to rise, you know," said the ready-made philosopher. "Tes," replied Mr. Grump, "But I dont observe that this rule gives the man who drives a milk wagon any par-ticular advantage, ---Washington Star. "Oh, I'm on vetvet "-Louisville Courier

KABIBBLE

KABARET

An Undeveloped Number, But zero is a something When it hits you in Novumber!

FIGURATIVELY SPICKING

SONG OF THE SUBMARINE. New York Herald. New York Heraid. I nose along with decks awash-All hid by flying storay; And carefully I esarch the soa For ships on which to prey. For none may know just when I come. And none know when I go; As guick as breath, as sure as death. I send them all below. Into her side my missie goes. To woind her sore, and then Like frightened sheep, into the deep. Drop cursing, praying men.

gine.

erably puzzled as to its meaning. That evening when his father came home, how-even, her became enlightened as to the definition.

definition. "Father," said he, "what is untold weath? "The property you keep from the in-come tax jist, my son." -Harper's Maga-

Sing ho! for ships I've met and sunk; Sing ho! my hearties, ho! A great machine quick turned to junk, Gone to a grave below. Where allent things weave in and out And ragged sea weeds grow.

Him-You're the only girl I ever loved. Rer-That's interesting, but immaterial. What I want to know is, am I the only girl you're ever going to love?-Life.

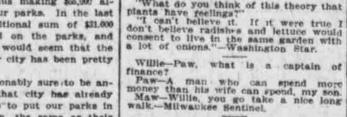
I nose along beneath the fog That curtains all the sea: A slimy ecl, all made of steel, A thing of mystery. For none may see and none may hear, Nor learn my deadly hate Until they know the crashing blow That shivers every plate. As through her sloe and deep: And from her deck, a twisted wreck, Her with faced seamen leap. "What do you think of this theory that

Sing ho! for ships I've yet to meet; Sing ho! my hearties, ho! Pick and pride of some mighty fleet. Gone at a single blow. Down where the slimy sea-anakes crees. Their evil eyes aglow.

Young Walter had heard the expres-don "untold wealth." and was consid-







filed an objection to the promised voluntary reduction of electric light rates.

Just the same, Germany has been mighty careful not to sink any more merchant vessels carrying United States citizen passengers.

The perplexities of a summer vacation may be turned into joy rides by taking an automobile and viewing Nebraaka's vistas of green and gold.

Porto Rico has both hands in its sugar barrels. High prices for its principal crops tends to reconcile the natives to the agonies of war.

The achievements and possibilities of subsea naval craft carries very little joy to naval seadogs. A wat deck or none at all is a severe blow to marine dignity.

Unless we miss our guess, the consolidation election in South Omaha will show that by no means are all of the voters there more watercarriers for the salary-grabbing office-holders.

Count Von Reventiow continues thundering against Americans and American policies. Why so valorous a vocal warrior is absent from the gas belt of Flanders is one of the whooping mysteries of the war.

Justice lifts the bandage occasionally and does business with open eyes. An Illinois court rules that the republican party has an exclusive right to the initialed title, "G. O. P." Now, as heretofore, the route to political glory is through the main tent.

You must hand it to Omaha for ultra progressivoness. They have just organized an Aero club over there with a list of members as long as a city directory, although it is doubtful if a single member of it ever looked down on anything as high as the roof of a greenhouse.-- Lincoln Star.

Now, don't get jealous! We have greep. houses up here in Omaha on the tops of eightcon-story buildings.

This Dress in Omal THE PROPERTY AND ADDRESS

arations are on foot to organize in Omaha a local society of the Loyal Legion. About forty are now eprolled for the charter membership, and they propose getting up an excursion and being installed

s. H. Krugbaum has been called to Zanesville, O., by the death of his father at the good old age of 10, Edward Resewater, editor of The Bes, left for the st to be absent a work. The management of the Newsboys' home on Six-

The management of the Newboys' home on Six-issenth street are planning shortly to open a night school in connection with the institution. A grand fustival concert by Theodore Thomas and his orchestrs, assisted by eminent soloists, next weak Toesday, is being advertised. The stellar names are Miss Emma Juch, soprano; Miss Haitie J. Clapper, site; William J. Winch, tener; Max Heinrich, bass, and Madam Fursch-Madi, soprano. The admission prices on Toesday is conta run from \$3 down to 50 cents.

Two interesting sames of ball were played this sunday. The Capitol Hills beat the Park avenues, of in 14, and the Athletics beat the Union Pacific

Amid the strife of war and destruction of life it is distinctly heartening to record deeds conserving human life. For years back the medical world has applauded the surgical achievements of the Mayo Brothers of Rochester, Minn. The obscure little town has been, and continues to be, the Mecca of the surgical profession and the hope of countless sufferers. With the fame of their work came an abundance of means, and out of that abundance the brothers have placed \$2,000,000 at the disposal of the University of Minnesota for medical research work. The gift is a fitting public climax to the private generoalty of Rochester's famous surgeons, and redounds to the honor of the medical world.

Blackwashing Omaha helped to defeat a candidate for governor last fall. He discovered that he got nowhere by running down his home town. Why should anyone interested in the progress of Omaha help a local yellow journal disseminate lying reports about our city calculated only to keep people away?

d Notary Public

Any old-time Omaha man who is going to the San on exposition should by all means cross over the bay to Oakland and call on Colonel Pierce. an entertainer, Colonel Pierce will prove himself to any caller from Omaha that he a whole show in himself.

Twice Told Tales

His Atlment.

"Glad to see you, old boy! Glad to see you!" ortled the confidence man, "How are you, anyhow ?" "All run down!" grimly replied Sandstorm Smith. the well-known cattle baron of Rampage, Oil., who is temporarily in our midst. "I don't take no interest in life any more. I don't care to match dollars with strange gents who smell of pore licker. I don't feel able to buy the city hall on the instalment plan, pay ing \$100 down; I haven't any ambition to beat wire tappers at their own same; I don't feel any desire to get something for nothing; I hain't got sufficient strength left to tote a gold brick if somebody would give it to me, and I don't feel the slightest inclination to get acquainted with total strangers who come snouting in without an invitation. "Looks sorter like min, off to the south'ard, don't it?"-Judge.

An Empty Excuse. Corporal Jenkins married, and in due course his wife presented him with a son and heir. His pals all flocked around to tender their congratulations, and in-

identally to taste Bill's bitter beer. Private Jones was on his way thither when he met Sergeant Brown returning. "Where are you off too?" naked the intter.

"Oh, I'm just going to see Bill and wish him luck with that youngster of his." was the answer

"Then you're too late," said the sergeant, solemnly, "Wot!" exclaimed Private Jones. "Surely it hasn't sone and died?"

"No; worse than that. The youngster's all right, but the blessed barrel's empty!" was the grim response .--Pittsburgh Chroniole-Telegraph.

The Maniler Job. "Larry," said Mr. Greene to a good-natured Irish-man who was working on a new building. "didn't you tell me once that you had a brother who is a bishop? Yis, sor," replied Larry,

"And you are a hod-carrier!" said Mr. Greene "Well, the good things of this life are not equally divided, are they, Larry?"

"No, sor," rejoined the Irishman, shouldering his hod and starting up the ladder. "Indade, they is not, sor. Poor felly? He couldn't do this to save his loife. sor!"-Everybody's Magazine

People and Events

Up to May 21 orders have been placed by American railroads for 25,049 cars and 24 locomotives. The record for 1914 was 78,910 cars and 991 locomotives.

The first law regulating jitneys in New York state, just approved by the governor, puts the power of supervision in the hands of public service com-

Antonio Alconco, aged 34, of Sacramento, Cal., unable to read or write, was given permission to attend day, as well as night, schools and get the real spirit of American education among the youngsters. One branch of the Wisconsin legislation pussed a

bill making hasing purishable with a jail contence. If this style of reform goes on, education will be all work and no horse play.

Ben Zelinger of Allentown, Pa., one of the youngest veterans of the civil war, recently celebrated his sixty-sixth birthday. He was just over 15 when he enlisted, July 9, 1887, in the 167th Pennsylvania regi-

Under a new law the New York boxing comm'salon of three members draw \$2,000 a year each and touch the box offices for The par cent of the receipts. The sport of supervising sport henceforth ceases to ban honorary job

faith and steps taken to secure such investigation.

Under present conditions, no person outside the offices of the electric light company is in possession of information upon which a fair and impartial opinion can be based as to the present rates, or those proposed under the new rate ordinance, which is in controversy. It may be fairly stated that such necessary information is not even in the possession of the city council. The following suggestion is submitted:

Let a committee of three competent citizens be selected; one member of the United Improvement clubs, one by the executive committee of the Omaha Commercial club and the third by the two thus chosen. This committee to undertake negotiations as between the electric light company and the city council looking to the making of the proposed investigation and the arrangement for paying the expense of the same.

This committee should be further empowered by mutual agreement to select the accountants and make a final report to the city council, the electric light company and to the public, FRANK G. ODELL.

The "Anti" Argument. SOUTH OMAHA, May 18 .- To the

Editor of The Bee: The great flourish made about annexation would be amusing if it were not for that element of prejudice engrafted into the arguments evidently put there to convince the convincible that all antis are either foolish or dishonest in their purpose.

I don't know how much worse South Omaha is than other places similarly situated, but I am convinced there is not another that gets as much unfavorable notoriety and as little boost from agencies that stand in the same relationship as do the Omaha papers to South Omaha. No one can find fault with the publicity given facts, the more the better. The people of South Omaha as a whole don't want to hamper the publicity, the prosecution or the chastisement of crime and they should not be put in that light of publicity, through these great agencies. 'The Omaha papers' (which we help support to the very best of our ability) should carry South Omaha's virtues, advantages, and prospective greatness outside the city limits, once in a while any-WAY.

Asking South Omaha people to vote yes on annexation is a good deal like asking a man to write the sentence that would cause his own hanging or asking the modest maiden who would marry to go over into her intended's home and say. 'You must have me."

We foreace the result with appre-hension. We know Omaha people, seeing great victory and a great acculation lose track of the little people on their south. They don't see the great losses we sustain in the removal of a twentyfour thousand-a-month-city-payroll. The removal of our city government which now commela a vari mumber w

come here to pay taxes, examine titles. etc., what municipality of importance to a suburb, to make it necessary for South Omaha people to visit Omaha for all matters pertaining to city government, political matters, etc. If the same thing was happening to Oznaha and Oznaha mercantile interests the noise that would go up would reverberate from occon-to-occan. So allow vs to cast one last vote as a city as indicated by our interests. JOHN FLYNN,



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