

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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APRIL CIRCULATION. 53,406. State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss.: Dwigth 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.

Thought for the Day. 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.

Despite the entrance of Italy into the war, war will not justify its reputation until the Balkan bantams get busy. Those Mexican bad boys seem to have acquired 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 under scores what Sherman said about war. So far as the records show no consumer has 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 Nebraska'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 sub-sea naval craft carry very little joy to naval seadogs. A war 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 mere water-carriers for the salary-grabbing office-holders. Count Von Reventlow 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.

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 kaiser'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.

Another adventurous exploit of Pierce was performed in the summer of 1874 or 1875. He was to be the stellar feature in a Fourth of July celebration promoted by The Bee. In 1874 a balloon at named Steiner by The Bee and secured more remunerative employment as a subscription canvasser and country correspondent, alias town writer, and a mighty good canvasser and writer-up he proved to be.

Now for the Greater Omaha Vote. The refusal of 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.

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 swell 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 Submarines? The inevitable logic of the American note to Germany on the Lusitania affair is that unless 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.

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 sub-sea navigation. It is also pointed out that all the different powers—not only those engaged 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.

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.

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.

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?

Recollections of "Ranger"

A FEW days ago Uncle Sam, through one of his faithful gray-uniformed messengers, 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 1874 or 1875 John H. Pierce, who was then struggling to earn his bread and butter as a stencil cutter, called on The Bee and secured more remunerative employment as a subscription canvasser and country correspondent, alias town writer, and a mighty good canvasser and writer-up he proved to be.

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The next exploit of Pierce, whose nom de plume was "Ranger," was the publication of the Western Magazine, which proved a literary success and a financial failure. He was far ahead of the times in the west. Pierce took a prominent part as scout and correspondent in the campaign against the Sioux in 1874, under General Crook. He had served in the civil war and was, therefore, no novice in warfare.

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

Twice Told Tales

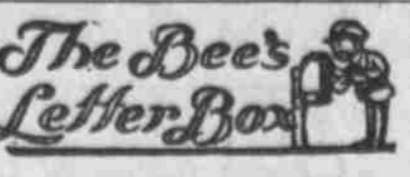
"Glad to see you, old boy! Glad to see you!" chortled the confidence man. "How are you, anyhow?" "All run down," grimly replied Sanderson Smith, the well-known cattle baron of Rampage, Okla., who is temporarily in our midst. "I don't take no interest in life any more. I don't care to match dollars with strange gent who smell of pore hoker. I don't feel able to buy the insurance plan, pay \$100 down; I haven't any ambition to beat wire tappers at their own game; 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 rain, 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 incidentally to taste Bill's bitter beer. Private Jones was on his way thither when he met Sergeant Brown returning. "Where are you off to?" asked the latter.

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

People and Events

Up to May 21 orders have been placed by American railroads for 25,000 cars and 24 locomotives. The record for 1914 was 29,910 cars and 91 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 commissions. Antonio Alonzo, aged 84, of Sacramento, Cal., unable to read or write, was given permission to sit on a jury, as well as night schools and get the real spirit of American education among the youngsters.



The Nominations Are Distinct

OMAHA, May 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: I see in your issue of today a list of the national conference of the Duncards 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 Church of the Brethren (commonly known as Duncards), 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. H. WEAVER, Pastor, Church of the Brethren, 215 North Twenty-second Street.

South Omaha Park Bonds

OMAHA, May 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: The people of South Omaha are being asked to vote for \$200,000 additional park bonds on next Tuesday, in 1905 South Omaha voted \$60,000 for park bonds, and in 1911 \$100,000 more bonds were issued for parks, thus making \$260,000 already issued for our parks. In the last five years an additional sum of \$21,000 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.

OMAHA, May 28.—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 critics the police without reason.

OMAHA, May 28.—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 determining 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 faith and steps taken to secure such investigation.

Let a committee of three competent citizens be selected, one member of the United Improvement club, one by the executive committee of the Omaha Commercial club and the third by the two clubs 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.

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The "Anti" Argument. SOUTH OMAHA, May 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: The great flourish made about annexation would be amusing if it were not for that element of prejudice engrained into the arguments evidently put there to convince the convincible that all anti- is either foolish or dishonest in their purpose.

Asking South Omaha people to vote yes on annexation is a good deal like asking a man to write the program for a party 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 foresee the result with apprehension. We know Omaha people, seeing a great victory and a great acquisition in the track of the little people on their south. They don't see the great losses we sustain in the removal of a twenty-four thousand-a-month-city payroll. The removal of our city government which now controls a vast number of our city come here to pay taxes, examine titles, etc., what it means to be converted into a 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 Omaha and Omaha mercantile interests the noise that would go up would reverberate from ocean to ocean. So allow us to cast one last vote as a city as in dicted by our interests. JOHN FLINN.

SMILING LINES

Noah beheld the flood. "And not a blessed place to intern," he cried.—Philadelphia Ledger. "Did you see where a man accused 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 granite wear in the basement," said the first department agent to know it, am I the only girl you're ever going to love?—Life. "What do you think of this theory that plants have feelings?" "I can't believe it. If it were true I don't believe radishes and lettuce would consent to live in the same garden with a lot of onions."—Washington Star.

Willie—Paw, what is a captain of finance? Paw—A man who can spend more money than his wife can spend, my son. Maw—Willie, you go take a nice long walk.—Willabee Sentinel. Young Walter had heard the expression "untold wealth," and was considerably puzzled as to its meaning. That evening when his father came home, however, he became enlightened as to the definition.

"Father," said he, "what is untold wealth?" "The property you keep from the income tax list, my son."—Harper's Magazine. "Early to bed and early to rise, you know," said the ready-made philosopher. "Yes," replied Mr. Grump. "But I don't know about this rule gives the man who drives a milk wagon any particular advantage."—Washington Star.

SONG OF THE SUBMARINE

New York Herald. I nose along with deeks awash— All hid by flying spray; And carefully I search the sea For ships on which to prey. For none may know just when I come, That shivers every plate; As quick as breath, as sure as death, I send them all below. Into her side my missile goes, To wound her sore, and then Like frightened sheep into the deep, Drip cursing, praying men. 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 silent things weave in and out And sacred sea weeds grow. I nose along beneath the fog That curtains all the sea; A silny eel, all made of steel, That shivers every plate. No learn my deadly hate Until they know the crashing blow That shivers every plate. As through her side my missile goes, To wound her sore and deep; And from her deck, a tangled wreck, Her white-faced seamen leap. Sing ho! for ships I've met and sunk; Sing ho! my hearties, ho! Pick and pride of some mighty fleet, Gone at a single blow, Down where the silny sea-snakes creep, Their evil eyes aglow.

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