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VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.
The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietor.
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Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the average circulation for the month of January, 1915, was 53,714.

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 Grace Louise Hancock
All hearts can be reached through music, although it may speak differently to each.—Louis Lombard.

Yes, and the best answer the street railway can make to the jitney stunt is to give the public good car service, and more of it.

Remember that solemn assurance that an ounce of silver and a bushel of wheat would always be equal in value any time and any place?

So long as the president and the senate caucus stick to the burning deck of the shipping bill the administration cannot be accused of "cold feet."

A competition in rate reduction to light and water consumers would be much more satisfactory than a mere oratorical contest between the general managers.

After a little more debate, he will be introduced as a great electrical engineer as well as a great hydraulic engineer, a great civil engineer, and a great naval engineer.

The best argument for the electric lighting company against the proposed extension of the water district into the lighting business, would be to give Omaha the admittedly overdue rate reductions at once.

Considering the disturbance of the greatest war in history, the bill factory at Lincoln has managed to yield an output whose quantity is in no way disappointing, however much the quality may bear inspection.

The Washington declaration of German-Americans, placing American interests above those of any other country, will find a responsive chord in every American home. It sounds the right note of patriotism.

President Wilson urges the building of two battleships this year. Senator Tillman, head of the naval committee, desires to wait for the lesson of the world war. While the political doctors are arguing Uncle Sam merely whistles and whittles.

If Villa succeeds in establishing himself in control of the Mexican government, that camera picture of him sitting in the presidential chair in the national palace a few weeks ago, will take on an added significance, though not wholly unsuspected.

The payroll brigade are expected to fight to hold on to their jobs, but how any one can oppose Greater Omaha consolidation who does his business and gets his livelihood in Omaha, though he happens to live just outside the city limits, is difficult to understand.

It remained for the St. Louis Globe-Democrat to strain the credulity of readers by presuming that a democratic levy on office-holders' salaries for a campaign fund constitutes a news story. That vehicle of political righteousness might with equal emphasis assert that the rush for the pie counter is inspired by a desire to "save the country."

Thirty Years Ago
This Day in Omaha
Compiled from Bee files

The grand convulse of the Nebraska Knights of Pythias began at Pythian hall, entering under the arrival of John Van Valkenberg of Fort Madison, Ia., grand chancellor of all the Knights of Pythias lodges of the world. In the work Mr. Van Valkenberg was assisted by George Leslie and J. J. Munnell, while J. D. Jones and Colonel Irwin also contributed speeches.

Prize winners at the Benevolent society's fair last night included the following: Silk suspenders, George Meyer; manure toilet case, George Meyer; an order for silk shirts, E. B. Falconer; tie, Mrs. I. Oberfelder; butterfly, Thomas F. Boyd; five screws, Mrs. A. Brown.

So exceptional that The Bee notes that all incoming trains were on time last night.

A number of Omaha men have been subpoenaed to go to Lincoln to testify on alleged school land frauds, among them George Heimrod, Edwin Percy, E. F. Dorn and E. L. Lovett.

A new nest has been created by the police authorities occupying Fourteenth, Fifteenth and sixteenth to Campbell avenue to Matney, and is patrolled in the daytime by Officer Tom Pierson.

Democratic Practice and Preaching.
President Wilson's plea, made in his address to a gathering of business men in Washington, that closer co-operation should be had between the business world and the government in the framing of laws, is based on sound foundation. No one will dispute the theory, but what has been the democratic practice? When has the president or his party seriously considered the interests of business in formulating or carrying out their partisan program? Was the voice of the business world heeded when the Underwood tariff law was passed, or when the regional banks were located? At what time has the democratic party ever sincerely consulted the general interests of the country in connection with its policies?

For longer than sixty years the democratic party has been avowedly a sectional party, and the present congress is dominated entirely by sectional interests, organized on sectional lines, and operates steadily along those lines. The present deadlock in the senate is due to the effort of the president to drive through that body a measure intended chiefly to secure advantage for the cotton growers of the south.

The country will be the gainer when there comes a closer and more efficient co-operation between the business of the country and its government, but just now congress is far more in need of control than in business.

Russia and the World-War.
Little surprise will be exhibited because of the czar's finally declining to allow neutrals to distribute relief among the prison camps of eastern Siberia, at the same time refusing to permit an inspection of those camps by neutral diplomats. This is part of the historic policy of Russia. The rise of Muscovy from the condition of a lowly principality to the position of the world's greatest continuous empire has been on this foundation of aloofness.

In the present war Russia is, as ever, an opportunist. Russia has little occasion to love either France or England, but at present is content to love Germany a little less. At all events, the concern of Russia for either France or England is not likely to go very far beyond the point where they may be serviceable in the furtherance of the Russian dream of world domination. With Germany defeated, and France and England seriously weakened, if not actually exhausted at the close of the present struggle, Russia will be the better enabled to take another step forward in that game which is being played in terms of centuries rather than of years.

The economic aspect of the problem that will have to be faced on termination of hostilities is fairly well forecasted; the political phase of the question is certain to be colored by the attitude of Russia, and Russia continues to hold aloof.

Where Nebraska Republicans Lose Out.
The official promulgation of the new apportionment for the next republican national convention has been made, the plan having been ratified according to its terms by the republicans in states representing 290 electoral votes or over twenty-five more than necessary to meet the conditions for its adoption. The announcement enumerates the states that have formally approved the new plan, but nowhere is Nebraska to be found in the list, although our last republican state convention unanimously adopted the ratification resolution that was offered. It would seem that either the officers of the convention neglected to forward the properly certified copies of the resolution or the returns from Nebraska miscarried somewhere and failed to reach their proper destination.

The unfortunate thing about it is that it deprives Nebraska republicans of any share in the prestige which the republicans of other progressive states will have for putting this important reform into effect and it does this when our state should by rights have been listed in the forefront of the reapportionment movement.

Francisco Villa, Dictator.
Never in his career has "Pancho" Villa appeared more picturesque than he does at this moment, boldly proclaiming himself dictator of Mexico. Why not, pray? By dint of his own prowess he has raised himself from the condition of a lowly jailbird to that of de facto dictator, at least; he has made and unmade "presidents" in a steady procession, and has enforced his own will without ruf for months. He has murdered, pillaged, and wasted, and all in the name of "liberty," and now he has committed the climax of his career by announcing himself as supreme in Mexico.

Villa's action crystallizes the situation to the extent that it will array all the other leaders against one. In this regard it may be of service, for it may mean the beginning of the end of anarchy in stricken Mexico.

Still Too Many Bills.
The present legislature has been guilty of the same fault that has marked its predecessors, in the introduction of too many bills. Even were there urgent, or only reasonable, need for all the laws and changes in laws proposed by the bills presented it is humanly impossible to give all the pending measures careful consideration within the time at its disposal. Many good bills are included in the long list, but these are sure to suffer, because of inadequate attention, while many bad bills are likely to slip through in the rush that is inevitable.

Half-baked laws which later require much amendment to make them effective, necessarily result from this course. Other similar evils, too obvious to require specifying, also attend this effort of the legislature to cover too much ground. Its most direct, and perhaps dangerous, effect is that the final determination of the fate of all measures save those for appropriations required by law, will be taken out of the hands of the legislature and given over to the sitting committee, which thus becomes of paramount importance, as the real law-making body.

Prominence is given to the news that three of the assassins of Archduke Ferdinand have been executed and three committed to prison for life. Tens of thousands of worthier men have gone into unmarked graves as a direct result of that crime, and countless thousands more are doomed to that fate.

A statement of the real inspiration and authorship of the deluge of legislative bills would vastly improve their educational value.

The Political Caldron

As well as other things, there is a lot of politics, as well as other things, in this Greater Omaha consolidation proposition, and its bearing on the coming spring city election has been canvassed, and fine-toothed combed by the strategists in all camps. It will be remembered that Major "Jim" announced himself quite a while ago in favor of consolidation, but was emphatic that he would not stand for taking in Dundee, Florence or Benson without taking in South Omaha at the same time. It will be remembered too that Senator Dodge was always hot for annexation until just now when he somewhat over to the anti, and his switch is not wholly explained by the fact that he now lives in Dundee, because he lived in the same spot while serving in the last legislature. True, at that time he was in neither Dundee nor Omaha, but as he himself remarked, "Dundee forcibly annexed me," and he never put up a whimper. So it isn't forcible or unforcible annexation, but politics, that is at the bottom of the line-up, and this is the way it is topped out: Dundee is "silk-stocking," South Omaha is "rough-neck," Dundee, Benson and Florence altogether cast fewer votes than South Omaha by a good deal, so the consolidation would be expected to strengthen the "liberals" in a city election as compared with the "highbrows."

A question of time and calendar also enters into this consolidation problem as it affects local politics. Ordinarily a law passed by the legislature does not become effective until the following July, which would be two months too late to let the voters of the annexed territory in on the choice of the city officers who are to govern them for the next ensuing three years. The law could become operative at once by attaching the emergency clause to it, and passing it soon enough to let ambitious statesmen like Hector, Tanner, Dodge and others residing in South Omaha and Dundee file for the municipal primaries as citizens of Greater Omaha. The only other way to effect consolidation, and let the annexed neighbors have representation, in the elective city offices in event consolidation is enacted without the emergency clause, would be then to rush through a special act postponing the city election until fall, and extending the terms of the present municipal regime for about seven months. It goes without saying that the city hall bunch would not object to this program, and it is also more than possible that those who are fighting consolidation hardest right now, being all of them politicians first, might be beaten on the first round and seeing consolidation a sure thing after next July, turn in and go their utmost to help postpone the election so they could climb in on the ground floor of the political game.

So don't overlook any bets in the consolidation matter, and don't expect to see some lightning changes if contingencies require.

It is said friends of W. F. Baxter are importuning him to start and head another citizens' movement similar to the Citizens' Union of three years ago. So far, however, Mr. Baxter has declined to take more than ordinary interest in this campaign, urging that his business affairs at this time demand more of his time and energy than they did three years ago when he was one of the moving spirits in the Citizens' Union. For that organization Ralph Sunderland was general in command; David Fitch was secretary; and C. W. Alden was business manager. A suite of rooms in the City National bank building was the Union's headquarters.

Politics sure makes strange bedfellows. Here are Leo Herdman and Mayor J. C. Dahlman friends again, after nearly nine years of political estrangement. This is one of the important political happenings of the week, during which Mr. Herdman called at the mayor's office, doffed his hat and coat, accepted a cigar and the twain agreed to bury the hatchet and henceforth eat at the same political table.

The ancient and honorable legion of political pan-handlers is making its presence felt in the city hall just now, although it will be two months before the city primaries. Some of these visitors want a little small change for past loyalty and work, while others ask for money for what they promise to do this spring. They bring in alleged political information, offer suggestions and even claim to control votes. Some are fairly successful in this form of activity; others don't get to first base. Usually twenty-five cents is a satisfactory ante at this stage of the game.

Twice Told Tales

Forethought Defied.
The children had read the word forethought in the reader and the teacher was endeavoring to make it plain.

"Forethought," she said, "is looking ahead. Now you give me an example of forethought if you can."

"Well, forethought would be not to eat much breakfast when you know you were going out into the country to your grandmother's for dinner," explained the boy.—Indianapolis News.

Astor Wit.
Newport is crediting Vincent Astor with a bon mot. It appears that Mr. Astor had turned the cold shoulder on an aristocratic but poor young man who had continually tried to "use" him. A woman ventured to take Mr. Astor to task for this snub, and received the telling reply:

"Oh, Jack shouldn't complain. They who make tools of their friends are sure to get 'cut.'"—Boston Globe.

Strictly Cash Basis.
Shortly after the reconstruction period began, an old southern planter met one of his negroes whom he had not seen since the latter's liberation.

"Well, well," said the planter, "what are you doing now, Uncle Josh?"

"An 'n'-preacher, 'n' de gospil."

"What? You preacher?"

"Yassah, marster, I 'n'-preachin'."

"Well, well! Do you use notes?"

"Nossah. At de rust I use notes, but now I de-mands de cash."—Judge.

People and Events

A three-minute telephone conversation between San Francisco and New York is definitely entitled to the bargain rate of \$6.9 a minute.

No matter what Chicago may do about varying the fashions in waist lines, indifferent masculines persist in holding on to the forty-four or threeabouts.

The Bee's Letter Box

Brief contributions on timely topics invited. The Bee assumes no responsibility for opinions of correspondents. All letters subject to condensation by editor.

Accusations Unjust and Absurd.
OMAHA, Feb. 3.—To the Editor of The Bee: As an interested reader of The Bee I want to reply to the communication of W. J. Woodward of the village of Lewis, Ia., who styles himself the president of the Citizens' bank. His letter was certainly a display of narrow-mindedness, bigotry and very poor Americanism.

He seems to forget America is a free country for all nationalities and all denominations. The literacy test required for emigrants is not an assurance of good character of citizenship, for the crooks are mostly all able to pass such a test, few being deficient, while good, honest, hardworking people are rejected due to their inability to pass the test.

Every American citizen desires to elevate the conditions of the working class of people of this country, but our government must devise a just way of accomplishing this, and President Wilson and ex-President Taft voted the literacy test as a matter of principle, and not as a dependency of votes, as "illiterately remarked" by Mr. Woodward. The immigrant of certain European countries are not responsible for their illiteracy, inability to withstand the literacy test; their government, rulers and politicians are to be blamed for their depression.

The Bee has always been just and fair and may it always be so. The loss of the subscription of Mr. Woodward will mean gain of others, for his accusations against The Bee are unjust and absurd.

Mr. Woodward can be referred to the old Latin proverb "Si Teuissies, philocephus mansies."

F. B. HOUREMAN.

Chance for Commercial Club.
OMAHA, Feb. 4.—To the Editor of The Bee: The Omaha Commercial club sent a strong delegation to Lincoln to support the Greater Omaha annexation bill, but no one claimed that any advantage would accrue to the state at large or that any really great advantage would accrue to Omaha.

But now comes the Commercial club of Alliance supporting a bill to efficiently promote industrial development in the state of Nebraska. Its influence for commercial good might be made a hundred or a thousand fold that of any annexation bill ever dreamed of.

Mr. Woodward can be referred to the old Latin proverb "Si Teuissies, philocephus mansies."

Of course no Commercial club would support it because of political influence, and it is, just barely possible that some commercial clubs will oppose it (under cover) from a narrow, selfish interest.

There is probably no use holding back for any of our heretofore mighty statesmen to become enthusiastic over it, because there are none of the usual reasons why they should.

ONE CLUB MEMBER.

Who Says They Won't Work?
OMAHA, Feb. 4.—To the Editor of The Bee: Where is the man of woman who says the unemployed won't work when they have the opportunity? In cleaning the streets of snow, preference was given to voters and many unemployed workers that were voters when they were not-perjured themselves for the privilege of working.

WILLIS HUDSPETH.

Normal Board Should Be Abolished.
OMAHA, Feb. 4.—To the Editor of The Bee: The only argument necessary to show why the State Normal board should be abolished is a short review of what they have done during the last biennium. They began by discharging Dr. Thomas as president of the Kearney normal, as they said for the good of the school. They never filed any charges simply because they had none to file. Had they been honest they would have given the real reason and said it was because T. J. Majors was unfriendly to Thomas, and also because he was not satisfactory to the gang in the Schoolmasters' club, and Caviness, a member of the board, is also a member of the club and the tool of this same gang.

Under the guise of making the work more businesslike, Majors and Caviness fixed up a resolution forbidding the president of each school to have any voice in the selection of janitors, care of building and grounds, the purchase of furniture and supplies, the expenditure of any funds or the handling of any cash funds or fees, notwithstanding the statutes clearly make all this the president's duty. These matters were all placed into the hands of the registrar and the local committeeman. As soon as this was fixed Majors immediately discharged the head janitor at Peru and put into the place made vacant a tenant from one of his farms, although the man discharged was admitted to be entirely satisfactory.

Detroit was chairman of the teachers' committee and had his daughter elected as a member of the Chardon faculty, later he had R. C. King and R. J. Elliott of his office force elected to positions in the Kearney faculty.

The president of the board, because he was a member of the executive committee, succeeded in selling the normal schools about \$5,000 worth of furniture. With only part of the money in sight the board let a contract for an \$8,000 training school at Peru, to be known as the T. J. Majors' Training school. This building contains in its plans a fine gymnasium and pool, notwithstanding the fact that the Peru normal already has one of the best gymnasiums in the state. It would seem that the other normal schools should have at least one gymnasium each before Peru gets two.

The voters of the state emphatically condemned the action of the Normal board by electing Thomas to the state superintendency, yet the members of the board who ousted Thomas avoid their liti-tiousness by keeping him off of the teachers' committee, which has always been headed by the state superintendent. The expense of the board also shows it to be quite a luxury, being about \$4,000 for the biennium. The traveling expenses of Caviness alone is equal to if not greater than that of any one of the presidents, although he is not permitted under the statutes to collect anything except actual expenses while at board meetings. The foregoing is but a sample of this board's doings.

At one time ten teachers were discharged and no other reason was assigned than that the teachers were not needed. Some of these teachers had been in the employ of the state for fifteen years. The board should now be discharged in the same way.

D. B. JOHNSON.

GRINS AND GROANS.

"After I got through with my remarks," said the orator, "the people applauded loudly."

"I joined in that applause," replied Miss Czernin.

"You were interested?"

"Yes, and grateful. I was afraid for awhile that you had grown absent-minded and thought you were filibustering."—Washington Star.

Mrs. Youngbride—I want to get a hat for my husband. It's to be a surprise for him.

Dealer—I said: "On the level it's a good car."—California Pelican.

"Dear me," exclaimed the British maiden to her companion, "didn't you hear something drop just now?"

"Yes," answered the other, "it was one of those horrid Zeppelin bombs. Is my head on straight?"—Baltimore American.

First Burglar—Hello, Bill. Why you look as if you'd been through a cyclone since I last met you. What's wrong?

Second Burglar—I got into a house where the woman was waiting up for her husband, and she mistook me for him.—Boston Transcript.

HER EYES.

What the color of her eyes? Ah, the fact is hard to tell. There is ever fresh surprise. When such those eyes I dwell. First, as darkest night they seem. Then, a flash of color gay. Next a sweet and tender gleam. As of heaven's sereneest ray. What the color of her eyes? Changeable as April skies.

When she puts her hands in mine With a greeting warm and true, Then her eyes uplifted shine. With the heavens' reflected hue. When at parting, her white arms Hold me close in love's embrace, Not the least among her charms, Eyes of brown, where just a trace Of tears betrays their changing hue. Brown to black or gray to blue.

When I look within their deeps, Black or brown or blue or gray, Flame of love within them leap, Lights and shade forever play. Blessed eyes! Their gaze is pure Or in sorrow or in song; And whenever their pleading lure 'Tis from evil and from wrong. Heaven's light keep her in its ward, And her eyes shall be my.—E. F. W.

Ugh! Not Calomel, Oil or Salts, Take "California Syrup of Figs."

A harmless cure for sick headache, biliousness, sour stomach, constipation, indigestion, coated tongue, sallowness—take "California Syrup of Figs." For the cause of all such misery comes from a torpid liver and sluggish bowels. A tablespoonful tonight means all constipation, poison, waste matter, fermenting food and sour bile gently moved out of your system by morning without griping. Please don't think of "California Syrup of Figs" as a physic. Don't think you are drugging yourself or your children, because this delicious fruit laxative can not cause injury. Even the most delicate child can take it as safely as a robust man. It is the most harmless, effective stomach, liver and bowel cleanser, regulator and tonic ever devised. Your only difficulty may be in getting the genuine, so ask your druggist for a 50 cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," then see that it is made by the "California Fig Syrup Company." This city has many counterfeit "fig syrups," so watch out.

Make Teething Easy for Baby

USE Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup A SPLENDID REGULATOR PURELY VEGETABLE—NOT NARCOTIC

For Protection against the serious sickness so likely to follow an ailment of the digestive organs,—biliousness or inactive bowels, you can rely on the best known corrective

Beecham's Pills

The Largest Sale of Any Medicine in the World Sold Everywhere. In boxes, 10c, 25c.

Hotel Breslin Broadway at 29th St. New York "An Hotel Where Guests are Made to Feel at Home" Not too large, yet large enough to afford the maximum of value at minimum expense. Exceptionally Accessible 500 Rooms—Moderate Restaurant Charges Single Rooms with Running Water \$1.00 to \$2.00 per day Single Rooms with Tub or Shower \$1.50 to \$2.00 per day Double Rooms with Running Water \$2.00 to \$4.00 per day Double Rooms with Tub or Shower \$2.50 to \$3.00 per day EDWARD C. FOGG, Managing Director ROY L. BROWN, Resident Manager

Mildred Is Next

The snow will surely melt when she comes out with her beaming countenance and beautiful spring gowns, all pink and white. She has great rolls of waxen curls, big blue eyes and oh dear me, when you see her dainty little feet and pink shoes and stockings, you'll just want to eat her up.

Mildred will be given free to the little girl under 12 years of age that brings or mails us the largest number of doll's pictures cut out of the Daily and Sunday Bee before 4 p. m., Saturday, February 6.

Mildred's picture will be in The Bee every day this week. Cut them out and ask your friends to save the pictures in the paper for you, too. See how many pictures of Mildred you can get, and be sure to turn them in to The Bee office before 4:00 p. m. Saturday, February 6.

You can see "Mildred" at The Bee Office



More Skates for our Busy Bee Boys

Barney & Berry American Club, Nickel Plated, Tempered Welded Steel Blades. Sizes to fit. This picture of one of the Skates will be in The Bee every day this week. Cut them all out and ask your friends to save the pictures in their paper for you, too. See how many pictures you can get and bring them to The Bee office next Saturday. The Skates will be given free to the boy that sends us the most pictures before 4 P. M. Saturday, February 6.

