

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR. The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietor.

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JANUARY CIRCULATION. 53,714

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 January, 1915, was 53,714.

DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me, this 2d day of February, 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 Jo. F. Barton. Simplicity, truth and unselfishness are the leading principles of the beautiful in every work of art.—Gluck.

Perhaps the objections to the Carnegie and Rockefeller funds could be removed by letting the objectors revise the mailing list.

Remised appropriations for state institutions might relieve the managers of so much head-work that they would be ashamed to draw their salaries.

Those Swiss troops guarding the neutrality zone are not doing any fighting, but they supply mighty good food for the camera artist just the same.

Deficits may come and shipping bills go, but free seeds go on regardless. The impious pens of critics cannot avert congressmen from the seed trough.

Mount Vernon timber is always appropriate for a souvenir gavel, but Hermitage whiskey is the timber for business in a democratic body directed by "Old Hickory's" namesake.

The Mexican capital question differs from the county seat fights on this side of the Rio Grande. In Mexico every leader has his own capital until he is killed off or exiled.

"Be your own lobbyist," exclaims Mr. Bryan to railroad managers. Suppose they accept the advice, what will the underlings do for a living? Is Mr. Bryan forsaking the "common people?"

Senator Williams' estimate of what the filibuster speeches cost the country is interesting if true. But he left out of the calculation a saving of \$80,000,000 by blowing the shipping bill on the rocks.

The legislative limousine of today does not differ except in capacity from the legislative go-cart of primitive times. A bill which even winks at a prospective job glides along the road with the risk of a puncture.

Mr. Bryan again scorns the brewery vote. Nineteen years ago he was even fiercer in scorning the goldbug vote. But he did not scorn the gold which the goldbugs slipped into his campaign road when he was not looking.

The governor of Georgia condemns lynching as a crime against civilization and offers a reward for the apprehension of the perpetrators of a recent crime. The money will not be claimed. Officials may fume against lynch law until black in the face, but perpetrators go undetected and unhung.

A New York idea buttressed by a court judgment taxing the cost of putting out a fire on the negligent property owner, is being whipped into law in the Massachusetts legislature. Making a negligent property owner, in event of fire, split the insurance money with the fire department is well calculated to cut down the dividends of fire buggery.

Thirty Years Ago This Day in Omaha. Omaha awoke this morning, rubbed its eyes, and found itself once more in the grasp of the ice king. The thermometer went down to 2 above zero with a south-westerly wind blowing.

The Musical Union orchestra Sabbath concert at Boyd's was much enjoyed. The leader, H. T. Irvine, contributed a corned sole.

John Griffin, aged 70 years, died at the home of his wife, Mrs. Moran, near Mason.

Mr. Harry Crumser, employed in the Nebraska department of the world's fair at New Orleans, has returned to Omaha.

The term of United States Marshal Hinshaw has expired, but he holds over until a successor is appointed and qualified.

A meeting of the Nebraska Woman's Indian association is to be held at the residence of Mrs. J. M. Woolworth on a call issued by Mrs. H. M. James as secretary.

The articles of incorporation of the newly organized charity union is published, duly authenticated and certified to by G. M. Hitchcock, notary public.

The fair given by the Ladies' Benevolent society "closed last night. The receipts approximated nearly \$2,700, of which \$250 will be net. Among the lucky winners at the final raffle were: cray quilt, W. H. Tracy; seal, box and muff, Thomas F. Boyd; gold watch, Dr. Harfield; washing machine, M. Hillman; stove, A. Pappeburg; baby cradle, J. Oberlander; pocketknife, George Heston.

The Railroads, the People and the Newspapers

Talking at Indianapolis, Secretary Bryan advises the railroads, instead of sending lobbyists, to send their presidents and high officials to speak for them at state legislatures and in congress. If Mr. Bryan were consistent he would advise them likewise, or preferably, to speak for themselves directly to the people, as well as to the people's representatives in legislatures and in congress. And to do this only two ways are open to the railroads, being the same two ways by which Mr. Bryan speaks to the people, either through the press or in public addresses speeded through the press.

But when the railroads take space in the newspapers, as they have recently done in Nebraska, to lay their case directly before the people, Mr. Bryan accuses them of trying to corrupt public opinion. Referring to the railroads' newspaper publicity campaign, Mr. Bryan's Commoner last month declared that "thousands of dollars are being spent in an effort to convince the newspaper owners, or the people, that general business prosperity is impossible without permitting a higher rate for railroad service."

In other words, Mr. Bryan advises the railroads to take the people into their confidence, and when they follow his advice, or rather anticipate it, he intimates that they are trying insidiously to control the wellprings of public opinion. Now, we agree with Mr. Bryan that the only thing for the railroads to do is to have all their dealings with the public, or with representatives of the public, open and above board, and that the day of the underground secret lobby is past. But Mr. Bryan knows as well as anyone that a railroad in buying newspaper space to define its attitude and present its arguments to the public no more convinces the newspaper owners to take their side of the questions at issue than does the department stores, the meat markets or the book publishers who buy space to exploit their wares, except as the newspaper owner is also a newspaper reader and a firm believer in newspaper publicity. The railroads should deal fairly with the people, and the people should give the railroads a square deal, and as their practical medium of communication, the newspaper is also entitled to a square deal.

The Naval Program

Thirty millions or so is set aside by the house for the construction of new dreadnaughts and other forms of fighting ships, thus continuing the expansion of the United States navy at the rate that has been maintained for several years. It insures the continuance of the service at a high point of efficiency, and certainly is liberal enough, at a time when the ordinary revenue of the government, augmented by several forms of special taxation, is insufficient to meet expenses. The passage of the bill through the house was not unattended by statements that have become very familiar to the public at large, but the hope is indulged that the amount will be sufficient to calm the perturbed souls of the makers of gups and gunpowder and the like, and that for a time we will hear less of the unprepared condition of the United States to participate in a world war.

The "Pay-if-You-Win" System

Whether its original coinage or not, the Lincoln Journal gives us an apt phrase descriptive of the operations of the contingent fee lawyers when it refers to them as the "pay-if-you-win" system. Bills are pending in the legislature designed to stop the contingent fee abuse, one measure prohibiting such contracts altogether, and another limiting the lawyer's divvy to 10 per cent. These proposals naturally draw forth protest from the legal profession, not only as objectionable interference with their price schedules, but also as barring the undeniable good which the contingent fee sometimes serves for poor clients.

The Bee does not have to re-state its position on this question, because it has repeatedly shown up the glaring defects of the "pay-if-you-win" system. We are firmly convinced that the lawyer's partnership with his client for a half-and-half split is responsible for more perjury, more framed-up testimony, more jury fixing, more blackmail and shakedown—in fact, more crooked law practice, than any any other one thing. Most reputable lawyers admit that much of the odium brought down upon their profession of late years is the direct result of the work of shysters and ambulance chasers resorting to desperate and despicable means to cash in on contingent fee cases, and of the unwillingness of the bar to shake off these parasites and institute reforms on the inside. We also recognize, however, the occasional possibility of injustice, or denial of justice, through inability to engage a lawyer on a contingent fee basis. These cases, however, are not so frequent as lawyers would have us believe, and where legitimate reason exists for a contingent fee contract, there is no reason whatever for keeping it secret. We believe, therefore, that the contingent fee bill could be suppressed if no such contracts were enforceable unless first filed in court and approved by the presiding judge with full power to revise downward the stipulated percentage if it appears excessive.

If we do not soon get some reform of this kind, we may have to take up another alternative which the Journal suggests and which is to provide salaried attorneys at public expense for civil cases, as we now do in criminal cases, wherever the individual is unable to engage competent legal services for himself.

Remedy for Gambling in Grain

From the grain brokers themselves comes a suggestion that may mean the ultimate solution of the problem of how to control the evil of gambling in foodstuffs, and especially in grain. It is simplicity itself, and merely involves "raising the ante" on the gamblers. At present it is resorted to by the brokers to protect themselves against possible loss from the operations of irresponsible "traders" on the excited and wildly fluctuating market. Its effect so far has been to reduce speculation by eliminating the little fellows, and thus steadying the trading.

If speculative operations on the market can be controlled by the brokers through means so simple and so readily applied, why can not a law be devised that will require all board of trade operations to be kept on a plane that will at least minimize the evil of speculation, and serve to keep the price of foodstuffs somewhere near the level established by the law of supply and demand? The弊 that the brokers have furnished ought to be carefully looked after by some sane lawmaking body.

Press Poll on Prohibiting the Exportation of Arms

Editorial Digest. In Two Parts—Part I.

To get some idea of how the press of the United States ranges itself in this matter, we submitted to a thousand representative papers of all sections the following question: "Do you favor stopping by law the exportation of war materials to belligerents?" Of 49 replies, 34 answer "No," 15 "Yes," and twenty-nine are noncommittal. Considering in a special group the replies from cities of over 10,000 inhabitants, we find the "Noes" even more in the majority, the vote standing 25 to 31. When we turn to the cities and towns of smaller population, we find opinion more evenly divided, 34 replies opposing embargo legislation and 16 approving it.

Interesting and illuminating comment in many instances supplemented the answers of the editors to our question. Thus the Chicago Tribune, seeing in the exportation of arms "a matter of international rather than internal politics," offers this striking suggestion: "The allies' treatment of American shipping is not what it would be if, for instance, Mr. Blaine were in the State department. The United States government can and should use the question of exporting arms to secure concessions to American shippers and exporters."

Some papers, considering the problem simply from a commercial viewpoint, say in effect, "If the belligerents will pay for our business, we have suffered enough already because of the war, so let's take what compensation we can get." Others, again, like the Toledo Blade, would permit the exportation of "food, clothing, and other supplies not directly used in man-killing," but would prohibit the sale of "arms and ammunition," and the Oakland Enquirer thinks we "may think of an arms embargo as needed at home." To the Spokane Chronicle, however, the enactment of an embargo law on war materials "would appear to be the logical course for a nation that desires peace and neutrality." Other journals in the ranks of those who favor embargo are the Tacoma News, Los Angeles Times, Denver Express, Wichita Beacon, Kansas City Post, Memphis News-Smiliar, Illinois State Journal, Great Rapids News, Saginaw Valley News, Dayton News, Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch, Paterson Call and Evening News, and the Troy Record.

In Nebraska, with its large German-American population, where the state senate has adopted a resolution that will automatically prohibit the Omaha World-Herald (whose chief owner is the United States senator sponsoring the bill) violently accuses the United States of being "practically the only highly civilized nation that is reaping a blood-money profit from the sale of arms and ammunition to the countries that are at war!" It insists it is all a mistake to do anything of the kind on the ground that it is "sound commercially," for the building up of factories for the manufacture of arms and ammunition means that we will have them on our hands when the war is over—means that we will have a Kruppium of our own; "while the sale of their product to destroy the property and take the lives of peoples with whom we are at peace must inevitably cause resentment that will automatically affect our trade and commerce long after the war is ended." In another German-American organ a writer in the Milwaukee Free Press says that "no bloodless code of rules of law" can change the fact that we are "contributing to the destruction of the life of the German people and of Austrian and German culture." And he goes on to say that the country now pays "to the full stature of its sovereign responsibilities" by asserting its right to place an embargo on the shipment of arms. It will "in the future face the same situation that now confronts those countries except from the commerce of the seas by the superior naval power of Great Britain." Among journals printed in German we find Germany, a "democratic weekly," which professes to express "the attitude of Americans of German descent," arguing that "if the American press had not been deceived" by cable reports inspired by the British government, "the American people would not have indulged in such deplorable partisanship," and it urges our return to "true neutrality" by refusing "to supply any of the warring nations with weapons."

The embargo measure is designed to "make American neutrality less one-sided and less defensible to England" is an observation of the Cleveland Wachtel and Anseiger, and in like vein the Buffalo Volksfreund exhorts all German-Americans to protest to the administration that it has strayed from the right road to its neutrality. According to the Bostoner Anseiger, "further tolerance of the present conditions will in no way add to the respect of other nations of our free and neutral country, as we are proclaiming it to be," and this journal adds that the time is come to stop by enactment of a law "the exportation of war material of whatever nature." In the view of the California Demokrat the United States is "guilty of a national hypocrisy" because it "prays for peace on Sunday and during the week is making a profit from the sale of weapons whereby this frightful slaughter may be prolonged." In this connection may be noted the remark of the Columbus Express and Westbote that our boasted business morality is "in the eyes of all respectable people a morality which comes very near being a crime against civilization."

In pointed contrast to the foregoing German-American views is that of the St. Louis Arbeiter Zeitung (socialist), which believes that only a "hypocritical neutrality" seeks to prohibit the export of arms and holds that if it is proper to make and sell machines for the destruction of human beings in times of peace, then it should be equally proper to "make and sell them in times of war."

Twice Told Tales

Summer Correspondence.

This little story was told by Congressman William H. Murray of Oklahoma the other evening, when the conversation turned to the letters the old man writes to absent wives in the good old summer time.

"Recently two women were busily knitting scarves and things for the soldiers, when one of them casually referred to a summer visit she had made in the mountains.

"That makes me think," was the smiling response of the other, "what kind of letters does your husband write you when you are away on your summer trip?"

"He always writes very affectionately," answered the first, pausing to see if she had dropped any stitches. "He invariably begins with 'My precious treasure,' and ends by sending me his love."

"Very beautiful," was the smiling comment of the first. "I suppose you answer in the same loving vein?"

"With a slight variation," reflectively replied the first. "I start my letter with 'My precious treasure,' and end by asking him to send me \$10."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

Felt Like One of Them.

"Tuther day," related old Dad Bing, the Oklahoma catfisherman, who is temporarily in our midst, "I was rambling along in a street car when a batch of young fellows got aboard. I judged they were college students, by their funny clothes and queer-shaped heads. The car was pretty full and they pushed and snorted back and forth in the aisle, tramping on people's feet and committing similar frivolities that a law, dimly they all were back and fetched from a long year. Then the nearest one to me took a look, and not admiring my face or something, says:

"Well, my rural friend, don't you like it?"

"Ghore, I like it," says I. "I'm half-witted myself."—Kansas City Star.

Reciprocally.

Wise New York vaudeville managers pay huge salaries for the use of names that draw the crowd, regardless of the histrionic ability, or lack of it, of the actors; and it is only natural that ball players of meteoric fame should prove luring bait of this kind. Some of them fancy their own acting; some do not.

Recently two young pitchers whose work on the diamond has won them a reputation of some net after their better days in the lobby of the Hotel Astor.

"Hello, Dick," said one. A pause. Then: "I saw your act."

"I saw yours, Bill," countered the other.

"Shake," grinned the first; and they did.—Everybody's Magazine.

The Bee's Letter Box

University Expenses Are Public.

LINCOLN, Feb. 6.—To the Editor of The Bee: I wish to write stating that I appreciate the tone and spirit of the editorial in The Bee entitled, "Publicity for School Appropriations." I am sending you under other cover a copy of the biennial report of the regents showing the expenditures for the last two years. R. AVERY, Office of Chancellor.

The Cigar Salesman.

OMAHA, Feb. 7.—To the Editor of The Bee: Before the Omaha Ad club recently, H. B. Whitehouse, local manager for the National Cash Register company, spoke upon efficient salesmanship and incidentally saw fit to characterize cigar clerks and salesmen as "the latest mortals on earth" and the "living embodiment of inefficiency."

Mr. Whitehouse is a smart man and he is an efficient salesman. He must be a smart man to hold his exalted position and get away with such talk, and he must be an efficient salesman or he could not discourse upon the efficient salesman and disingenuous business life. He does not lack in confidence in accounting a "few salesmen" or "some clerks," but uses the sweeping assertion that cigar salesmen in general are not worthy of their hire.

It is hard to discern just how Mr. Whitehouse figures on his famous blackboard. He is taking a slap at the cigar and tobacco industry when he says the smoking of expensive cigars breeds inefficiency, yet his firm caters to the retail cigar trade with a product which their efficient salesmen lead us to realize is indispensable. The assertion that cigar clerks continually smoke expensive cigars is just as absurd as to say the bank clerk is wealthy because he works in a bank. He indirectly accuses the cigar store proprietor of harboring incompetent help, not even having common sense enough to know it until Mr. Whitehouse shed his enlightenment.

That he is wrong requires no answer. A business that has progressed like the retail cigar trade, a business that has as much competition as that cater to the best citizens, the highest class of men, could never thrive with "lazy mortals" as salesmen. A set of salesmen that put in the hours that the cigar man works and has half as much efficiency for selling their merchandise will be hard for Mr. Whitehouse to find.

The writer hardly believes Mr. Whitehouse is in earnest. More than likely he was called upon to say something and while suffering with a severe case of exaggerated ego he knocked the first class of salesmen that came to his mind. Or, perhaps, he may have gotten his data and statistics from some anti-divine records that were ripe for quoting about the time he was of age.

It is the opinion of every cigar man in the city that it is upon request of every honorable clerk in the city that the writer has submitted this protest and if not from a moral standpoint Mr. Whitehouse owes an apology from a business standpoint. L. E. HIGGINS.

Poultry Raising and Advertising.

OMAHA, Feb. 8.—To the Editor of The Bee: Since I have been a poultry breeder for a number of years in Nebraska, Mr. Ames's letter in Saturday's Bee, expressing a pessimistic view of the poultry industry, caught my attention.

I have attended practically all the important poultry shows in Nebraska for years, have talked with hundreds of Nebraska and Iowa poultry men, and had correspondence with even more, and in practically all cases I have found these men enthusiastic and making money. I'll admit it requires brains and lots of work to make poultry pay, but it is paying big whenever these two essentials are combined.

I can put my finger on dozens of poultrymen within five miles of the Omaha postoffice who have raised poultry for years and are making a snug sum from it as a side line. When we remember that the annual poultry crop would build two Panama canals, we get some idea of the immensity of the industry. Of course, 90 per cent of this \$90,000,000 crop is produced on farms where the bulk of the feed is raised at home.

I also feel that this gentleman takes a wrong view of advertising rates in The Twentieth Century Farmer. Upon investigation I find that in proportion to their circulation the rates are lower than practically all other high grade farm papers. The standard basis of figuring advertising rates in farm papers is one-half cent per square line (display space) per 1,000 subscribers, and 1 cent per word (classified space), per 10,000 subscribers. The Twentieth Century Farmer's circulation the rates are lower than that guarantee. It is a weekly publication. So the fact that a name and address containing six words costs but \$1.00 for a full year proves the reasonableness of these rates. If a postal card were used instead of a small ad the cost to reach 100,000 homes fifty-two times would be \$7.00.

The farm paper advertising will act as a sieve, picking out the persons interested in the advertiser's proposition to whom he can send his more expensive catalogues and follow-up material. Let's boost for more poultry! Let's raise birds of better quality! Let's advertise our surplus birds so people will know we have them!

RAYMOND R. FOSTER.

What Prohibition Does.

PLAINVIEW, Neb., Feb. 7.—To the Editor of The Bee: If a man looks carefully through your Letter Box he runs up against queer ideas. This time it is C. H. Gillian's idea to make Omaha dry. He points to the enormous advantages of the town of Waterloo, Ia., got on account of going dry and tries to encourage Omaha people to try prohibition to make Omaha the second Chicago in a few years. We cannot and do not want to contradict Mr. Gillian's statement, for prohibition may work different in Iowa than in Nebraska. Our little town of Plainview went dry for several years, but after people found that they had to make up the license money in the city and school treasury out of their own pockets, also that part of Plainview's trade went to neighboring towns, and that whiskey was used by the jug instead of beer by the glass, then Plainview people dropped the prohibition idea and voted for license and will do so until the next year dry.

Plainview has no saloons, but Mr. Gillian, should he ever visit us, will find no drunkenness, crime, poverty, vagrancy and "public expense" on that account. We simply know how to regulate things and don't want to drink it all in one day. I fear prohibition would not work as favorably to Omaha as it did to Waterloo.

SUNNY GEMS.

Hankin—Have you never been to Niagara Falls? Flycatcher—But I want to go again some day and see the scenery. The first time I went I was on my honeymoon. Judge.

Mr. Wayupp—This is a great big land of ours. Mr. Blaine—That's right, and a fellow doesn't realize it till he travels. Why, you can actually go to places in this country, where you don't owe anybody a Puck.

"See here," said the manager of the yachting house. "This is a bad bill you gave me yesterday for a seal." "I guess we're about even then," declared the culprit unabashed. "You gave me a bad bill in exchange."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Turkey—Look at that peacock stuffed up with his own importance! Peacock—Look at that turkey. I'd rather be stuffed with my own importance than with sage and potatoes.—Baltimore American.

"What are your politics?" "It depends a great deal on who happened to make the speech I read last night," replied the querulous person. "I'm getting so that every time I read anybody's speech I find something in it that makes me feel like voting for somebody else."—Washington Star.

"Now I appeal to you as a farmer," began the man with a political argument on his mind. "Well, you needn't," replied Farmer Cornstossel. "I ain't no farmer. I've read all the scientific literature about tillin' the soil and makin' a profit with a debt for improved machinery. I'm an expert agriculturist."—Washington Star.

Young Hibbard was exhibiting his picture to a charming girl. "This one," he said, handing her a picture, "is my photograph, taken with two French puddles. Can you recognize me?" "Why, yes, certainly," she replied, looking at it intently. "You are the one with the hat on."—Youth's Companion.

THE SECRET CHAMBER.

New York Sun.

A thing of gossamer, with dewdrop crown; I never thought to touch her, to draw near; And claim her mine, my love, a story round About her shone serene, that bade me fear.

To dream too boldly, would not let me hear The murmur of my youth's increasing fire. And thus she died, and left the morning dress, As fading stars before the day retire. A maiden, white, untroubled of the world's desire.

But I—that am no longer young, have felt The strength of manhood, and have left the sway Of woman's love to full fruition grown. The sweet companionship of day to day— I keep my hidden shrine where, withered, The faded flowers of long ago entwined In shadows of the dream long dreamed When life was young and waking love was blind. The secret chamber where my boyhood love is shrined.

R. S. MOSE.

Don't Blame the Dealer. If the coal you have burned in the past has not done for you all that the best coal can do, don't blame the dealer for the coal. Blame yourself for not having familiarized yourself with the coal problem and for not ordering the best coal obtainable, the coal that will give you the greatest amount of heat per ton.

LEHIGH VALLEY ANTHRACITE

The Coal That Satisfies

This coal is rich in carbon and therefore rich in heat units—far more so than ordinary coal. As a result it burns longer, burns more steadily, and gives more heat while it burns. There is less waste in ash because more of it burns.

Lehigh Valley Anthracite is the most economical coal you can use. The next time your bin gets empty have it filled with this money saving, trouble saving coal. Your dealer will gladly supply you.

LEHIGH VALLEY COAL SALES CO. McCormick Building Chicago, Ill.

SWAP!

These satisfied looking gentlemen have been using the

"Swappers' Column"

of The Bee. Turn to the Want Ad pages and run down the columns. Some swapper may be making an offer that would greatly interest you. Come to The Bee office and we will show you a new way of using these ads profitably at almost no cost at all to you.

Telephone Tyler 1000 THE OMAHA BEE Everybody Reads The Want Ads.