THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, as Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the average daily circulation for the month of July. DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me, this 4th day of August, 1914. ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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

This Nebraska ozone is food, drink and air all at once.

Those Japa certainly compose beautiful declarations of war.

The German war lord is trying to make a door mat of Brussels,

If war takes the "flower of manhood," what does it leave, the weeds?

Too many men seem to think the way to

show their colors is to show their teeth. Descriptions of the air battle above the

clouds still belong to the fiction writer. It's a cinch that the judges and clerks of

election are heartily in favor of the short ballot. It remains to be seen what effect the war will

have on those \$2,000-a-night grand opera stars. To avoid suspicion of being a spy, leave

camera behind when traveling in the war zone. Little Japan, it seems, has a hard time keep-

ing its feet on the ground while the band plays. Be sure that the year 1914 will take up a lot of pages in that serial entitled "Universal His-

n tory." "After the war, what?" asks the Detroit Free Press. Why borrow unpleasant thoughts

prematurely? Presumably the next water works postal card exhibit will be issued just a few days before the November election.

Still, if this war is a scourge of God to punish man's wickedness, how explain how it happens to leave some of the noncombatants out?

"Mint springs eternal in the human breast," chirps the Baltimore Sun. It goes deeper than

the breast, too, in old Maryland and Kaintuck. Those European belligerents may stop up some of the channels of news, but they cannot censor away the war correspondent's imagina-

tion.

German railway property in the orient is causing trouble and might serve to remind Americans -! the excellent idea underlying their Monroe doctrine.

"We, by the grace of heaven," begins Japan's war declaration. That makes the third power warring by divine direction, which ought to make this a very righteous slaughter.

Here in Omaha we have the short ballot for city elections, with only seven crossmarks to be made, and the same argument applies in favor of the short ballot for state and county elections,

Darius Miller, the president of the Burlington, who has just died, was another great railroad man who worked his way from the bottom to the top, where there is still plenty of room.

The Indiana democrat, Mr. Lamb, selected to be ambassador to Mexico upon re-establishment of our official relations, has died without waiting for his commission. There may yet be another call for Mr. Lind.



The Fifth Ward Republican club had a pole raising at Sixteenth and Burt streets. Henry D. Estabrook presided, and John M. Thurston made the prin-

The Young Men' Christian association is contemplating opening a gymnasium for members, and to others who pay a fee of \$1 a month.

The Burns club is preparing for its annual basket pionic at Pries' lake, for which tickets are on sale by William Fleming, Fourteenth and Douglas; N. B. Palconer, Fifteenth and Douglas, and William Moidrum, Fifteenth and Farnam. N. Merriam, of the firm of Himebaugh & Merriam.

has returned from an extended eastern trip. Mr. Paul Wilcox and his mother are the guests of

Mrs. Stephens, 2002 Harney street.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Annin have returned from their baidal tour and will remain in Omaha a few tays before going to Fort Robinson, their future home. Miss Mary E, Campbell, daughter of John Camphell, returned from a six months' visit in Boston and

other eastern places. Senator Charles F. Manderson, accompanied by Mrs. Manderson and Mrs. E. C. Brown, are at the Miffard while they remain in Omaha.

Conflicting Claims.

With conflicting claims of victory coming every day from the opposing armies of Europe, the difficulty of determining the true status of affairs is obvious. "Germans report defeats of both Russian and French invaders," says one bulletin, and another, Official Russian dispatches claim a victory for the Russian forces

over three German corps." Very naturally in a day when a war correspondent is an anachronism, in the sense that he no longer gets to the front in person and all the news must be screened through the sieve of rigid censorship, the task of reconciling such claims is greater, and at the same time the enormous extent of the lines and the huge numher of troops makes it impossible to follow their movements minutely.

And yet despite all obstacles, we may be substantially sure that with every resource of systematic newsgathering exerted, the essential information received through regular channels is dependable. In all probability inaccuracy consists more in the incompleteness of detail than in distortion of fact. So far as a close observation and comparison of war news permits of judgment, the main facts have thus far been fairly well developed. If any country has gotten the worst of reports, it is Germany, as a consequence of the kaiser's stoppage of publicity channels, forcing us to depend on foreign and unfriendly mediums. But from now on, as the big battles are fought, we may expect to be kept more fully advised from both sides of the line,

In the Orient.

Japan's declaration of war on Germany. though deplorable, is not unexpected. Rather it comes as a natural climax of events arising under Japan's treaty alliance with England and directly as the result of Germany's rejection of the mikado's ultimatum, which also was fore-

The fear that by some covert means the United States might become involved against our will should be relieved by the mutual relations now existing between the two nations. Japan is said to find the keenest pleasure in the United States' reiterated resolution of preserving strict neutrality at all hazards, and we have ground for rejoicing in Japan's promise to localize its activities in Kiao Chow, whose recovery it seeks only for restoring it to China.

While the war clouds have spread over Japan and China, Americans may nevertheless feel secure in the conviction that our country will not be dragged in except to preserve our own national honor. And the president is determined to avoid such a necessity. As the great neutral power, we have placed our services at the disposal of all alike, yet their accommodation is not to be permitted to come between us and our avoiding a worse than useless

How to Shorten the Ballot.

The Bee's definite plan for reducing the number of state offices to be filled by popular election was put forth as a first step toward a short ballot. We realize that to accomplish this object by way of constitutional amendment will require four years, but that is all the more reason why its inauguration should not be delayed.

The second step for the short ballot should be taken by eliminating all the nonpolitical county offices and consolidating needlessly duplicated offices. This can be accomplished for the most part by legislation effective at the expiration of the present incumbents' terms without doing anyone injustice.

If we had our way The Bee would retain as elective county officers only the sheriff, clerk, treasurer, prosecuting attorney and members of the county board, and we would add a new elective office of comptroller to serve both county and city as does now the treasurer. We would make the surveyor and superintendent appointive by the county board, and the district court clerk appointive by the judges as is the supreme court clerk and the county court clerk. The register of deeds and assessor we would merge as divisions under the county clerk, and the office of coroner we would abolish altogether as nothing but a graft, of which more later. The judicial ticket we would curtail by halving the number of justices of the peace, establish them on a salary limit and let them appoint each a constable the same as district judges

appoint their bailiffs. These changes would cut out of the ballot another thirteen elective places, and to that extent simplify the task for the voters, at the same time saving money to the taxpayers, increasing efficiency and centering responsibility now wastefully scattered. The ballot after this surgical amputation might be intelligently voted without the help of an expert.

Standards of Public Life.

Two references in the current Collier's to our standards of public life are conducive to thoughtful reflection. In his comment on congress Mark Sullivan declares that "the intellectual average of the lower house-and of the senate also-has become low," and in an editotal discussion on the possibility of Bailey coming back we find the assertion that "the reform of the senate which came with direct election" resulted clearly "in a distinct intellectual deterioration.

Now, The Bee has always favored election of senators by direct vote, and is inclined to agree with Collier's upon the signs of deterioration, but we hardly believe it fair to make them cause and effect. As a matter of fact, we have never had anything but direct election to the lower house, while the new method of choosing senators, with but two or three exceptions, has not yet been operative. If the standard of intellectuality has gone down in both houses, the seat of the trouble must be found elsewhere

than in the mechanism of election. The real explanation lies, we believe, more in the changed condition of public sentimenta sentiment that responds more to hysterical and emotional exhortation than to intellectual appeals. Collier's expresses the opinion that a reaction is coming, if not already in progress. We will see whether the coming election-the first in which we will have senators by direct vote-gives us an appreciably higher standard.

After the slaughter of the multitudes these eugenic experts ought to have an unexampled opportunity to prove what all these scientific rules of race regeneration will do under most favorable conditions.

The Bees Letter Box

topics invited. The Bee seemmes no responsibility for opinions of correspondents. All letters subject to condensation by editor.

Hopes to See Germany a Republic. KENNARD, Neb., Aug., 34-To the Editor of The Bee: Regarding the big war now going on. I believe Germany will be defeated. She ought to be too as she has been an aggressive nation for over fifty years. What does she keep a big army for if not to try and ride down some other country? See how she beat down Denmark and seized Schleawig. Holstein and Alsace Lorraine. I believe German people as a whole did not want war but were led into it By their ruler. I think and hope that the German peode will see the folly of a monarchy and establish a republic if there is enough left of Germany after the war. Here's hoping England, Belgium, Russia and France will win. HANS NEILSEN.

Fruit of Preaching Selfishness. SPENCER, In., Aug. 24.-To the Editor of The Bee: After 2,000 years of Christian civilization the leading Christian nations of the old world are flying at each others throats with a prayer on their lips to Almighty God to guide them in their murderous mission. It would seem that is time for the thinking people to wake up to the fact that we cannot go on and recruit our religious ranks by appenling to the selfish instincts of mankind without reaping just such rewards. So fong as ministers of the gospel, fake

evangelists and others of their kind offer us a heavenly reward for becoming Christians or threatening us with 'tell if we refuse, just so long we must expect selfish, cuel wars among Christian na-

How can be expect Christian nations to dwell in peace after 2,000 years of such A. E. KRULL Socialists, War and Human Nature. OMAHA, Aug. 24 .- To the Editor of The

Bae: Because the socialists of Germany and France are engaged in war while preaching peace, it is no true sign that they are inconsistent, nor is it a good indication that socialism would not abol-War, like commercial injustice, is a

governmental as well as individual problem. Under the war system, the individual (socialist or otherwise), may be forced to fight his fellow man by the law of self-preservation, the same as he may be forced to do so economically under an unjust commercialism.

The socialists, making the most of ox isting conditions while demanding just government, possess a "human nature" different from that of the monarchs and partisans, who seek not for the possible conditions which make for peace and fair dealing. Their "human nature" would unloosen the abnormal social tensions by removing the state-made obstacles which now prevent the law of self-preservation from operating along natural or equal rights lines. And would not this destroy the necessity for one man to help himself by harming his neighbor, and encourage thrift and peace in all persons except the incurably vicious?

Like many other things necessary to civilized man, social laws may be used either for his harm or good. This fact is not true because the socialists insist upon it; they insist upon it because it is true. WILLIS HUDSPETH

Editorial Viewpoint

Washington Post: It looks as though You Lind had been appointed censor general of Europe

Springfield Republican: "Home travel" clubs will have their work cut out for

Wall Street Journal: Emergency currency might be better printed. It looks sorry it emerged. Kansas City Star: From the tenor of the appeals to Providence all the European

powers must think they are in Armaged-Minneapolls Journay: In the general excitement some of the hay fever victims

forgot to follow the calendar carefully and ran over their time Boston Transcript: Another good way to make up for the deficit in our revenues

would be to cut out that expensive brand of "democratic economy" in congress. Cleveland Plain Dealer: In estimating the naval arnaments of the world, there seems to be a deliberate attempt to sup-

press Greece's two bargain battleships. New York World. The decision of the wise men of Washington that in looping the loop from New York to Bar Harbor the Kronprinzessin Cecile was illegally engaged in "coastwise traffic" adds a ouch of official humor to dark days that

Christian Science Monitor: Why there should be any novelty in the discovery that a Kausas City woman has done the washing in one family for fifty years it is impossible to see, since innumerable women have done as much and the gen eral housework besides.

Echoes of the War

Kansas City Star: Some one in Europe not only let loose the dogs of war but left the gate of the zoo open.

Louisville Courier-Journal: The British are so busy that they have stopped wasting time putting Mrs. Pankhurst in jail. Washington Post: With the queen of the Netherlands and grand duchess of Luxemburg in the thick of it, what more can the militants ask?

St. Paul Pioneer Press: The whole of Europe will soon be on an involuntary hunger strike, if some arrangements aren't made to import American food.

Haltimore American: It may be Armageddon, but this clash of selfish interests and bullying of the weaker nations cannot certainly be called the battle of the

to keep those big armies and navies in Europe to assure peace, but it seems they can be induced to get into war with them some times. Kansas City Journal: War is brutalising, but it is educative. Many a grown-up

Philadelphia Press: They have pretended

man is new learning more about the map of Europe than he ever knew before, even if he can't pronounce the names. Indianapolis News: Reports that a ob of young men at Winnipeg stoned the German and Austrian consulates in that city are rather surprising. Most of us had thought that Winnipeg people had

than that.

When the Germans Marched on Paris

BY FRANK M. VINETELLY,

(Managing Editor of New Standard Dictionary)
FART L

Porty-four years ago, on the 2th of July, a shot was fired which probably proved the most costly shot in history, for it cost those who fired it \$1.971. 000.000 and the loss of 5,000 square miles of territors The stirring events of the Spanish-American war, which belped to terminate within six months a struggle that ended gloriously for American manhood and freedom, helped to recall the momentous campaign of 1870-71, which threatened the deatiny of France; caused the downfall of its empire; brought about the investment of its capital; and which ended in the entry of its triumphant enemy, the king of Prussia, into Paris. It carried into captivity an emperor whose reign was an era of splendor and corsuption, thinly disguised by an air of general financial prosperity, and who had surrounded himself with many a carpet knight.

When Bismarck, the man of "blood and Iron," uttered his flat on the night of that eventful day when white table cloth fluttered over the citadel of Sedan, proclaiming a truce, there was nothing left for Napoleon the Little and Last to do but to surrender his army. In every German camp that night there rose and in the early autumn air the sound of Luther's hymn. It was the rejoicing of the sons of the Fatherland who had risked their lives for united Germany: "Ein fester burg ist unser Gott"-- A mighty fortress is our God.

Due to Napoleon's III's intense jealousy of the increased prestige of Prussia after its successful campaigns against Denmark in 1864 and Austria in 1866, the Franco-Prussian war was the undoing of its instigator, and hurled from the pinnacle of power on which his coup d'etat of November, 1852, had placed him.

Probably history has never afforded a better example of ambition overreaching itself. The impetuosity of French character is seen through all the events which led to the declaration of war. Among the great statesmen of that time Louis Adolphe Thiers alone had the courage to denounce the belligerent attitude of the French Parliament.

Shortly after his surrender, on the 3d of September, at Sedan, the French emperor is said to have told Count Bismarck that he was driven into the war by public clamor. But it is certain that he fanned the flames into a fire, for the energetic efforts of the British government to avoid the struggle, had he seriously considered them, would have prevented it, and France would not have been poorer by the loss of two fertile provinces and nearly

"The greatest national crime that we have had the pain of recording since the days of the French Revolution has been consummated. War is deelared-an unjust, but premeditated war." Thus did the London Times announce that the emperor of the French had declared war against the king of

How greatly Napoleon III had been deceived as to the efficiency and readiness of his army is a matter of history. Never in the annals of warfare was a struggle so brief, terrible and decisive. The result of this momentous event revealed to the world the superiority of the Prussian arms, which had been considered hitherto inferior to those of its rival. In six short months the utter weakness and demoralization of the French army as a fighting machine were more than established.

We, in France, for at that time I was living in the emperor's dominions, were impressed with an idea that though the war would be long and bitter, yet, as in the days of the great Napeceon, the French arms would eventually triumph. Alas, how soon our hopes were shattered, and how quickly we, as civilians, found it necessary to retreat from the advancing victorious Prussians, of whose reported cruelty we were in fear,

in the systematic campaign that ended so gloriously for Germany nothing had been left to chance. Working on a preconceived plan, the advance of the troops of the Fatherland was orderly and effective; it seemed as though some gigantic sham fight was being held, with France as the parade ground. How different with the French. where those in command, from the emperor down, all acted impulsively-with bravery, but only with that bravery that is born of desperation.

When Napoleon joined his army on July 28, 1870, he explained his plan of the invasion of German territory. It was his intention to cross the Rhine at Maxau, his aim being to divide the German states by thrusting his troops between them, thus hoping to force the neutrality of the south. But he had not calculated on the uprising of the united Fatherland to repel the foe. Overconfidence in the efficiency of his troops and his commissariat had caused him to neglect them. He had made no allowances for reverses of fortune, and when there came lacked both the nerve and ability to cope with them. His plan miscarried, and he was defeated in every great battle, and in every siege his arms were compelled to

Count von Moltke planned the Prussian campaign, and to his military genius and strategical power its successful issue was due.

The first shot was fired on the 20th of July, 1870, when the French troops, crossing the frontier, attacked Saarbruck, a fown in Rhenish Prussia, near Treves, but were driven back. On August 2, the first general engagement took place. About noon on that day General Frossard, in the presence of the French emperor and prince imperial, bombarded Saarbruck, succeeded in dislodging the Prussians, and captured the town, which he immediately occupied. Here, for the first time, the mitrailleuse machine gun, that dread engine of war, with its dry, shricking, terrible sound, was used.

Telegraphing the news of the capture of Saarbruck to the empress, Napoleon wrote of his son: "Louis has gone through his baptism of fire. He was not in the least startled. He stood in the foremost rank, and the builets dropped at our feet. Louis picked up one that fell near him. His bearing was such as to draw tears from the troopers' eyes." This was the lad who lost his life fighting for England against the Zulus.

After a bloody battle at the village of Spircheren. the Prussians, under General von Steinmetz, recaptured Saarbruck, and the French, who, though at first far outnumbered their opponents, lost General Frossard and almost all the Second Army corps, fell back on Metz. Reporting this reverse, the emperor telegraphed: "Tout pout se retablir."-All may yet be recovered.

Paris had barely recovered from its delirium of joy over the capture of Saarbruck than this cautious but portentous dispatch prepared it for the truththe invincible Freuch army had been defeated (Continued Tomorrow.)

Twice Told Tales

Smith's Experiment.

Congressman Ellsworth R. Bathrick of New Jersey, joined in when the talk turned to savage dogs. He said he was reminded of a party named Smith. Some time ago Smith and a friend were discussing the dog question, when the friend remarked that the most victous dog might be utterly subdued merely by a person sitting down and staring at him.

'Hight you are, old pal!' was the ready response. 'I know, for I once tried it on. Dog was coming at me at the rate of a mile a minute, and all that

did was to sit down and stare at him." "I am glad to hear you say that," responded the friend. "It is a confirmation of what science has

always mainteined." "Yes, old fellow," grinned Smith, "but I should have added that when I sat down I chose the top a greater sense of justice and decency limb of a sixty-foot tree."

Midsummer Dreams

Pulladelphia Ledger: Free ships make the trap-doors are Town To des. free goods," unless international law is to be as maltreated as treaties have been. Washington Stor Some of the remarks

issued by the Interstate Commerce comfittasion sound like reports of an indignation meeting.

the wheat is thresholl we'll have the bottems to take it to Enrope and bring the price of it back Philadelphia Press: The Interstate

immerce commission must feel the need of a vacation, and Brandels ought to allow it to have one. war to distract Vie Murdock's attention

Boston Transcript. The two new naval And colliers were christened with ginger ale; but wouldn't it have been more appropriate to have used kerosene? New York Mail: Still, when you come

from the money devil.

to think about it, America has some See not political and economic questions that are worthy of a little attention. Indianapolis News: Another thing the ear has done is to teach-with the aid of a dictionary-a good many people, who That

Minneapolts Journal: Lo the poor In-Carlisle school, one of the students has \$1,000,000, another \$1,500,000, all derived

has a timely article on "Safety at Sea." It is a fine thing-safety at sea; but at present it is as scarce as snakes in Ire- Speak not! land, and becoming scarcer every day.

from the oil wells of Oklahoma.

New York World: According to Of woman suffrage leader, it is difficult to As woman suffrage leader, it is difficult to Of charity to all. The joy is lost.

As flowers droop and die by touch of frost.

If but one word of scorn should find a money and the room are little? money and the poor earn little." The plight of the "poor little rich girl" thus seems to continue after she grows up.

SMILE PROVOKERS.

Darrer-Poorie has a great scheme and be decited not to "get in on the ground Carper-Lion't forget that that is where

"Have you been able to meet all the aemards of your creditors."
"Meet them: I haven' been able to avoid them."—Bufface Express

Little Brother-Bet be'd kiss you if I Philadelphia Record: By the time all very minute -Forn State Froth:

SEEING-HEARING-SPEAKING.

others' nots should cause a tear to rall Though e en the smallest actions leave a Washington Pest: As might have been effect, all the powers of earth cannot effect, it takes more than universal. Some dark and sombre, others clear and bright Therefore, see not the shadow, but the And strive that all the way thy path shall be
A radiant guide unto humanity.
Faulte great and small are but the com-

Upon life's way Therefore, all but thins

Speak not: If by one word thou cause a tear to start A moment's pain within some tender heart, brulsed and wounded cries out for hadn't suspected its existence before. From the dark shadow of despair and what "moretorium" means.

Minneapolts Journal: Lo the poor Indian now has something to burn. At the May change the gloom to dazzling, joy-That slining far ahead will guide the feet Along life's rugged way. So when we Kansas City Journal: The Omaha Bee Speak only when the heart with love is fraught If words can give no pleasure, comfort,

Houston Post: A Missouri suffragette 17 by the act one single poisoned dart has given a \$300 watch to be melted into Should find a resting place and turn that coin for the suffrage campaign, and the understanding is it will not \$15 worth of bullion. You can't fool the women in money matters.

Should find a resting place and turn thy heart from some dear friend away. 'Tis thus clouds rise typon the bright horizon of the skies And turn thy days to gloom. Life is not New York World: According to a it should be simply one glad burst of song.

Of charity to all. The joy is lost.

Of weakness. Therefore, to all else but f.ist not! -DAVID



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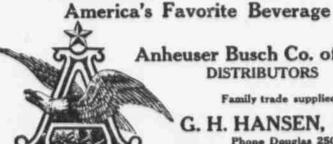
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