

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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CORRESPONDENCE. Address communications relating to news and editorial matter to Omaha Bee, Editorial Department. AUGUST CIRCULATION. 56,554

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss. Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the average daily circulation for the month of August, 1914 was 56,554.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested. General Funston is still for peace and ready to fight for it.

Rivers of doubt are the commonest kind right now in the European war zone. Nebraska at this season of the year more than any other is a thing of beauty and joy forever.

Now for the coming of the greatest potentate of all, King Ak-Bar-Ben, the prosperous monarch of Kiang. The daily dispatches from Mexico must keep Mr. Huerta busy deciding which sleeve to laugh in.

Stuff your aching tooth with cotton and help the good cause along—Baltimore Sun. Which cause, cotton or gold? Not the least of the minor mercies of the day is that the cable censor chucks some of the reports into the waste basket first.

The \$100,000,000 gold pool to help meet foreign obligations is one pool that will "get by" Uncle Sam's trust censor without a rub. If the war were only being fought in Nebraska the soldiers could eat this good old autumn ozone and never get hungry.

The fact that no one is eager for the role of peacemaker between Carranza and Villa insures some new additions to the cemetery industry of Mexico. Judge Sears seems to labor under the delusion that he was put on the bench to write newspaper headlines. The distinguished judge should wake up.

If there is one member of the diplomatic corps at Washington Americans could give up easier than another, surely it is the Hon. A. Rustem Bey of Turkey. The determination of President Wilson to maintain in his home state a neutral attitude on the second term plank will seriously upset the plans of home-grown patriots to pose as "original second term Wilson men."

Chicago and Cook county dig into the taxpayers' pockets for an average of \$14,000 for the machinery of election of public servants this fall. Precious few of them are worth the money. But that makes no difference. The duty of the taxpayer is to dig.

"People have come to understand that platforms do not mean much," exclaims a political philosopher. Presumably, what he means is that platforms never did mean much, but that the people are only now coming to understand their meaninglessness.

A former sheriff of Lancaster county said he would feel like a thief if he tried to take more money out of the treasury than the salary fixed by law for which he had engaged to serve. Yes, and now the supreme court decision puts an officer who picks the public pocket in this fashion in the same class as a thief, whether he would feel like a thief or not.

Thirty Years Ago This Day in Omaha. Harvest home services were held at both St. Mary's and the First Congregational churches. Rev. A. F. Sherrill preached at the First church and Rev. J. D. Newman of New York City at the other. The music was furnished by the choir composed of Mrs. C. E. Squires, Mrs. H. D. Estabrook, W. B. Wilkins and H. D. Estabrook, with H. H. Allen at the organ. The unexplained absence of Major J. S. Newell, formerly manager of the Consolidated Tank Line company here, is puzzling his friends. The pink eye has put in an appearance among the horses of the city. The Seventh Day Adventists, in session here, held their camp meeting, led by Elders Hollenbeck and Cudney. The retirement of Freight Auditor J. G. Taylor from the Union Pacific has caused all sorts of gossip, the principal one being too much base ball, or rather too many ball players on the payroll. Mrs. Millspaugh, St. Mary's avenue and Twentieth, wants a young girl to nurse and do light housework. J. F. Lund invites patronage for his Opera House clothing store, 217 South Fifteenth street. A surprise party was tendered Miss Kate Ringarter, a visitor here from West Virginia, at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Dwyer, 124 Sherman avenue, last evening. Mr. and Mrs. John Hosiok celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary at their home on Hickory street, with about sixty friends. Rev. J. P. Newman preached the morning sermon at the First M. E. church. His subject was "Individuality."

Ninth Week of the War.

If any one harbored the expectation at its outbreak that the great war of nations was to be short, sharp and decisive, and that one side was to have the other completely at its mercy after the first onslaught, the beginning of the ninth week of the conflict must bring deep disappointment to such hopes.

We have seen and heard a great deal of speculation on the probable duration of the war, but in the period already elapsed so many calculations have gone amiss that the discussion can be nothing but guesswork. It would be a bold assertion for any one to say that up to the present either combatant has scored a sufficiently decided advantage to warrant picking the eventual winner with anything like reasonable certainty, to say nothing of fixing the date of the windup. When President Wilson in his proclamation for a peace prayer service put the three weeks ahead, he took no chance that the war would be over by that time, and the occasion past for praying for peace.

It goes without saying, however, that nothing would be so gratifying as an early opportunity to set aside another day to offer prayers of thanksgiving for the ending of hostilities, and the resumption of only peaceful pursuits.

Expediting Consolidation.

The supreme court decision holding exempt from taxation all property with title vested in the Water board as publicly owned property must exert a strong influence for consolidation. The municipalization of the water works has seriously affected the town of Florence because the taxes paid by the old water company amounted to practically half of the total tax revenues, and to throw the entire burden of local government and of maintaining the public schools upon the owners of the remaining property would double their tax burden unless the outlays were materially curtailed.

What is true with reference to Florence applies also to other suburbs, including South Omaha, although perhaps in lesser degree. If enlarging the municipal activities of Omaha is to impair the financial resources of our suburban towns, the only way for them to offset or recoup is to become part of the Greater Omaha. Consolidation would help them in two ways, namely, through elimination of needlessly duplicated officers, and through making the aggregate revenues and credit available for expenditures within any part of the city's boundaries.

More Ingratitude.

In his swing around the circle in Illinois, Colonel Roosevelt devoted special attention to Senator Lawrence Y. Sherman, renominated on the republican ticket, picking upon him with unusual virulence. He denounced Sherman as "a dead cock in the pit" who was afraid to attack Roger Sullivan. "Sherman and Sullivan," he declared to his auditors, "are of the same type of statesmanship, and heaven forbid that I should call it statesmanship. They are men who will never think once of your welfare either before or after the election as against their own personal interests."

Yet only two years ago Senator Sherman was one of the colonel's "unafraid men," trying to secure the republican nomination for Roosevelt, taking as it were, his political life in his hands to battle for his chief. We wonder now whether Mr. Sherman would have pursued the course he did in 1912 if he could have looked ahead to 1914.

What War Does to the Campaign Textbook.

Another misfortune of the overshadowing European war is the blow it deals to the campaign textbook gotten out with such laborious care. The democratic campaign textbook in particular, the one to which our own "Met" was summoned to contribute his literary genius, deals with about everything except the one real live issue which has sprung up since its pages went to press. It contains a signed article by William Jennings Bryan testifying to the exceptional high character of the democratic administration. It expatiates upon the achievements of the democratic administration in all sorts of lines, and furnishes material to defend democrats from attack. But the fast moving-picture kaleidoscope of events has sent all these subjects for the time being to obscurity to make way for the problems precipitated by the war, and the money invested in the publication of the textbook is to all intents and purposes money thrown away.

The Lure of the Battlefield.

It is generally assumed that the distressing experiences of our marooned American tourists caught in the war zone will put a quietus on over-seas travel for some time to come, and stimulate our people to see America first. On casual consideration that would seem to be the natural consequence of the disturbance of the European excursion business, but sober second thought raises at least a glimmer of doubt. The war of the nations is the most widely advertised event of the century, and the havoc wrought by the opposing armies will inspire world-wide awe and wonder. Historic battlefields are in the making, and famous cities and towns are undergoing a scourging bound to leave scars to be healed only with time. What attraction can any corner of the big round globe offer more powerfully alluring to the sightseer than the area of all this conflict and carnage? And what call for a travel tour that cannot be put off easier than this?

Curiosity through all the ages has proved to be an almost irresistible lode-stone. We remember how in the week following our own tornado, eagerness to get a look at the wreckage brought a hundred thousand people into Omaha from the surrounding neighborhoods, overcrowding all means of conveyance and accommodation arrangements. If a miniature cataclysm like a wind storm could do that, what magnetism may not the terrific concussion of gigantic armies exert? If the lure of the battlefield is allowed to play with unchecked force, it is reasonable to believe that there will not be available ships enough after the war to satisfy the demand for them.

German editors are reprinting with explosive chuckles Rudyard Kipling's "The Truce of the Bear," in which Russia is satirized as "the beast that walks like a man." The German trust is particularly keen and timely, as Kipling's name appears in the "round robin" of British authors charging Germany and the kaiser with responsibility for the war.

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.

The Flag from the House-top.

OMAHA, Sept. 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: I want to say that the street decorations are most attractive and beautiful this year, far ahead of those of last year, and the people who are putting them up should be complimented. Nothing makes a more beautiful and pleasing decoration than the American flag and Ak-Bar-Ben banners and bunting. That above the buildings and street, he in keeping with the streets, there ought to be an American flag afloat from every flagstaff in the city from September 30 to October 10. Nothing makes a better impression on visitors coming into our city for the carnival than to be greeted by hundreds of flags floating from many tall houses. Every person owning or representing a building with a flagstaff should make it his business to see that there was a flag at its top for the few days of the carnival. There is no good reason why the owners of buildings should not go to the expense of a flag to be used on all festival days, when the city goes to considerable expense in decorating the streets and business men in decorating their places of business. As I said before the underside of the city looks fine, and the upperside decorated as suggested, the two together will be hard to beat. The newspapers might take up this "Flag from house-top" proposition. W. G. SHIRIVER.

What Danish History Teaches.

OMAHA, Sept. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: I will kindly advise A. L. Meyer to read the history of Denmark, and he will find that for more than a thousand years ago, "Dannevirke Vold" was erected to defend it against the aggression of the Germans. Slievig has always been Danish until 1864, when Germany robbed it from Denmark. JOHN MATHIESSEN.

Poland.

OMAHA, Sept. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: It is said that it is in the wind that blows nobody's good. Much has been said pro and con as to the cause of the present European war and while we do not know what changes the outcome may bring forth, we do know that the Russian czar has promised autonomy to Poland, the most persecuted nation on the globe, if she would support him against Germany.

If this crime against civilization that is murdering thousands of men has no other result than giving liberty to over 25,000,000 oppressed, maltreated, abused and persecuted Polish people, it will not have been in vain. Very few but Poles know what that promised autonomy means. It means freedom from conscription, from torture, from indescribable abuse, from the stealthy assassin's knife and gun.

Autonomy means the new birth of a subjugated but never conquered nation that has given the world much of its culture, art, ideals of freedom, of civilization! It means freedom to a people who, after years of servitude have kept unbroken their nationality in the face of efforts to Germanize and Russinize them.

The wonderful nation has given to the world Copernicus, the great astronomer; Jan Paderewski, virtuoso; Henryk Sienkiewicz, author of "Pan Michael," "Quo Vadis" and "The Deluge," and who is now appealing to the Poles to support Russia; Frederick Chopin, the great composer; Marcella Sembrich and Helen Modjeska, dramatic artist.

America owes a debt of gratitude to a "Pole" that great and fearless leader, Kosciusko, whose military training made many American victories possible. After sacrificing his all to beloved Poland he came to the United States in 1775 with a letter from Benjamin Franklin, whom he had met in Paris, to General Washington. He was a member of Washington's staff and the engineer of the army and was the inspiration of our army in the southern campaigns. Congress in appreciation brevetted him brigadier general and gave him a vote of thanks. Surely the war will have done good if such a nation can again be as of old! C. E. WALSH.

Holding Back Teachers' Pay.

OMAHA, Sept. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: As the public conscience with regard to conditions in the public schools seems to be awakening, may I call your attention to a condition with regard to salaries of teachers, which started last year, and is, it seems, to be continued. Up to last year teachers were paid on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of the month, bringing payday not later than the eighth of any month. Last year a printed set of arbitrary dates for pay-days was given us, putting several of them on the tenth. A quasi-apology was made—that it was a hard time measure and would be discontinued.

This year, after eleven weeks of vacation, during which we received no pay, we are given another printed card with our first payday the 13th of October. Those of us who have homes to care for must, unless we have saved from last year's salary, forego the discount—given by telephone, gas, electric light, water and ice companies. We must explain to merchants, landlords and landlords that we cannot pay our bills before the tenth. We have no explanation other than that the board sees fit to withhold it for two weeks and has planned to do the same later on.

Is the city of Omaha too poor to pay its teachers? Is the interest on the money for two weeks of more account to the city than the earlier circulation of nearly the whole of the first month's payroll? It seems to me a penny-wise, pound-foolish measure, but, even so, we are a right to our pay when we have earned it—why can we not have it? X.

Editorial Viewpoint

Christian Science Monitor: In the good old days the pioneer housewife in the United States dyed one's jeans with things grown in the clearing. Washington Star: Colonel Roosevelt names his own running mate for the 1916 bull moose ticket, which demonstrates one of the main advantages of a personally conducted political party. New York World: Only 10,000 of the 200,000 women registered in Cook county, Illinois, voted at the recent state primaries. But would men voters have turned out in larger numbers if their votes also had been limited to the lesser candidates?

Landmarks in War Zone

Poland's Ancient Capital.

Cracow, the ancient capital of Poland, upon which the Russian army of invasion is said to be advancing, occupies a highly important strategic position at the crossways of northern Europe. Here the road running from Russia down to the Danube at Vienna, connecting the north with Mediterranean civilization is crossed by the road running east from Germany into the great region north of the Carpathians, which from Cracow run east and swing to the south in a great curve which separates Hungary from Galicia and Bukovina. By the southern road the Polish Turkish siege in 1683. As a commercial center Cracow has suffered from the partition of Poland, just as commerce on the Vistula has suffered from its being for a considerable stretch the boundary of Russia. Instead an important trade center has grown up at Lemberg, a more favorably situated, but has the advantage of lying in the center of the Galician plain, with half a dozen roads radiating in all directions and giving a connection between Russian Poland, the Kieff region of Russia, and Hungary by way of a pass through the Carpathians. All this region is predominantly agricultural, but a little west of Cracow, in the neighborhood of Koenigshtute, a great German industrial center has sprung up in recent years, based on the rich local supplies of coal, iron, lead and zinc.

Western Fighting Front.

The National Geographic society at Washington compiled the following facts about the country where the western armies are battling: Paris-Soissons-Reims-Charleville—The route from Paris to Charleville, by way of Soissons and Reims, takes one through a territory rich in historical interest. Six miles out from Paris is found Le Bourget, where the Germans repulsed the French in the sanguinary struggles of 1870. Twenty miles further on, in the park of the chateau of Ermouville, is the original tomb of Jean Jacques Rousseau. Crepy-en-Valois, the ancient capital of a district which belonged from the fourteenth century to a younger branch of the royal family of France, and with a present-day population of about 7,000, lies sixteen miles to the north of Villers-Cotterets, with about 6,000 inhabitants, the right and one-half miles away, was the birthplace of Alexander Dumas the elder. A little further on is Longpont, which has a ruined abbey dating from the twelfth century. Sixty-five miles from Paris, Soissons, an ancient town formerly fortified, with a population of about 15,000, is reached. The route from Soissons to Reims takes one up the valley of the Aisne and the west tributary, the Vesle. Reims is the most interesting cities of France. Christianity was preached here in the fourth century. About twenty miles out of Reims, half way to Charleville, is Rehel, an industrial town, with about 7,000 inhabitants. Three miles further on is Amagne, a railway junction. A few miles on the road enters the wooded and mountainous district of the Ardennes. To the right is Boullcourt, with its large power station, and at Mohon, another village, a large work shop. Two miles further on is Charleville, an uninteresting town, with about 20,000 inhabitants.

Other Points on Firing Line.

Amiens-Laon-Reims—the country between Amiens and Reims, France, is populous. Ten miles east of Amiens is Villers-Bretonneux, an industrial town with about 6,000 inhabitants. The route now takes one through the fertile districts of Santerre. Ham, with a population of approximately 5,000, stands in a nearby district thirty-six miles from Amiens. La Fere, sixteen miles further on, captured by the Germans in 1870, has one of the oldest schools of artillery in the world. Laon, fifteen miles beyond La Fere, situated on an isolated ridge some 330 feet above the surrounding plain, forms with La Fere and Reims a triangle of important fortresses.

Argonne—A rocky, forest-clad plateau, extending along the borders of Lorraine, Germany, and Champagne, France, it has a length of about sixty-three miles, an average breadth of nineteen miles, and an average height of 1,100 feet. There are few good roads in this district. It lies between the valley of the Aisne on the west and the valley of the Meuse on the east, and is one of the natural bulwarks between Germany and France. There are numerous forests clothing both the east and west slopes of the plateau, the chief of them being that of Argonne, extending for twenty-five miles between the Aire and the Aisne.

Ardennes—A department of France on the north-east frontier, with an area of 2,028 square miles and a population exceeding 250,000. Its rivers are the Meuse and the Aisne. Ardennes is to France what the Blue Grass region of Kentucky is to the United States; its homes are known throughout the country. Sedan, where the famous surrender of the French to the Germans took place, is located in Ardennes.

People and Events

The militant women of England have buried the hatchet and are busily engaged knitting socks for the soldiers.

Having secured an order for 6,000 horses from Russia, Pittsburgh renews the suggestion of transmitting its name into Pittgrad.

Charles H. Grasty has retired from the journalistic field in Baltimore, leaving the Evening Star to shine without his guiding hand.

The furthestmost town of East Prussia, between Russia and the sea, is Nimmersatt, or Never-satisfied. But the Russians may have turned it into their own language by this time.

After thirty-three years of continuous service as a trustee of Columbia university Seth Low has resigned. For ten years of this period, from 1890 to 1900, Mr. Low was president of the university.

Bachelor girls outnumber marriageable men in San Jose, Cal., three to one. Eastern bachelors headed for California can arrange for a stopover at San Jose, if they banker for a little excitement.

The Philadelphia Public Ledger has started a bombardment of Philander C. Knox, hoping to bring him out into the open as a candidate for United States senator to succeed Senator Oliver, in 1916.

One of the mere men of Santa Barbara, Cal., rudely attempted to beat Miss Christie Holmberg for the office of city clerk. He was snowed under so badly that his vote was listed as scattering.

The enthusiasm injected into headlines announcing Russian assaults on the Austrian fortress of Przemyel bespeaks the hope of the printer man of the early banishment of the explosive name from the war map.

Benjamin Priest of Canaan, Somerset county, Maine, claims to be the oldest soldier of the Civil war now living. He is just over 100, and thinks he doesn't feel much different than he did at 50. Time in its flight has touched him gently.

Rev. Ira Harkness, a Unitarian of Chicago graduate pastor of the Wacoan Baptist church of Aurora, Ill., has cast aside the altarpieces of the pulpit and taken up the hourly excitements of a 5-and-10-cent-store job. Can you beat it?

The most distinguished wage-earner in North Benwick, Mass., is Miss Augusta McCrellis, who is still at the looms after a continuous service that covers a period of almost fifty-three years; her step still alert, her intellect unimpaired and her interest in life as great as when she was a girl on the old farm in Maine.

The late John Alvan Blaisdell of East Lebanon, Me., lived on his farm without a human companion for more than forty years, but had, at times, eighteen to twenty cats. He read every newspaper he could secure and is said to have read every book in the East Rochester public library, and some of them three or four times.

East Rutherford, N. J., had a great base ball game scheduled for Sunday, October 4, before the president designated that day for peace prayers. The Jersey town believes in prayers and peace; also roots for the national game. To reconcile the two events the managers of the game have engaged a preacher who will lead in prayer at the designated hour, "between 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon." A novel and satisfactory arrangement for peace advocates and sports.

There is no greater joy on the side lines of family life than a good aunt or a ticklish uncle. Miss Patsy Campion of Denver will subscribe to the first half of the sentiment, for she has an aunt who is a peach and some over. Miss Patsy's mother kept her purse-strings uncommonly tight, fearing daughter would become a spoiled child of fortune if given free run with money. Right here the good aunt came to the rescue. She gave Miss Patsy a check for \$40,000 and told her to "go to it for a good time."

SMILING REMARKS.

Willie—Maw, when did you celebrate your wooden wedding? Maw—The day I was married, my son. Paw—Willie, you beat it to bed.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

"My dear, has our mail any soldier blood in her family?" "I don't know, but why do you ask such a question?" "I notice she has a strong propensity for going to the front."—Baltimore American.

"Yes, I am going to run for office." "Your friends seem pleased." "No do my enemies. And that looks kind of ominous, don't you think?"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"How is the new man?" "Oh, he works some. He has to work some in order to be able to quit when the whistle blows."—Houston Post.

"You managed to get your story past the censor without much trouble," said one war correspondent. "Yes," replied the other. "I wrote it with a worn-out fountain pen. Most of it was blotted out before it got to him."—Washington Star.

"This war will bring some terrible consequences in its wake." "For instance?" "I spent the summer with relatives in the country, figuring that I was going to Europe this winter. Now I can't go and they will swarm in and camp with me."—Kansas City Journal.

"Susie Bunkum is very fond of outdoor sports." "Oh, is she?" "Yes, she offered that as an excuse for going out riding with Mrs. Jenk's husband last Sunday."

THE CARNIVAL.

Clinton Scollard in New York Sun. Oh, the autumn tide is the carnival tide. And what shall the carnival wear? Shall it be the blue of the haze-hung sides That is blent with gold and with topaz dyes? Shall it be the pice soft green that lies On the meadow slope and the mountain side, Shimmering far and fair.

Nay, none of these for the carnival tide. For red is the carnival wear! And never a redder carnival shoe Than now where the sea and the Alps flow on. In the red of the eve, in the red of the dawn, And the war fire rule and the thunders ride.

Under the autumn air! Of what avail is this carnival tide. This blood red carnival wear. These carnival lives that rock and reel And eddy and sally and meet and wheel And break like a surge on a shore of steel? Aye, what, when the doomed men have died, Does the king of the carnival care?

Advertisement for Wrigley's Doublemint Chewing Gum. Features the slogan "Try This New One!" and "Fresh from the WRIGLEY'S factories—the makers of the famous WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT." Includes a coupon for a United Profit Sharing present and a list of Chicago and East trains.

Table of Chicago and East train schedules. Columns include Train Name, Lv. Omaha, and Ar. Chicago. Trains listed include Hawkeye Express, Atlantic Express, Chicago Special No. 22, Oregon-Washington Limited, Overland Limited (extra fare), Los Angeles Limited, San Francisco Limited, and Denver Special.