

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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CHARLES C. ROSEWATER, General Manager. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 20 day of December, 1907.

ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN: Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them.

Write it 1908.

Those navy doctors are making a lot of people sick.

Here's that it proves a prosperous and happy New Year to every reader of The Bee.

No use in fighting for a seat on the water wagon. There will be plenty of room after a few days.

Still, a surgeon in command of a battleship would naturally want to perform an operation on the enemy.

"There is plenty of fight left in the democratic party," says Colonel Waterston.

Some of the political medicine that is being manufactured in the east should be suppressed by the enforcement of the pure food law.

"Joe always liked fairy stories," says Governor Folk's mother.

"Pittsburg," according to the Dispatch, "is the best advertised city in the country."

At any rate, Hobson's prediction of a naval war has been fulfilled, even if it did occur in the bureau at Washington instead of on the high seas.

Congressman Hobson says there is room for vast improvement in the Congressional Record.

It will hardly be necessary for "Fighting Bob" to return to Washington with the fleet to put down that mutiny in the Navy department bureau.

Colonel Bryan is reported to have killed many ducks on his hunting trip in Texas.

"What do the western farmers want with so many cars?" asks a petulant eastern paper.

Mrs. Eddie Fay says she will be pleased to have her husband play Hamlet if he will quit playing the races.

Mr. Bryan does not wax enthusiastic over the promise of a snowstorm in Denver during the convention.

Senator Davis of Arkansas declares he will never eat out of the hands of the trust.

Scientists assert that the man who will drink a gallon of buttermilk a day and cease worrying will find his life prolonged.

"W. J. Bryan of Nebraska will likely be the next president of the United States," says the Fort Worth Record.

THE OLD AND THE NEW.

The dying year has whispered its record of achievements and disasters, its triumphs and its disappointments, its successes and failures into the ear of its successor, 1908, born today.

The career of the dead year has been checked and interesting. The air, at the time of its birth, was supercharged with fear and doubt.

The new year dawns under a sentiment and conviction that the worst is over and that the future is freighted with promise of improvement.

Perhaps the most encouraging feature of the outlook for 1908 is the general feeling that there is nothing wrong with the country and that the so-called "panic," which will place 1907 in the class with 1873 and 1893.

All conditions considered, the outlook and conditions justify the hopeful wish that the new year may be a happy and prosperous one.

USE OF PUBLIC DEPOSITS. Out of the vast volume of discussion relative to currency reform plans comes the comforting assurance that the leaders in congress have about agreed upon the early adoption of one simple proposition which promises to do much toward removing one of the annoying and apparently senseless obstacles in the way of smoother relations between the business world and the federal treasury.

Resolved, by the house of representatives of the United States, the senate concurring, that it is the sense of the congress that the secretary of the treasury should, in his discretion and under such regulations as he may prescribe, permit the receipt of certified checks of banks in payment of public dues, the deposit of the same in depository banks, and the drawing of checks against such depository accounts by the disbursing officer in subsidiary cities as well as elsewhere.

The plan calls simply for the adoption of recognized business methods by the Treasury department. No law exists against the use of checks by the Treasury department, in the transaction of business, but one of those "long line of distinguished precedents," sometimes more potent than law, has kept secretaries of the treasury demanding that payments to the government be entirely in cash.

TO MINIMIZE WRECKES. Congressman Douglas of Ohio has offered a bill in congress providing for a law to minimize the danger of railroad wrecks.

The Ohio congressman, while his aim is laudable, makes the too common error of proposing additional legislation where it is not needed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Some Knotty Problems Passed Up by the Old Year. Wall Street Journal. The year 1907 closes with some things definitely settled, but with many more things still standing on the schedule of unfinished business.

Among the most pressing of these is the bank and currency problem or group of problems. It is not to be expected that there will be any such radical reform as that to which the public has been clamoring. That sentiment in favor of the central bank is growing is unquestionable, but it will take continued agitation to bring the country to, or rather back to that ideal, which was shattered in Jackson's administration.

Another left-over problem is included in the numerous contests between the railroads and state authorities, involving the question whether minimum railway rates as prescribed by act of legislature are, or are not, confiscatory.

The charm of Mr. Taft's speech is not in its oratorical flourishes or rounded periods, but in its perfectly frank and plain spoken enumeration of the various causes contributing to the industrial breakdown, as he sees them, and the open confession that he has no single cure-all to prescribe to guarantee immediate and complete convalescence.

"SWEARING OFF" SEASON. A Few Seasonable Suggestions and Several "Don'ts." Cleveland Plain Dealer. It is to be supposed that any adult at the age of discretion has enough stamina and will power to refrain from any habit or practice that is detrimental to himself or others.

The best policy is not to make a show of virtue, but to consider carefully the results of 1907, and to think which of these might have been bettered by individual effort. Then make the 1908 resolutions, for whether at New Year's or at any other time, resolutions are always common.

Standing Room Only. Cleveland Plain Dealer. It is stated that in an Omaha theater half smoked cigars can be checked at the door. But it may be seriously doubted if the man who carries one of these checks should be given a seat.

An Early Start. Philadelphia Press. The Fairbanks delegates in Indiana are to be elected the first week in February. This is rather early, but the distance some presidential nominees will have to travel makes a prompt start desirable.

In Line with Business Methods. New York Tribune. There seems to be some sense behind the suggestion that congress authorize the representatives of the treasury to receive certified checks in payment of dues instead of insisting on cash payments.

Pillar of the High Court. Brooklyn Eagle. If anyone thinks that John M. Harlan should retire from the supreme court of the United States, such an one should learn what Judge Harlan's views upon that subject are.

THE YEAR'S EMBEZZLEMENTS.

A Better Showing for General Honesty in America. Chicago Tribune. There has been less dishonesty in the United States in 1907 than there was in 1906.

There has been less dishonesty in the United States in 1907 than there was in 1906. Whether men have been more closely watched or have found it easier to resist temptation, the fact remains that the embezzlements, forgeries, bank wrecks, etc., for this year approximate \$11,000,000.

Command of Hospital Ships. Philadelphia Record. One element of the controversy over the appointment of a surgeon to the command of a naval hospital ship should not be overlooked.

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POEMS OF THE DAY.

Death of the Old Year. Full knee-deep lies the winter snow, And the winter winds are wearily sighing...

The Bachelor's New Year Prayer. "Sweetheart, I never knew I loved you so," The lover said, and bent to watch the grace.

A Little Song of the Dawn. Black was the road I came over, The mists with tears still are wet.

The Old—The New. On light-spent, bleak and barren ways, The hour year's frosts do fall.

The Old Year's Legacy. The bulls were ringing out the hour At midnight on New Year's eve, Above the cradle of the New.

The Old and the New. The King is dead, long live the King! Toll, passing bells! Ye joybells ring!

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