

# THE OMAHA BEE

MORNING-EVENING-SUNDAY

THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., Publisher  
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The Omaha Bee is a member of the Audit Bureau of Circulation, the recognized authority on circulation audits, and The Omaha Bee's circulation is regularly audited by their organizations.

Entered as second-class matter May 28, 1908, at Omaha postoffice under act of March 3, 1879.

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## Omaha Where the West is at its Best

### STARTING SOMETHING AT NEW YORK.

Democrats open their national convention at New York today with only one thing settled. That is, no one can tell what is going to happen. Rival candidates have exerted their utmost strategy to lure uncommitted delegations to their side, and to arrange for the heritage of various favorite sons' holdings when the breakup comes. Out of the welter of confusion thus produced come only unsupported claims of aspirants, with no certainty as to where the choice will land.

Equally undetermined is the platform. No leader has yet announced the nature of the paramount issue. Mr. Bryan, who has outlined many a declaration for his party, is strangely silent at this time. He was so signally defeated at San Francisco on the dry question he may not again try to put it over, yet he will die in the last ditch when it comes to opposing a wet declaration. Similarly, a lovely little row is in prospect over the Klan issue, and sharp divisions of opinion on some other burning issues will enliven both the committee proceedings and the convention itself.

It is safe and easy to predict that the changes will be rung to the fullest on the oil scandal, and on the work of congress. The soft pedal will be applied to the democratic share in blockading the program of the president, except as it offers schemes an opportunity to boast their efficiency in thwarting aims of the republican administration. Woodrow Wilson's so-called "political will," with its demand for a return to the League of Nations as a paramount, will get scant consideration. The democrats have earnestly sought to make peace with William Randolph Hearst, and he can not be induced to support the League.

Democratic hopes for the coming election do not rest so much on a general as on a particular platform. The peculiar situation, already referred to on several occasions, is that the democratic candidate for president, no matter who he may be or what platform he stands on, sets out with 186 electoral votes assured from seventeen states in the solid south. He only needs to gather in 80 additional votes to be elected.

The platform, then, will be especially aimed at certain northern states. New York has 45 electoral votes; Massachusetts, 18; Ohio, 24; Illinois, 27; Indiana, 15. It is not very hard to select a combination from these and go after it. Massachusetts may be depended upon to stay by Coolidge. If the democrats can win New York and either two of the other three, victory is theirs.

The convention, which begins its active work this morning, whatever it does, is important and deserves the closest consideration. Its candidates and its platform will be selected and framed ostensibly for the entire nation. Really the effect will be to meet certain special demands in a section where the greatest effort will be made to carry votes enough to put over victory by a narrow margin. Clever manipulators, long experienced and wise in the ways of politics and propaganda are directing the affair. This is true, no matter how much clamor may be made by the ballyhoo artist in front of the tent. Taggart, Brennan and Tammany are not tyros, and they have lost little of the cunning shown in other days.

### LOOK AT LITTLE RHODY.

"Little Rhody" is not much for size, but when it comes to politics, that is a different matter. Maybe it all began far back in the Seventeenth century, when the foundations were being laid. Roger Williams is reputed to have been the first white settler there, he and two women being exiled from one of the Puritan plantations in Massachusetts because of their religious beliefs. The Baptists now claim Williams as one of their faith. Later Rhode Island became a refuge for Quakers, too, and others who could not be tolerated in communities where men's beliefs were fixed for them by those in authority.

Wherever it started, the spirit has continued, until now we have the spectacle of the state senate being in a perpetual state of deadlock. The republican members refuse to pass a bill asked for by the democrats, and the democratic lieutenant governor refuses to recognize a republican senator to make a motion. As far as the merits of the case are concerned, the matter concerns Rhode Island alone, for only the citizens of the tiny state are directly affected one way or the other.

In its collateral effect, however, the deadlock concerns us all, as it indicates one of the weaknesses of our system of government. Here is a group of men, selected by the sovereign voters of a sovereign state, absolutely refusing to transact public business. They can go back to the people for a new commission, leaving their work undone, or they can quit acting foolishly and allow the will of the majority to prevail. Whichever they do, they have furnished a pungent commentary on the capacity of a free people to exercise self-government. Moreover, they have also given strong approval to the theory that party responsibility is a vital factor in our whole government.

### ARE YOUR BRAKES HOLDING?

"All right, come on," and the driver starts his car at the designated speed. He is headed along a street with spaces marked by the white lines at measured intervals. At the proper place the power is shut off, and the brakes applied. Now comes the real test. Some of the cars stop within the prescribed limit, others go beyond.

Those that go too far have defective brakes. No

matter from what cause, they are not doing the work set for them. And the number of cars with defective brakes is too large for general safety. It is not merely a stunt performance that is being carried on under the expert guidance of Jerry Cavanaugh of Detroit, sponsored by The Omaha Bee. Instead, it is an intensely practical lesson in the art of driving cars.

Safety at all times depends largely on the brake. If that is not in good working order, the driver can do very little. He either has an accident, or a close call from one, and either is most unpleasant. One who drives around the busy, congested streets of the city, must know if he can meet any emergency. The same is true of one who drives on the country road, where traffic is not so heavy, but where emergencies come up to surprise the most careful of drivers.

Therefore the brake test is important, and no driver should omit to have his car examined. It costs nothing but the time, and the necessary repairs if any. The little pink sticker on the windshield is a nice thing to have. It is notice to all that the car is safe so far as its stopping machinery is concerned. Also, it reminds the driver of a duty he has performed, and will continue to keep him watchful. The Omaha Bee offers this service to all as something for the good of everybody.

### LISTEN TO THE LIONS ROAR.

We have with us today the well known Lions. Delegates to the international convention of the organization have assembled here to do the work that is assigned them. It is not merely routine, cut and dried business they will look after. The Lions is a great and rapidly growing institution, truly international in its scope, and as such has a great variety of interesting things to attend to. A three-day program is full of topics that will entertain the delegates and keep them busy.

Omaha is glad to see them. In honor of the event, the city has taken a number of shower baths lately, and while she will yet be found getting the world's breakfast, as the Chicago poet asserted, it will not be "with a dirty face," as he slandered. Instead, Omaha looks bright and clean, with an inviting prospect, no matter which way the eye is turned. Decorations are numerous, elaborate and attractive, but they are as nothing compared with the splendid appearance of the avenues and the lawns, which surely will impress the visitors as they drive around the city under the guidance of their hosts.

Omaha wants to impress the Lions with a sense of their own importance. They perhaps do not need to be told that, for it is admitted they are enthusiasts, wherever they hail from. Each Lion is a personification of the spirit of boost, and as Hamlet told Polonius about the players, it were better to have a bad epitaph after death than to offend one of them while living. So Omaha will take these visitors wherever they may wish to go, using them as are all others who come here as guests, after her own honor.

The Lions are welcome. We hope they roar their heads off, for these Lions roar only in approbation. When their convention has finished its harmonious sessions, we trust each one will reach home safely with happy memories of the Omaha convention.

### WHY NOT OBEY THE LAW?

We print today a letter from Lieutenant Governor Johnson, in which he says that Governor Bryan notified him that the governor will be absent from the state for several days, and

"that the official affairs of the office are in good shape, and it is not likely that anything will arise that will make it necessary for me to come to Lincoln during his absence to discharge official duties as acting governor of the state, but if any official matter should come up needing my attention, his secretary, Mr. Radke, would immediately communicate it to me."

As an exhibition of courtesy between the governor and the lieutenant governor, this arrangement is all right. The only thing that really should call Mr. Johnson to Lincoln, is the Constitution of the State of Nebraska. Its provisions are being ignored by both the governor and lieutenant governor. Article IV, section 16, of the Constitution provides:

"In case of the death, impeachment and notice thereof to the accused, failure to qualify, resignation, absence from the state, or other disability of the governor, the powers, duties and emoluments of the office for the residue of the term or until the disability shall be removed shall devolve upon the lieutenant governor."

Mr. Johnson may be, as he suggests, too modest to sit in the governor's chair, but his duty as lieutenant governor under the constitution requires that he sit there while the governor is absent from the state. Nothing may happen. Something might. In August last the president of the United States died unexpectedly, and we had neither governor nor lieutenant governor at the state house to take action.

Mr. Johnson is governor today. Governor Bryan does not dispute this. He tried to so arrange matters that the lieutenant governor will have nothing to do, except to attend to emergent business. As the constitution requires the governor to reside in Lincoln, it may be deemed without a bit of violence to require that the lieutenant governor reside there at such times as he is acting governor.

One good way to obtain respect for the Constitution of the State of Nebraska will be for the executives to observe its provisions.

Every time a new 15-cent gasoline station opens up a certain Nebraska statesman opines that he is just that much nearer to a presidential nomination.

Before the New York convention is well started a lot of the dark horses will look pink or purple to some of the inquiring delegates.

## Homespun Verse

—By Omaha's Own Poet—  
Robert Worthington Davie

### SHUT IN.

A lot is a lot, and no bigger,  
And how inexpressively small  
It is to the children who can not  
Go forth from its limits at all;  
Who play at the edge of the cottage,  
Or pull at the fence with dismay,  
And yearn—and affirm that they'd like to  
Get free and go dancing away.

O, prison in principle, keeping  
The spirits of little ones down—  
A few feet of verdant earth reaching  
Without from the cottage in town—  
And very particular neighbors  
A rod to the left and the right,  
Whose sod is a shrine and too sacred  
To measure the steps of a sprite.

O, lie to the country, where beauty  
Is precious, and can't be defiled,  
Nor treasured too much to give room to  
The steps of a fun-loving child;  
Where walls are unknown, and the roadway  
Wind over the hillsides and down,  
And lead us afar from the narrow  
Survey and the cottage in town.

## Well, Neither One Will Ever Get There Looking That Way!



## Letters From Our Readers

All letters must be signed, but name will be withheld upon request. Communications of 200 words and less will be given preference.

**Who is Governor Now?**  
Hastings, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: The voters of Nebraska have been informed through the daily press, and I through a personal letter from the governor, that Governor Charles W. Bryan left the state about 10 days, but before going he notified me that the official affairs of the office are in good shape and it is not likely that anything will arise that will make it necessary for me to come to Lincoln during his absence to discharge the official duties as acting governor of the state, but if any official matter should come up needing my attention, his secretary, Mr. Radke, would immediately communicate it to me.

Personally, I have no objection to remaining in Hastings and attending to my own private business, subject to the call of the governor's secretary, during the governor's absence from the state, but since I am a state official, and was elected against great odds, by the popular vote of the people of the state to be their lieutenant governor, and they knowing at the time that the lieutenant governor becomes acting governor of the state as soon as the governor leaves the state, my personal pleasure is not to be considered at all, and it becomes my duty and office, at once, by virtue of the authority and obligations placed on me by the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, to be your acting governor during the absence of the

## Center Shots

same to my attention, and it will be received due consideration.  
FRED G. JOHNSON,  
Lieutenant Governor of Nebraska.

M. Herriot says Japanese exclusion will "shake the foundations of civilization." But anyhow the foundations of civilization have become accustomed to being shaken about every 15 minutes.—Boston Transcript.

Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler only gets scolded. Four centuries ago his head would have been amputated.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Anyhow, the president has made it clear by his vetoes that when he says he is opposed to a thing he means it.—Des Moines Register.

A firm of Wall street brokers hired a messenger Monday. He disappeared on Tuesday with \$10,500 in bonds. His references were investigated Wednesday and found to be bogus. Whether his successor was hired on trust Thursday the news does not state.—Boston Transcript.

Take time at railroad crossings—or take stentery.—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

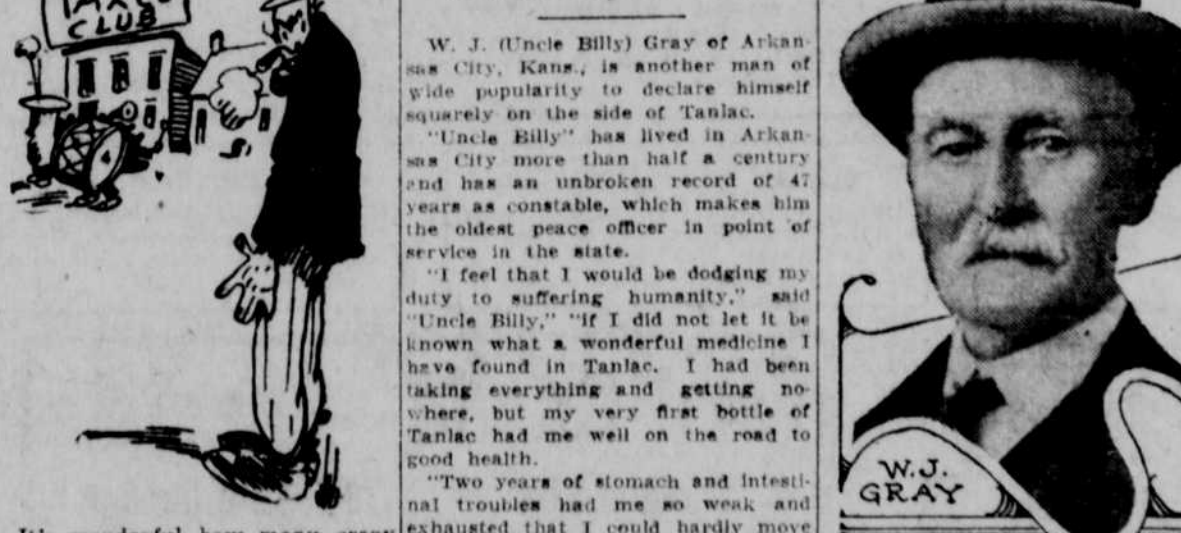
Perhaps Japs can't be Americanized. You never hear of one who is a good gunman.—Baltimore Sun.

The more the actors strike the fewer hits there will be.—New York Herald-Tribune.

against the stock market knows why it is called Wall street.—Charleston Gazette.

## WOULD BE DODGING HIS DUTY TO KEEP SILENT

"Uncle Billy" Gray Feels It His Duty to Tell How Tanlac Helped Him.



W. J. (Uncle Billy) Gray of Arkansas City, Kans., is another man of wide popularity to declare himself squarely on the side of Tanlac.

"Uncle Billy" has lived in Arkansas City more than half a century and has an unbroken record of 41 years as constable, which makes him the oldest peace officer in point of service in the state.

"I feel that I would be dodging my duty to suffering humanity," said "Uncle Billy." "If I did not let it be known what a wonderful medicine I have found in Tanlac, I had been taking everything and getting nowhere, but my very first bottle of Tanlac had me well on the road to good health."

"Two years of stomach and intestinal troubles had me so weak and exhausted that I could hardly move about. In fact, I was all out of fix, suffering day and night, and felt that I was about done for."

"Tanlac arrested my troubles, halted my downward course and then my energy and strength returned like a tidal wave, so to speak. Since then, two years ago now, the occasional use of Tanlac has kept me in good trim. Tanlac is certainly without an equal in the world."

Tanlac is for sale by all good drug stores. Accept no substitute. Over 40 million bottles sold.

Take Tanlac Vegetable Pills.—Advertisement.

NET AVERAGE PAID CIRCULATION for May, 1924, of THE OMAHA BEE Daily 73,980 Sunday 76,373

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V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of June, 1924.

W. H. QUIVEY, Notary Public (Seal)

COLD WAVE COMING

## SUNNY SIDE UP

Take Comfort, nor forget That sunrise never failed us yet  
Cola Thaller

WHAT ABOUT YOU?  
Do you ever feel blue, and imagine that you are getting the worst of hard knocks? Do you ever repine and sit down and whine? About being wrecked on the rocks? Well, I tell you, old scout, if you're down and out, The fault's very likely your own. Did you tackle your job, or sit down and sob? Did you hustle your best, or just groan? When ill fortune hit you, then what did you do— Show yellow and quit the job cold? Or did you just grin and then buckle in? Like a man who is resolute, bold? Did you stand like a dunce and never swing once, Or did you smash hard at the ball? Far better strike out than to stand still in doubt: The fellow who tries wins it all. When ill fortune comes near don't show that you fear: Brace up and exhibit some grit! Better fight and then fall than to cower and quail: Better lose than show yellow and quit: What the world needs today is more fellows who'll say: "The job that I've got gets my best." More fellows who'll strive every day they're alive To measure four-squares to each test.

Reverting for the nonce to subjects political, which this department seldom does, and which it should never do, we insist that in case of the nomination of Governor Bryan for president, due attention should be paid to the claims of our old friend and college chum, Grant L. Shumway. We have many deserving friends in the ranks of Nebraska's democracy, but none more so than Grant. To put any other name at the head of the state ticket in case of Brother Charles's promotion would be unkind, ungrateful and regrettable. Gifted of tongue and pen and ready at all times to offer himself as a sacrifice upon the altar of his party, Grant should not, indeed, must not, be discriminated against in favor of some mere self-seeking politician.

The presence of our good friends, the Lions, in the city, somehow or other recalls to mind the old story of the woman whose husband was a confirmed joker. She called him her zoological collection. "He is an Elk, a Moose, an Eagle, an Owl, a Buffalo, a Lion and a Camel," she explained. "And at home he is a perfect bear."

Flood stories remind us of the man who was boasting that he had been everywhere and seen everything. "Have you ever had delirium tremens?" asked a listener. "The boaster admitted that he had not, whereupon the listener said: "Then you ain't been nowhere and you ain't seen nothin'." Having been a resident of Graig, Mo., in 1881, we are prepared to assert that all floods in the midwest since that year have been merely slight indications of high water.

Not being a golfer we are undecided as to whether Senator Robinson fozled his putt or styled his niblick during that recent little incident at Chevy Chase. Certainly it was something. WILL M. MAUPIN.

Taking No Chance. A troop of barnstormers out from Liverpool were in imminent danger of stranding in Wales. "We got to get out of Wales before we strand," declared one, "and that's all there is to it." "What's the difference," asked another, "whether we break up in Wales or elsewhere?" "I was once stranded in a town called Liverpool and from there I wrote to my friends for help. Of course they all thought I was on a spree and nobody would send me a cent."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

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