

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: I, George B. Tschuck, secretary of the Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of copies of the Omaha Daily Bee published during the month of February, 1914, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Date, Circulation, Total. Rows for various dates in February 1914, showing circulation figures and a total of 87,120.

Net total sales 807,472. Net average sales 26,912.

Subscribed in this city of Omaha, Mo., before me this 1st day of March, A. D. 1914. M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

Mr. Bryan cannot be accused this time of talking for depreciated money in Connecticut.

Johnny Malher will now please get action on his typewriter and tell the public all about it.

The Commercial club will have to wake up now to the necessity of engaging a new secretary.

Water has filled the mains of the Grand Rapids Gas company. Can it be that there was no room for it in the capital stock?

The campaign must be opening early in Texas. The first report of a race riot of the year in that state comes from Houston.

According to the World-Herald, John E. Utt, commissioner and secretary of the Commercial club, is again a railway man. Was he ever anything else?

Now that the correspondents are barred from Port Arthur that place may be expected to fall again at any time—in the press dispatches at least.

If repetition of the Auditorium subscription list in the public prints would bring the money still needed, the Auditorium would be completed forthwith.

The "native son" movement is strong in California, but it is not all-powerful, to judge by some of the democratic comments from that state regarding the candidacy of W. R. Hearst.

Unable to awaken interest in the news regarding the condition of the pope's health, which is believed to be perfect, the Roman correspondents have begun to kill him off by anarchists.

It took an Iowa man twenty-eight years to realize that he had been damaged by false arrest. He now sues the state for \$100,000, which goes to show that if the knowledge came late none of its value was lost.

The Philippine islands must produce some strenuous politicians, for men of no other kind would pay transportation over so many miles to attend national conventions in which they will probably have little or no weight.

It is announced that Supreme Court Clerk Herdman has made all preparations to vacate his office not later than May 1. We apprehend, however, that he might be persuaded to stay longer if the judges united in a unanimous request.

The receivers in bankruptcy of the Sully estate seem to be in doubt as to what they are to receive, and will investigate the parties said to be associated in the deal with Sully. The Department of Agriculture will investigate the bull weevil.

Taking into consideration the relative population of the countries, Japan cannot afford to trade men on the basis of two for one with Russia, but upon the basis of effective fighters in the far east the trade in the last engagement may not have been so bad.

With the canal commission enroute to the isthmus to inspect the ground, the lawyers started to France to inspect the title and a Washington court to inspect the constitutionality of the act, preliminary steps in the construction of the Panama canal may be said to be well under way.

The fire and police board has done the right thing by sitting down upon the proposed benefit entertainment projected by the firemen. The line of demarcation between soliciting subscriptions to a benefit fund and exacting forced contributions in the nature of payments for services already paid for by the city is altogether too indistinct.

THE CASE OF SENATOR BURTON.

The conviction of Senator Burton of Kansas of receiving compensation for the protection of a fraudulent concern that was violating the postal laws is an object lesson that ought to have a salutary effect. While the case of Burton is undoubtedly exceptional in its flagrant disregard of the obligations of a senator of the United States, it is a well known fact that in both branches of congress there are attorneys of various corporations who are paid to look after the interests of their clients in connection with legislation and also in respect to relations with the executive departments. These attorneys are expected to consult the welfare of the corporations they represent rather than the interests of the public and this is what they very generally do. Burton, "needing the money," undertook to protect a criminal concern, of course with a full knowledge of its character, and his conviction is fully deserved. There are other corporations, undoubtedly, of at least questionable legality which have attorneys in congress who are well paid for the service they render in "protecting" the corporations whenever their interests are touched at the national capital.

A member of congress should not accept service of this kind. Its inevitable effect is demoralizing. You cannot serve two masters, and the man who is elected to represent the people in the national legislature will not always serve them faithfully if he is at the same time a corporation attorney. Whenever the interests of the corporation conflict with those of the public the attorney is very likely to favor the former. It is this which has caused so much difficulty in securing legislation for the regulation and suppression of the corporations and has been more or less influential in obstructing the enforcement of the laws.

The penalty in the case of Burton is severe, but none too much so for the nature of his offense. It is to be hoped the lesson will impress itself where there is need of it.

BAD CONDITIONS IN PORTO RICO.

The statement made by Mr. Gompers, who has just returned from Porto Rico, in regard to conditions there, should receive attention with a view to some measure for relieving the industrial and economic situation. It is unpleasant to read that in this insular possession the social and economic conditions in consequence of the business depression are deplorable, far worse, it is said, than they ever were when the island was under Spanish rule. Mr. Gompers stated that he saw more idle men in Porto Rico, idle because they cannot find work, than he ever came across before in his entire life. "Having witnessed," he said, "poverty, misery and absence of the possibility of decency among the members of a family, men and women dying from starvation to the number of 450 to 500 a month, I can say that the conditions obtaining in Porto Rico reflect no credit on our country."

In the opinion of Mr. Gompers we have not treated the island fairly. Under the old regime it had its full quota of representatives in the national law-making body of the Spanish government. At present the people of the island have little voice in their affairs. It is not apparent, however, that they would be any better off if they had more voice in their affairs, unless they are able to propose some practicable way of improving conditions and this they can do as it is. Giving them a territorial form of government, which they desire, would not necessarily result in better economic conditions. It is business improvement rather than political change that is wanted. The fact appears to be that the chief cause of the unfortunate situation in Porto Rico is the closing of the principal markets for her coffee. It is pointed out that free trade with the United States has not of itself opened a market, but on the contrary has resulted in a tariff in Spain, France, Austria, etc., which shuts it out of those countries that prior to the annexation were the island's chief customers. It is certainly practicable to find some remedy for this condition and whatever course is necessary to make a market in the United States for all the coffee Porto Rico can produce—and it is a superior article—should be adopted. There will be no dissent from the opinion of Mr. Gompers that the existing economic and social conditions in Porto Rico reflect no credit on our country.

RUSSIA'S IRITATING COURSE.

There is a feeling, for which there appears to be ample reason, that the course being pursued by Russia is with the deliberate design of irritating China into a breach of neutrality, so as to give an excuse for Russia invading and holding more Chinese territory. The dispatch in regard to the placing of New Chwang under martial law stated that in some quarters the order was regarded as an apparent challenge to neutral powers, especially to China, on account of the appropriation of its territory. We have already referred to this as a matter that appears to call for protest on the part of the powers whose treaty rights have been disregarded. But this is not the only thing Russia has done to which the nations interested, and China particularly, might justly take offense.

Ever since the beginning of the war Russia has been showing a disposition to encroach upon neutral territory and to shut out all other countries from the enjoyment of their treaty rights. According to reports from St. Petersburg the Russian officials do not believe that the Chinese government intends to remain neutral, but is getting ready to give military aid to Japan. This suspicion and professed apprehension may be real, but whether they are or not, if the Russian officials actually desired to see the Chinese become participants in the war they could not in any other way, short of a distinct provocation, better promote the attainment of their wish. They are certainly doing what they can to bring about the complications which the sincere friends of China are striving to avert. If they succeed in goading China into hostilities it will give Russia opportunity to claim Manchuria as the lawful spoil of war and it could hardly fail to draw some of the European powers into the conflict.

The entire course of Russia in eastern Asia is characteristic. It is marked by duplicity, intrigue and faithlessness, for which that power has long been notorious. The action at New Chwang is the latest manifestation and it remains to be seen what the nations whose rights there Russia assumes the power to annul will have to say regarding it. It is manifestly a challenge to China and although that government has recently reasserted the importance of remaining neutral and admonished patience and a firm attitude, it is quite possible that it will feel called upon to resent action which if not thus taken notice of may be the forerunner of further aggressions. As we have heretofore said, it is a very grave matter, even in the stress of war, for a nation to trample on the rights of other countries as Russia has done at New Chwang. To complacently tolerate such a proceeding is to encourage and invite an extension of the aggressive policy. Russia should be told that even the exigencies of war cannot justify her in riding roughshod over the rights of neutral nations and ruthlessly grabbing whatever she deems to be for her interest or convenience. The powers should speak in a way to effectually check Russian aggression and warn that power against continuing a course calculated, if not deliberately designed, to drive China into hostilities.

THE NEW SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT.

The Board of Education has elected to the superintendency of the Omaha public schools William M. Davidson, now superintendent of schools at Topeka, Kan., for a term expiring August 1, 1915, with the same compensation now paid. It is to be presumed that Mr. Davidson will accept and qualify promptly for the office.

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HE IS NOT SO "STRENUOUS."

Exaggerated Popular Impression Concerning President Roosevelt. Walter Weisman in Success. There is a prevalent impression that Mr. Roosevelt has led a "strenuous" life in the White House—that he has played there a strong hand, ruling imperiously, and sometimes impetuously—being self-willed, high-spirited and impatient of restraint. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Not in my time has there been a man in the White House who has leaned more heavily upon his advisers; one more eager to seek and to follow good counsel; or one more concerned to hear the views of all whose positions or interests he touches than it is right to be heard or offered promise of good from conference with them. Few great men are actually what they seem, and Mr. Roosevelt is very far from being that character the popular imagination has ascribed to him. With rare exceptions he has taken no important step without the fullest and frankest conference with members of his cabinet and leaders of his party. In no other recent administration has there been so many councils of war in the White House. At Washington it is axiomatic that Mr. Roosevelt never does anything without talking it over with many people—cabinet officers, senators, representatives and personal friends, so much so that it is a common joke that cabinet ministers and a score of leading republican senators never dare make dinner engagements, lest they be summoned to the White House at the very moment they should be forking their oysters. It is not a method which conduces to the close keeping of secrets; but it has its advantages, and it gives a loud negative to the prevalent belief that the president is too self-reliant, and too much prone to "go it alone," as a sort of bull in the china shop of statesmanship.

CHICAGO'S DILAPIDATED STREET RAILWAY.

Yerkes, who has devoted much time and money in the effort to secure street railway franchises in London and the provincial cities of Great Britain, claims to have made a special study of municipal ownership, with the natural conclusion that it has proved a very costly and unsatisfactory experiment. Mr. Yerkes' unexpunged cosmopolitan philanthropy is exhibited in public interviews, in which he points out that where a municipality owns public lighting works, electric tramways and a variety of other so-called commercial undertakings, it must necessarily employ a large number of men and that carries with it an enormous payroll that becomes a menace to efficient municipal government. Mr. Yerkes fails, however, to make reference to the fact that corporate ownership of public utilities is, if anything, a more dangerous menace to clean and honest administration of municipal government. Possibly Mr. Yerkes has forgotten the scandals that characterized the interference of the Chicago street railway managers with the city council and the various branches of the municipal government of Chicago, that were beseged night and day by paid bribe distributors. He evidently has also forgotten the per-

MINOR SCENES AND INCIDENTS SKETCHED ON THE SPOT.

Keeping Chinamen out of the United States is expensive business. Immigration Commissioner Sargent says the appropriation of \$50,000 a year is not enough to keep the yellow peril beyond the border and wants \$200,000 to do the job effectively during the next fiscal year. The commissioner says it costs \$100,000 a year to deport the Chinamen who slip in. No matter where one may be picked up, if he is here unlawfully he is shipped back to China and the government pays all the bills.

A Chinaman was discovered at Providence, R. I., the other day, and on examination he was ordered to be deported, the cost of getting him to Hong Kong being \$107. To ship one of them to China from Norfolk costs \$101 and from Boston \$108. If they are apprehended at San Francisco they can be landed at Hong Kong at \$45 a head. Of course, when a yellow man is found in the east and shipped to San Francisco, the government must pay for the transportation of a guardian as well. United States marshals are sent in charge of them. The Chinamen are held in the east until a batch of from fifty to 150 is collected, when they are shipped in one trainload.

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"This attack on General Bristow for the disclosures in the special postal report reminds me of a justice of the peace in Mississippi who was hearing a case tried by a lawyer named George Smith and an opponent named Brown." A local representative John Sharp Williams to a Washington Post man. "The justice had been looking on the corn liquor when it was white and he was in a sad state. Smith had the witness."

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A NEW SENATORIAL RICHMOND.

Norfolk Press: The press would like to see W. E. Andrews made United States senator from Nebraska. Wayne Herald: William E. Andrews of Hastings, auditor of the Treasury department at Washington, has yielded to the entreaties of his friends to become a candidate for United States senator. His announcement comes a little late to detract much from the Burkett boom.

Friend Telegraph: Hon. William E. Andrews of Hastings, Neb., now auditor of the treasury at Washington, is a candidate for United States senator to succeed Senator Dietrich. Mr. Andrews is undoubtedly the best qualified of all candidates named for this position up to date, and undoubtedly is the best material to be found in the state at this time.

York Republican: The candidacy of Hon. W. E. Andrews is announced at this late day. Mr. Andrews is the man whom the republicans of Nebraska ought to elect United States senator. His is beyond comparison the most fitting candidacy that has been mentioned. He is better qualified for the duties of the office. He made a historic fight for republicanism in Nebraska, and nothing but the campaign of ex-Governor Crouse ever approached in political splendor the fight made by Mr. Andrews for congress. It showed him the man of resource, character and metal. But he will not be elected, it is feared. His candidacy was announced too late. Too many men are tied up in the Burkett movement. Mr. Andrews intimates that the position, if tendered him, would be acceptable. Let Mr. Andrews disabuse his mind. The position of senator from Nebraska is not being "tendered" to anybody. We are not so "tender" here as all that. There are men here who are willing to go down into the ring and fight as for life for the place. There are men here who would sacrifice much of fortune and all of truth and honor to be elected to the place. It is not going to be tendered to anybody. He who wants it must get out on its trail, and camp there day and night, and if Mr. Andrews gets it he will get it only after the fight of his life and he has been in some hot ones. No matter what his deservings may be, the name of another is in the pot.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Senator Hansbrough has made the remarkable discovery that certain lobbyists are working for certain railroads.

President Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia university has left New York for a four weeks' tour through the south and Mexico.

Prof. Dexter of the University of Illinois will read a paper at the International Congress of School Hygiene at Nuremberg, Germany, next month.

Sir William Vernon Harcourt, who has just announced his intention to retire from public life, is one of the few men to whom King Edward valued a peerage.

M. Jules Garnier, the engineer whose discovery of nickel in New Caledonia has been such a source of wealth for that French colony, has just died in Mentone.

All New York is scratching itself because of the epidemic of the anus scabies, a parasite so small as to be almost invisible, yet potent enough to almost drive its victims frantic.

A New York veterinary says the docking of horses' tails is painless when scientifically performed, yet he admits that more than 1 per cent die of tetanus as a result of the operation. Science doesn't seem to be so successful with the afterthought.

The Stockholm court has pronounced the verdict in the case of a journeyman, the legal term of disappearance having just expired. Andrew left Spitzbergen on July 11, 1897, with two companions in a balloon, with the object of reaching the North pole.

Cotton King Billy Dudley did not lose his head during the excitement. Nor is he likely to become a public charge right away. Before the tumble he purchased an annuity of \$10,000 a year, gave his wife a \$200,000 home and sailed \$80,000 in her name. The bankrupt is not always the loser.

A published photograph of President Smith of Utah shows him surrounded by five wives and thirty-four children. Seven of the children appear to have got around. Everybody looks well fed and well dressed, and the only thing lacking is the inscription: "How to be happy, though married."

William N. Armstrong, a member of the cabinet of Kalaukaua, the last king of Hawaii, had written the account of a journey around the world with his royal master. Maxime Gorke, that strange, dramatic, passionate writer of realism, was 26 years old last week. His real name is Aleksei Maximovitch Pleshkov, but the reading world knows him only as "Gorky."

Kansas turns out a larger assortment of trucks and wagons than any state in the union. The source of supply promises to last for ages. Only the other day a native and his wife took their first ride on a railroad train. The male freak had his head out of the car window, as the train approached a cattle chute he yelled to his partner, "Hol' tight, Ballie; she's goin' to jump the fence."

William Alden Smith, who touched off the Cannon boom in the house at Washington the other day, is a beet curd congressman who enjoys the fame of having talked back at Mr. Roosevelt. It was on an occasion of instruction at the White House. "Mr. President," said Smith, who was one of the instructed, "I think I know what my duty is to my constituents as well as to my western broncho that can be ridden against his will."

Some time ago Secretary Shaw appointed two widows to temporary clerkships in the Treasury department. The time allowed for temporary clerkships has expired, but the secretary insists on keeping the two widows on the pay roll. The Civil Service commission has raged impotently at this decision, pointing out that it is against all kinds of statutes and precedents. Mr. Shaw calmly refuses to remove the two women, saying each has four or five children to support. "But I'll tell you what to do," said he to the commissioners. "Just make your protest to me in writing and make it as strong as you can; then you will have done your duty and your consciences will be at ease. You can't do any more. You will continue to hold their jobs."

Thoughtless Comparisons.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch. To go is called "The Japanese Nelson" and Makarov for four and one-half months. If two such men as Dewey and Nelson ever came together—well, you know what happened to the Kilkenney cat.

SHALL WE PENSION EVERYBODY?

Notwithstanding the strong, united and outspoken opposition to the press of the country, regardless of party, to the pension bill introduced by Mr. Suloway, there is reason to fear that it will ultimately become a law. And this in the face of the fact that the national treasury is threatened with a deficit of about \$60,000,000 at the end of another fiscal year, and that we are already committed to the most liberal war pension system ever borne by any people, involving an annual expenditure of nearly \$100,000,000. If this proposed bill is passed it is estimated that it will add about 100,000 names to the pension rolls, and at least \$20,000,000 to the pension budget, and possibly twice or three that amount.

But the increase of the national expenditure which this new pension bill will entail upon the country will be the least among the evils resulting from its enactment. It will go further than anything has yet done to make patriotism, already a much cheaper word, synonymous with selfishness, and will commit us at once and for all time to the sordid and vicious doctrine that every man who suffers or sacrifices anything for his country must expect his reward for it sooner or later in hard cash.

Such a doctrine, it need hardly be said, applied in every sphere of life, would rob humanity of much that is finest, sweetest and noblest in all its achievements, and would reduce everything that makes for heroism and self-denial among men to the level of a vulgar bargain. It would turn every American soldier into a hireling lured to do battle for his country, not by the glories of the money to be paid to him afterwards, but by the prospect of a pension roll, and at least \$20,000,000 to the pension budget, and possibly twice or three that amount.

It is difficult to see how, with this proposed law in force, the government could summon its citizens to arms again with old-time appeals to their valor and patriotism. "This country needs thee, come"—the call that has thrilled and moved so many hearts and stirred to action so many brave souls in other days. Under the new system a call to arms for any purpose, no matter what its precise terms might be, must be regarded as a straight business proposition—a plain quid pro quo transaction.

And if this service law, why not go further? Where is the end? Those who served in the ranks are by no means the only ones who suffered keenly and grievously both in body and purse by the operations of the civil war. Some eloquent writer has paid a noble tribute to the heroism and devotion of the unnumbered millions "who remained behind," the men and women who agonized at home and often sacrificed their