

## THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.  
STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.  
State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.  
George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of December, 1904, was as follows:

1. Daily Bee	20,300	17.	32,715
2. Sunday Bee	20,200	18.	30,200
3. Evening Bee	20,200	19.	28,800
4. Total	60,700	20.	91,715
5. Daily Bee	20,300	21.	28,310
6. Sunday Bee	20,200	22.	28,200
7. Evening Bee	20,200	23.	28,200
8. Total	60,700	24.	84,710
9. Daily Bee	20,300	25.	30,200
10. Sunday Bee	20,200	26.	28,200
11. Evening Bee	20,200	27.	28,200
12. Total	60,700	28.	86,600
13. Daily Bee	20,300	29.	28,200
14. Sunday Bee	20,200	30.	28,200
15. Evening Bee	20,200	31.	28,200
16. Total	60,700	32.	84,600
17. Daily Bee	20,300	33.	28,200
18. Sunday Bee	20,200	34.	28,200
19. Evening Bee	20,200	35.	28,200
20. Total	60,700	36.	84,600
21. Daily Bee	20,300	37.	28,200
22. Sunday Bee	20,200	38.	28,200
23. Evening Bee	20,200	39.	28,200
24. Total	60,700	40.	84,600
25. Daily Bee	20,300	41.	28,200
26. Sunday Bee	20,200	42.	28,200
27. Evening Bee	20,200	43.	28,200
28. Total	60,700	44.	84,600
29. Daily Bee	20,300	45.	28,200
30. Sunday Bee	20,200	46.	28,200
31. Evening Bee	20,200	47.	28,200
32. Total	60,700	48.	84,600
33. Daily Bee	20,300	49.	28,200
34. Sunday Bee	20,200	50.	28,200
35. Evening Bee	20,200	51.	28,200
36. Total	60,700	52.	84,600
37. Daily Bee	20,300	53.	28,200
38. Sunday Bee	20,200	54.	28,200
39. Evening Bee	20,200	55.	28,200
40. Total	60,700	56.	84,600
41. Daily Bee	20,300	57.	28,200
42. Sunday Bee	20,200	58.	28,200
43. Evening Bee	20,200	59.	28,200
44. Total	60,700	60.	84,600
45. Daily Bee	20,300	61.	28,200
46. Sunday Bee	20,200	62.	28,200
47. Evening Bee	20,200	63.	28,200
48. Total	60,700	64.	84,600
49. Daily Bee	20,300	65.	28,200
50. Sunday Bee	20,200	66.	28,200
51. Evening Bee	20,200	67.	28,200
52. Total	60,700	68.	84,600
53. Daily Bee	20,300	69.	28,200
54. Sunday Bee	20,200	70.	28,200
55. Evening Bee	20,200	71.	28,200
56. Total	60,700	72.	84,600
57. Daily Bee	20,300	73.	28,200
58. Sunday Bee	20,200	74.	28,200
59. Evening Bee	20,200	75.	28,200
60. Total	60,700	76.	84,600
61. Daily Bee	20,300	77.	28,200
62. Sunday Bee	20,200	78.	28,200
63. Evening Bee	20,200	79.	28,200
64. Total	60,700	80.	84,600
65. Daily Bee	20,300	81.	28,200
66. Sunday Bee	20,200	82.	28,200
67. Evening Bee	20,200	83.	28,200
68. Total	60,700	84.	84,600
69. Daily Bee	20,300	85.	28,200
70. Sunday Bee	20,200	86.	28,200
71. Evening Bee	20,200	87.	28,200
72. Total	60,700	88.	84,600
73. Daily Bee	20,300	89.	28,200
74. Sunday Bee	20,200	90.	28,200
75. Evening Bee	20,200	91.	28,200
76. Total	60,700	92.	84,600
77. Daily Bee	20,300	93.	28,200
78. Sunday Bee	20,200	94.	28,200
79. Evening Bee	20,200	95.	28,200
80. Total	60,700	96.	84,600
81. Daily Bee	20,300	97.	28,200
82. Sunday Bee	20,200	98.	28,200
83. Evening Bee	20,200	99.	28,200
84. Total	60,700	100.	84,600

Net total copies... 911,646.  
Daily average... 28,408.  
Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of December, 1904.  
(Seal) M. B. HUNTER, Notary Public.

There should be plenty of work for the building trades at Port Arthur next summer.

The first thirty-one-story building has been completed in New York City. It is Chicago's turn next.

Taking a lesson from Port Arthur, Great Britain may be expected to make a few improvements at Gibraltar.

South Omaha's new public library building has been opened to the public. South Omaha is entitled to congratulations.

The correct diagnosis of the malady to which Mr. Douglas fell a victim in his quest for the speakership is, "too much Westberg."

The sock of J. C. F. McKesson took an upward turn during the day—Lincoln Star. Right here is the place to rise and enter an objection.

No valid excuse remains for Admiral Rojstrensky if he does not return and ret the commission just what he saw off the Dogger banks.

It is cabled all the way from Che Foo that the troops penned up in Port Arthur were glad to surrender. Well, who wouldn't be under like conditions?

If the railroads will only keep at one another down at Lincoln, the legislators who are free from railroad strings may be able to keep control.

The Board of Education has organized by the election of officers for the ensuing year. A businesslike and economical administration of the school system will be in order.

On the opening of the Nebraska legislature the first vote of the senate was unanimous. That is no sign, however, that there will be no diversity of opinion before the last vote is recorded.

The extinguishment of the annual Jacksonian feast as a result of the late election landslide would be the last straw to the faithful. What else have they to look forward to to satiate their hunger?

Speaker Rouse is a farmer of the rough and rugged stock. He has gone through four legislative sessions without wearing a railroad label and it is not reasonable to believe he will put it on now.

From the present course of his attorneys, the democratic candidate for governor of Colorado must have become afraid as to what may develop when all the ballot boxes and poll books of Denver are opened.

Opposition newspapers have discovered that the railroads have again organized the Nebraska legislature, but it would have made no difference who had been elected, the charge would have been the same.

Since Turkey has decided that colporteurs may not peddle Bibles, it may be that those Turks will reach a point where they would really drive displeasing missionaries from the country, as they have done in Tennessee.

It may be another case of "misery loves company," but it is an odd coincidence that since the king of Spain and the duke of Connaught were both thrown by automobiles, the European public is discussing the probabilities of a marriage between the Spanish ruler and a daughter of the duke.

There are republicans just as competent for every position under the county board as the democrats who have been holding them down for the last five years, but it should be the aim of the new republican board to put in republicans just a little more competent than the democrats they replace.

## REASSEMBLING OF CONGRESS.

On the reassembling of congress to-day the real work of the session will begin and a part of this will be of more than ordinary interest. If correctly represented in the dispatches from the national capital, President Roosevelt is earnestly desirous that there shall be legislation by the present congress on the lines recommended in his annual message regarding the regulation of railroad rates. It is said to be the judgment of the president that this should not be deferred until the next congress and this accords with his declaration that "the most important legislative act now needed as regards the regulation of corporations is this act to confer on the Interstate Commerce commission the power to revise rates and regulations."

It has been announced that Senator Elkins has a bill of this nature ready for introduction and doubtless further consideration will be given to the Quarles-Cooper measure. It appears probable that the influence of the administration will be strongly exerted in behalf of the suggested legislation, so that some action is likely at the present session, though all the desired legislation relating to interstate commerce may not be secured.

Another matter of importance is the proposed reduction of the tariff on Philippine products, especially sugar and tobacco. As already noted the American sugar and tobacco interests are prepared for a vigorous opposition to any reduction of duties and the outcome will very likely be a compromise cutting down the duties 25 per cent, so that they will be one-half of the Dingley schedules. The Philippine producers of course want free trade, but that is utterly impracticable. The question of Panama canal construction will undoubtedly receive attention, the matter to be determined being whether the waterway shall be a sea-level or a lock canal. To construct it at sea level, as recommended by the chief engineer, would add very largely to the cost and it is hardly probable that congress will be disposed to do this, especially in view of the fact that some of the engineers of the commission do not concur in the opinion of the chief engineer. It is not improbable that the Hill currency bill, or some of its provisions, particularly those for the deposit in banks of receipts from customs and for coining silver dollars into subsidiary currency, will become law. There is an increasing demand for more subsidiary silver which congress should not fail to provide for.

There is wide interest felt in the arbitration treaties that are before the senate and a very general hope that they will be ratified. These treaties are simply agreements to submit to arbitration legal questions and those growing out of treaties, expressly excluding any subject affecting the honor, the vital interests or the territory of a nation. It would seem that there could be no reasonable objection to an international agreement of this kind, which is in the interest of peace, yet there is opposition to them, though perhaps not strong enough to prevent their ratification, which it is needless to say is earnestly desired by the administration.

A careful avoidance of any sort of extravagance in public expenditures seems to be fully assured. It is the expressed determination of the leaders in both houses to keep the expenditures for the next fiscal year within the estimated receipts and observance of this policy will have very general popular approval. A judicious economy is practicable without any impairment of the efficiency of the public service.

THE COTTON SITUATION.  
The large cotton crop of the past year, amounting to 12,000,000 bales according to the census bureau, has so alarmed the planters that a movement has been started among them to burn a portion of the supply with a view to averting a decline in the price of the staple. Last week the farmers of Clay county, Georgia, met and decided to burn their share of 2,000,000 bales of surplus cotton and they proceeded to carry out that policy by destroying about \$100,000 of their product. This most extraordinary course has been followed in Texas and in Oklahoma and it was expected would be pursued elsewhere, but it is not probable that this will be so extensively done as appears to have been looked for by the Georgia originators of the supremely foolish plan. The accuracy of the census statement is called in question by officials of the National Ginners' association. The president of that body has declared that the government report of the cotton crop is totally incorrect. He stated that many ginners did not count their bales correctly, often adding many hundred bales more than they had in reality ginned. This assertion from the chief official of an organization which should have pretty accurate information regarding the amount of cotton ginned ought to have the effect to allay the alarm of the planters and prevent any further destruction of cotton.

Regarding an economic standpoint, it is difficult to conceive of anything more foolish and indefensible than the act of the Georgia farmers and their few imitators. As the New York Tribune remarks, it is a scheme of folly and wickedness. "It is foolish because it means a loss to the farmers which is not likely to be compensated for by a corresponding rise in price. It is wicked because it means a loss to the world, a destruction of nature's bounty, of which the farmer is only a trustee. Just as the owner of a coal mine is a trustee, that paper adds that this burning scheme in the end is bound to hurt the planter more than it will help him. The cotton manufacturers of the world and the millions dependent on them for clothing are not going to rest content at the mercy of bull speculators, either in the pit of the cotton exchange or about a pile of blazing bales. 'If the south will not furnish cotton at prices based on the natural relations of supply and demand, plant an increasing acreage from year to year, harvest the crop and market it, the world will turn to Africa and the West Indies. King Cotton is a powerful sovereign, but he is not an absolute monarch now any more than he was forty years ago. He cannot rule capriciously and lawlessly. If he tries it his scepter will be taken away and a new dynasty established elsewhere.' For several years before 1901 the cotton crops were short and the planters got good prices. In January last the price soared to 16-40 cents per pound and by February it exceeded 17 cents. In March it was still above 16 cents and it fell to less than 12 cents in September was charged to panic among speculators. The bull speculators led the planters to believe that high prices were to be permanent and this induced more extensive planting. The inevitable result is that cotton has declined to a lower price than for several years, but to attempt to remedy this by burning up a portion of the product is a piece of folly that cannot easily be characterized. It is at least to be hoped that it will not be carried any further."

WANTED—A COUNTY INVENTORY.  
The taxpayers of Douglas county look to the new county board to inaugurate business methods in the management of county affairs and the members of the new board should see to it that they are not disappointed. Before the board prepares to sweep out existing abuses with its new broom it should take an inventory and make a searching investigation into the current expenses of each county office and county institution.

Every county officer and every employee should be required to submit an inventory of county property in his custody and include with his inventory an estimate of the additional material imperatively needed during the coming year. The proposed inquiry should begin with the county store and include the county poor farm, county jail, county surveyor's office, county clerk, register of deeds, county treasurer, sheriff, county judge, and each of the divisions of the district court, with a complete exhibit of the furniture, stationery, fuel and other supplies, as well as the road-making machinery in the custody of the road supervisors.

When the new board has secured a complete inventory and checked up the payrolls in each of the respective county offices, it will be in position to inaugurate rational economies and enforce greater efficiency in each of the various departments that come under its supervision. A complete inventory will also disclose whether and where the county has an excess of furniture, supplies, and other properties that have accumulated on its hands and can be disposed of without detriment to the public service.

A JUG-HANDLE COMPROMISE.  
The withdrawal of all the protests filed in the name of the Civic Federation last month by Attorney Elmer E. Thomas against certain applicants for saloon license, coupled with specific charges of violation of various provisions of the St. Louis law and city ordinances, is said to have been the result of a compromise between officers of the Civic Federation and the brewers and keepers of the resorts affected by the protests. By this extraordinary compact the keepers of the saloons in the proscribed district have pledged themselves to obey the laws and ordinances relating to midnight closing, selling liquor to minors and Sunday closing, and in addition thereto have agreed to abstain from dispensing malt and spirituous beverages to women of the town, while the keepers of music halls have pledged themselves "in all honor" not to allow women of any character to enter their halls or mingle with the audience.

This is a jug-handle compromise. It was within the power of the Civic Federation attorney to close each one of these resorts if, after due hearing, the police commission had overruled the protest and granted the license in spite of specific proof that the applicants had violated the law during the preceding year, but the withdrawal of the protests is a virtual abandonment of the only practical attempt the Civic Federation had made to purge the town of vice and close the tough joints. True, it was the right and duty of the board to reject the applications for license to notoriously disreputable and disorderly places, even where protests were withdrawn, but having once granted the license for the present year, the commission is powerless to enforce the jug-handle compact. On the very face of it, the compact is a roaring farce, because the parties that made it could not live up to it, and would not live up to it if they could. To carry out their pledges would compel them to close altogether, because they would not earn money enough to pay their license fee.

There is no law or ordinance that discriminates against women with regard to patronizing saloons or music halls. A woman has just as much right to call for drinks and pay for them as any licensed resort as a man, so long as she behaves and creates no disturbance. There is no power vested in the police commission to revoke a license after it is issued because the dealer in liquor dispenses drink to women. In fact, the police board has no power to revoke any license whatever, except after due process of law and conviction in the courts. It is doubtful even whether the mayor has authority arbitrarily to close a resort because it is patronized by women, whether well behaved or without character, unless there is a disturbance or a conviction in a court for violating the ordinances.

The jug-handle compromise was, therefore, simply a surrender on the part of the Civic Federation of all it has been contending for, and if it was made by the advice of its attorney, it shows that the attorney is either incompetent or is playing into the hands of the very people whom the Civic

## Federation is endeavoring to make harmless.

One year ago J. J. Dunn, posing as a great moral reformer, filed protests against the granting of liquor licenses to 175 applicants, withdrawing them later when he had secured an agreement for the free and unobstructed issue of licenses to all the places backed by Walter Moise and his brewery. This year Elmer E. Thomas, in the name of the Civic Federation, filed protests against the granting of liquor licenses to seventeen applicants and then withdrew all his protests immediately after all the saloons backed by Walter Moise had been relicensed. Dunn admits he was paid by Moise for what he did for him.

A Saxon court is to be called upon to decide if the present state of Princess Louise renders an editor who prints a cartoon of her immune from laws defining lese majeste. Ridicule seems to be the easiest barb with which to reach the sensibilities of German royalty.

The Navy department has issued an official bulletin declaring that the battleship has demonstrated its superiority in case of war, as shown by the campaign against Port Arthur, but unfortunately the basis of comparison is vague.

Labor Saving Scheme.  
Pittsburg Dispatch.  
It looks as if the cotton burners ought to encourage the spread of the boll weevil as a means of saving them the labor of gathering, ginning and burning their crops.

Out of Its Line.  
Chicago Inter Ocean.  
General Roberts declares that the British army is unfit to cope with the army of the United States. He says that the British army does not make it a practice to cope with the armies of other great powers.

One More Endorsement Needed.  
Washington Post.  
"Whisky, pure whisky," says Dr. Wiley, "is a valuable portion of good diet in cases of tuberculosis." Many persons will feel grateful if the doctor will assure them that the stuff is also valuable as a preventive.

An Unfailing System.  
Chicago Record-Herald.  
Another English earl has gone to Monte Carlo with a "system" which he thinks will enable him to break the bank. Wouldn't it have been a hot day for Monte Carlo if Mrs. Chadwick had happened to camp there for a few hours with her little old system?

Great Dollops for the Year.  
New York Tribune.  
There are still some great things to be accomplished in the new year, or the new year to come. Among them are the Panama canal, the "Cape to Cairo" railroad, the conquest of the poles and also that of the air by flying machines. There are many others, but the mention of these is sufficient to indicate that there is plenty of strenuous work ahead and plenty of room for high achievement.

Do Not Give Away Franchises.  
Boston Transcript.  
We are coming to a larger appreciation of the value of franchises and the fact that the public should be a co-partner in them. We are beginning to appreciate the fact that no franchise should be granted without some contribution to the public burden, and that the "Cape to Cairo" railroad may serve to drive the idea home, so that Boston may reap its share of the benefits of any corporate franchises granted in the future.

Japan's Supremacy in the Orient.  
Kansas City Journal.  
We have a fancy, worth not much, but as much as the opinion of the rest of the world, that Japan is no longer a pretentious nation developed anywhere in the Asiatic region. If Japan has an ambition it must be to rule the Orient. We cannot conceive of Chinese hosts sweeping over western Europe, but we can easily conceive of a mighty Japan holding the supremacy of Asia and dictating the terms of trade and other intercourse with western nations.

A Year of Satisfaction.  
Lettie's Weekly.  
To us here in America, if nowhere else, the year just now passed has been one to be looked back upon with pride and gratification—a year that has not only brought many good things in itself, but has witnessed the beginning of many other things that surely make for happiness, prosperity and progress in the future. To be specific, it has witnessed the popular choice by an unprecedented majority of a president who stands committed by precept, pledge and past achievement to a government policy which insures the maintenance of right and reason in every sphere of national influence and that policy means no less for the future welfare and betterment of conditions for the humblest workman than it does for security and exact justice to the employer and the capitalist; a policy that means honesty and fidelity in public office, the discharge of every duty with the recognition of citizen rights without regard to race or color, the rational advancement of public enterprises, the upbuilding and strengthening of American interests both at home and abroad, and a still further widening of America's power and influence for peace and good will throughout the world.

WAR OUTLINED.  
More People Killed in Railroad Weeks Than in War.  
Frederick H. Adams in Success.  
A report recently issued by the Interstate Commerce commission shows that the total number of casualties to persons on railroads in the United States during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904, was 55,120, comprising 2,871 killed and 51,349 injured. This shows a large increase over any other year.

It is a large total, and in comparison may be said to be similar to the complete destruction of any one of such cities as Salt Lake City, Utah; San Antonio, Tex.; Racine, Wis.; Topeka, Kan.; Waterbury, Conn.; Wilkesbarre, Pa.; or Augusta, Ga., neither of which has anything like 50,000 inhabitants. In both the American and British armies, September 19, and October 7, 11 and 12, 1877, in the series of fights and battles around Saratoga, as included by E. S. Creasy in his "Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World," there were less than 20,000 men; while the highest total given by E. K. Adams in Johnson's "Cyclopaedia" of the killed, wounded and missing on both sides at Waterloo, one of the greatest battles of all time, is 64,425 men—not so many by 702 as last year's total of United States railroad casualties. The number of collisions and derailments during the last year was 11,291, involving \$3,847 in damages to rolling stock and roadbeds. This gives the astonishing increase of 64 collisions and derailments over 1903—amounting but for the reduction of employees in 1904, by 75,000.

## BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot.  
The experimentalists of the Department of Agriculture have thrown borax acid as a preservative to the birds and turned their attention to the production of an ideal cup of coffee. The job will be continued through the winter, unless success sooner crowns the undertaking. It is the contention of the department that the production of a cup of good coffee depends more upon the way it is made than upon the grade of coffee beans employed. Not only will all the known methods of coffee making be employed in the experiments, but scientific measures will be used to determine with the utmost exactness the effects produced upon the coffee bean from the time it leaves the plantation, through the process of roasting and grinding, and, lastly, in the brewing of the beverage. What promises to be a most interesting feature of the experiments will be the testing of the method employed in the western part of Sonomira of using the leaves of the coffee plant instead of the berries. The method in vogue in Cuba of making coffee by cold water infusion, though supposed to eliminate the undesirable element, has been found by the department experts to contribute in reality little or nothing to that effect. The process employed by the celebrated coffee makers of Paris, Vienna and Constantinople will be used, insofar as they are known. It is a recognized fact, however, that some of these adepts possess secret methods which they will not disclose, as, for instance, the famous Egyptian coffee maker of the king of England.

"When the house leaders," says the Washington Post, "can no longer stem the tide of public sentiment as shown in the determination of the house to pass certain legislation, it is unloaded on the senate. This happened in the case of the eight-hour bill, the statehood bill, the Alaska delegate bill and half a dozen other measures of less importance have been sent to the senate for that body to deal with in its own way. It is such an easy matter to shift a bill and at the same time avoid the responsibility of voting against it. Everybody is aware that if it came to a 'showdown' the pure food food bill, the eight-hour bill, the statehood bill, the Alaska delegate bill and half a dozen other measures of less importance have been sent to the senate for that body to deal with in its own way. It is such an easy matter to shift a bill and at the same time avoid the responsibility of voting against it. 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