THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

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State of Nebraska, Douglas county, ss.:
C. C. Rosewater, 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 July, 1905, was as follows:

1	31,310	17	28,430
2	29,200	18	28,080
3	29,860	19	28,510
4	29,100	20	28,100
5	29,750	21	28,300
6	28,650	22	29,670
7	28,680	23	28,500
8	30,000	24	28,070
9	28,150	25	28,170
10	28,900	26	28,160
11	28,640	27	28,150
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13	28,900	29	29,400
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C. C. ROSEWATER,
Secretary.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this first day of July, 1905.
(Seal) M. B. HUNGATE,
Notary Public.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. It is better than a daily letter from home. Address will be changed as often as requested.

Now that a Yankee yacht has captured the Canada cup, Canadian Liptons can find a new field of activity.

At last accounts the frenzied Zionists, although divided into two hostile camps, were still maintaining the statu quo.

That bomb must have been sent Banker Schiff to make him realize that he had been taking part in Russian politics.

It remains to be seen if President Roosevelt is as successful in capturing the dove of peace as he is in bagging wildcats.

London is to destroy a large "slum" district, but there will probably be enough left to meet the wants of all American sightseers.

The new language, "Esperanto," cannot be an acknowledged success until it enables diplomats to express two opposite meanings with the same words.

Russell Sage says he expects to live 100 years, but most people will think this impossible from the fact that he has existed too long before starting to live.

Before Emperor William finally closes the Baltic sea he should receive expert advice from St. Petersburg, which has had some recent experience with a closed sea.

If those Apaches in New Mexico really go on the warpath the government might be compelled to send Geronimo back home to show the braves the logical consequence of their practices.

In ordering all saloons closed when a mob threatened to lynch a negro, a Texas mayor brought out unexpected supporters of law and order, and the negro will be tried in the courts.

Now, if the Postoffice department will only issue a fraud order against the general land office, which has been conducting another land lottery, Uncle Sam might get a taste of his own medicine.

Since he has expressed complete satisfaction with the results of the St. Louis exposition, it is certain that President Francis has not seen all the snapshot photographs taken of its chief executive officer.

Recent injuries to participants are said to have sounded the death knell of automobile racing. Promoters of that form of sport should not abandon it until they fail to have it recognized as a legitimate college contest.

Just to make sure of a safe return, these Arctic explorers who get wealthy friends to put up the money to fit out the exploring expeditions should also raise a fund in advance to send out the rescuing party.

It is fortunate Colonel Bryan did not make the trip to the Philippines along with the Taft party, otherwise he, too, might have been converted away from his anti-imperialist associates and no one would be left to champion the cause of the immediate evacuation of our far eastern insular possessions.

Automobile fire engines are said to be in satisfactory use in New York, Boston and Hartford. We might introduce them here in Omaha were it not for the speed limits prescribed by the state law and municipal ordinances, to say nothing of the lack of money in the fire fund to indulge in such a costly experiment.

NEARING THE CRISIS.

A few more days will determine whether or not there is to be peace in the far east. The crisis, it is expected, will be reached at the next meeting of the conference and the present indications are not favorable to an agreement as to those demands of Japan which the Russian envoys are said to have uncompromisingly rejected. The gravity of the situation is emphasized by the fact of President Roosevelt summoning Baron Rosen to a conference after having conferred with Baron Kaneko as a representative of the Japanese government. This is manifestly a move of very great significance, its purpose being obvious, for the president would not take such a course unless fully convinced that the conditions are such as to justify him in seeking a conference with one of the Russian envoys.

The world will await with intense interest some information as to what the president of the United States shall propose to the belligerent nations and the opinion may be ventured that whatever he proposes will have the approval of the neutral powers. It is stated that the British government is bringing its influence to bear upon Japan in the interest of peace, while both France and Germany are doing the same with Russia. If those governments should unite in approving what President Roosevelt may recommend to the belligerents neither Russia nor Japan will be likely to reject it. There is ground for hope, therefore, that the interposition of Mr. Roosevelt may result in effecting an agreement on the two items in the Japanese demands which now threaten to bring about a rupture and prolong the war. Meanwhile there appears to be little if any confidence either at St. Petersburg or Tokio that peace will result from the Portsmouth conference.

CIVIL PENSIONS AGAIN.

A recent article in The Bee discussing the inauguration of a movement on the part of the department clerks and employes to persuade congress to create a civil pension system expressed the opinion that the taxpayers of the country may be safely counted upon to oppose vigorously such a proposition. This declaration has elicited a reply from Dr. Llewellyn Jordan, the vice president of the United States Civil Service Retirement association, who is also employed in the United States Treasury department at Washington, intimating that the opposition of The Bee is based upon an entirely erroneous assumption that the retirement fund out of which superannuated employes in the civil service are to be supported is to come out of the money paid by the taxpayers of the country into the national treasury. Quoting the substantial part of Dr. Jordan's letter, he says:

Historically it should be mentioned that there has been in existence for about five years an association called the United States Civil Service Retirement association, which has been charged with the duty of collecting statistics as complete as possible dealing with the questions of age, salary and disability of employes in the classified executive civil service in order to intelligently proceed to formulate a bill for presentation to congress proposing a plan of retirement based upon a certain percentage of salary deduction of each employe which will be without expense to the government.

I wish to emphasize the point in the strongest possible manner that it is not a fact that a civil pension list is desired at the expense of the general government, as stated in your editorial, but on the contrary, the efforts of those interested in the movement have been directed solely to the accomplishment and perfection of a plan of retirement for the aged, disabled and superannuated employes without any expense to the United States government at all.

Dr. Jordan goes on to say that his association has purposely avoided using the term "pension" in order to avoid the appearance of creating in any sense a civil pension list with its consequent burden upon the taxpayers and that the desire is to pay premiums from personal salaries as they are annually appropriated by congress in order to insure an income of a small amount of retirement pay after a certain period of service or on reaching the retirement age, and that the sanction of congress is absolutely necessary to accomplish this end.

The facts as set forth, so far as they relate to the United States Civil Service Retirement association, The Bee is not disposed to dispute, but from the practical side it fails to see where the expression of intention in the constitution of the association in any way alters conditions. The story of the camel who inserted his nose under his master's tent, then his eyes, then his head, then his neck, then his hump and finally evicted the occupant altogether is generally familiar. If the employes in the executive civil service want to club together for any sort of an old age insurance or pension scheme there is nothing whatever to prevent them. They have the privilege of paying in their premiums monthly, quarterly or yearly to any insurance fund they may wish to institute, but they want the sanction of congress apparently to make it a compulsory instead of a voluntary contribution. If the pension premium is to be clipped off at the treasury every payday with or without the consent of the beneficiary, it would at once be regarded as a reduction of salary and the next step would be to bring influence to bear upon congress to restore the salary list by making good the pension premium by direct appropriation out of the treasury.

Why should the taxpayers who are not in the public service and who have to provide for themselves for a rainy day be compelled in addition to provide pensions for the civil service employes who are supposed to occupy specially favored positions both as to work and as to wages? The taxpayers of this country who are not in the public service are quite willing that the government should pursue a most liberal policy toward its employes, are willing that they should enjoy minimum hours and maximum pay, regular vacations and good behavior tenure, but they see no reason why with all these advantages they should not be responsible for their own care whenever their usefulness ceases and their retirement becomes imperative.

If the government is ever to go into the old age pension business it should not discriminate between public officials and private individuals, but should spread its benefits as has the German government proportionately to all alike.

HOW IT WORKS.

The publicity bureau established by the railroads to combat public sentiment in favor of railroad rate regulation is a thing of beauty and a joy forever. It is a double back-action, automatic affair that catches them coming and going. An excellent example of how smoothly the railroad publicity bureau works is to be found in a printed circular, prepared to show how public opinion is changing, which it has kindly sent out to newspapers with the privilege of printing with or without credit.

In the first place two South Dakota papers are quoted, one at Sioux Falls and the other at Aberdeen, reiterating the railroad argument against rates determined on a mileage basis. This is followed up by an extract from a Kansas City paper, commenting upon an interview given out by the superintendent of the Kansas City transportation bureau, and urging that the fixing of railway rates remain in the hands of the railway managers. This is trumped by a quotation from another paper at Chillicothe, O., ringing the changes on a protest said to have been sent to the president by the local freight agents, presumably at the instigation of their superiors. And the joker comes last in a reference to the action of an organization of railway employes in Illinois placing themselves in opposition to the federal control.

All this stuff sent out to these various newspapers by the railroad press agents has evidently been gathered together by some press clipping service to which the railroads have subscribed and arranged seriatim with running digest to make a single complete article for which space has been found in a Boston paper to which it is ascribed in the printed circular. Thus the manufactured amunition is sent around the circle to be started off a second time with another itinerary of newspaper offices in the hope that it may here and there find its way again into print.

When the congress convenes we have no doubt that some plausible member of the house or senate will rise from his seat and gravely weave into a speech all the excerpts furnished him by the railroad publicity bureau that have been smuggled into the press in different parts of the country with the sublime assurance that they voice the general drift of public sentiment. This may be the sort of an excuse some member of the august senate is looking for, but the members of the house who expect to hear from their constituents when they seek re-election next year will be rather wary of depending upon railroad manufactured sentiment for their backing.

ALLIANCE SUGGESTIONS.

The prevalent discussion of methods for insuring international peace, and the prominent position which the United States has taken in connection therewith, has brought out suggestions of alliances between this and other countries which merit at least passing attention, since it is quite possible that in the not remote future the matter may call for the serious consideration of the American people. The high place which this republic has attained among world powers and the large influence it exerts upon international affairs, with the certainty that this influence will increase, very naturally creates a desire on the part of other nations to court the closest friendship with the United States and undoubtedly there is not one of them but would be glad to have an alliance with this republic.

Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, who recently returned from Europe, said in an interview: "I saw a great many officials while abroad and I found this: France and Great Britain have such a thorough understanding now that it practically amounts to an entente cordiale. Those two powers are very close; and, also, both of them have a very warm feeling for the United States. More I cannot say." The report stated that the inference from the senator's remarks and tone as he spoke was that a very close entente between the United States and Great Britain and France was bound to come very soon and that it will probably be an alliance in everything but in name. There is no doubt that both those nations would most cordially welcome such a relation with this country.

It would be a mistake to treat these suggestions with levity. They are made seriously and should be so considered. In the present state of mind of the American people no foreign alliance would receive popular approval, but who can say that public sentiment in this respect may not change? Since the foundation of the government it has been the policy to have no alliance with a foreign power. Washington admonished his countrymen against "entangling alliances" and his counsel has thus far been heeded. We make treaties intended to promote friendship between ourselves and other nations. We enter into agreements to submit certain differences to arbitration. We seek to strengthen friendly relations with all the countries of the world. But we have made no alliance with any and shall not so long as the public sentiment remains as at present. When, however, so prominent a public man as Senator Lodge makes such an utterance as that above quoted it may well be asked whether a change is not taking place in the sentiment regarding foreign alliances—a change which may make rapid progress if there is indifference on the part of those who would have the government adhere in this respect to its traditional policy.

It has been said that owing to the varied character of our population an alliance with any foreign nation, as a measure of practical politics, except possibly in a great emergency, cannot be accomplished; that "we should have our own people by the ears the moment an alliance with any particular power or group of powers in Europe was consummated." There certainly is force in this, but the protection indicated is not absolutely secure. The time is opportune for once more impressing upon the American people the wisdom of keeping free from alliance, or anything even remotely in the nature of an alliance, with any European power.

FRAUD ORDERS.

Postmaster General Cortelyou's order excluding from the use of the mail service every individual, firm and company found to be conducting a fraudulent business, and requiring greater activity in this line on the part of postoffice inspectors, is an effective stroke in behalf of public honesty. It supplements and reinforces the efforts of several states to suppress various get-rich-quick schemes designed to swindle credulous people.

The fact that such a measure is necessary to check the operations of swindlers is not flattering to national pride. We esteem ourselves the equals intellectually of any people on the globe, unequalled in inventive skill, unrivaled in industrial development and traders of surpassing enterprise. With perceptive faculties highly trained we quickly see and take advantage of the shortcomings of competitors. But beneath our intellectual strength is a vast strata of credulousness. Upon this strata the sharper operates skillfully and shrewdly, masking his scheme with the name of some legitimate business and concealing his purpose in artfully written prospectuses. Promises impossible of fulfillment are made, and unheard of profits "guaranteed" the victim. Thus the credulous honestly seeking to better their condition, are lured into the net. The natural desire for a home has been played upon to perpetrate the most flagrant swindles with which court records are littered. In almost every instance the gambling instinct is appealed to in some form. Indeed the sharper overlooks no method or means to realize his sole ambition—"get money, honestly if you can, but get money."

The extent to which swindling schemes have been carried on through the mails in the United States presents an amazing record. A computation made by an investigator a few years ago showed that during the last quarter of the last century upwards of $600,000,000 was taken in by various get-rich-quick schemers, and less than 20 per cent of that vast sum was returned to the millions of victims. Millions were added to this total in the past five years by the home co-operative companies, turf investment and grain gambling schemes, Franklin syndicates, bogus banks and diamond tontine swindles. Some of these concerns are still in operation and deserve prompt and vigorous action on the part of the postoffice officials.

The difficulty experienced heretofore in securing action by the Postoffice department was the rule requiring a complaining citizen to furnish documentary evidence of the offense complained of. In several instances in Nebraska and Iowa the department imposed such a task on complainants, the expense of which obliged them to abandon the cases. Postoffice inspectors had their attention called to flagrant abuses of the mails, but did not act until the remains of the swindles were dragged into the courts. The department now proposes to initiate action against all concerns of doubtful character and to investigate promptly every complaint. That it means business is evident from the closing of the Lewis banking concern in St. Louis and the exclusion from the mails of scores of fraudulent schemes.

RUSSIA'S NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

The Russian people are to have what is called a national representative assembly, but it will be subect to such restrictions and limitations that it probably will be able to do very little toward remedying the abuses and bringing about the reforms which the people want. It will have scant powers, its freedom of action will be narrow and its participation in the government will be largely negative. Still it is perhaps to be regarded as a sign of progress and a promise of better conditions in Russia and therefore as an epoch-making event. The assembly will not be chosen by all the people, but chiefly by property holders, so that a majority of the people will have no voice or only an indirect participation in the election of the body. Consequently it cannot properly be regarded as a popular representative assembly, such as are possessed by countries which have free institutions. Furthermore, it will not be a legislative but simply a consultative body, passing judgment upon certain matters of legislation which may be submitted to it and having no authority beyond that.

The autocratic power is to remain unchanged. In all things the will of the czar will continue to be the supreme law and in the future as in the past this undoubtedly will be to a great extent influenced by the bureaucracy, whose power and privileges will be practically unrestricted. The grand dukes and others who hang about the throne and are chiefly responsible for the existing unfortunate conditions of the empire may be watched more closely than at present and something of a check put upon their corrupt practices, for one of the privileges of the assembly will be to pass upon the departmental, ministerial and national budgets, and something in the way of reform may be expected from this, yet the men upon whom the czar leans will still find ways to enrich themselves out of the public treasury and thus keep their hold upon power.

While, therefore, the national assembly will give the Russian people a voice and enable them, through some 500 chosen representatives, to get the ear of the sovereign, it must not be assumed that it is going to revolutionize conditions and bring about all needed reforms. It is a step forward and therefore to be welcomed by all who hope for better things for a greatly oppressed and sorely suffering people.

In behalf of the Paul Revere Memorial association, it is intimated that if every American man and woman over 21 years of age who, when at school, read and probably declaimed Tennyson's poem, "Paul Revere's Ride," would send a contribution, the $30,000 which it is desired to secure would soon be at hand. If this is the basis on which memorial funds are hereafter to be collected, we will soon see monuments rising in various places to Barbara Fritchie, Hiawatha and all the other old standbys of the ancient school reader.

If human nature is the same all the world round, it may be taken for granted that the hotel keepers and restauranteurs of old Portsmouth are not in the least disturbed over the prolongation of the peace conference sessions.

Cubans will probably learn in course of time that only the supreme court of the United States has the right to nullify a law formally passed by congress and approved by the president. The Platt amendment will stand.

Advices from London would indicate that the only reason "frenzied finance" has not been as prominent across the water as here is that the Thomas Lawsons of Great Britain all received their share of the plunder.

American exports of cotton cloth to China increased during the fiscal year ending with June last from about $4,000,000 to $27,750,000. That does not look as if the tariff were seriously obstructing foreign trade.

Hindsight Pulls the Hammer.
Baltimore American.

The Russians have agreed to evacuate Manchuria. If they had done so when first asked it would have saved a lot of trouble all around.

One Way to Settle It.
New York Tribune.

Japan might well afford to strain a point about the limitation of Russia's navy in the Pacific. If it became troublesome she might call upon Togo to annex it.

Task Sized Up.
Philadelphia Ledger.

Somehow the Panama canal has suddenly struck Uncle Sam as a formidable undertaking. It did not seem thus a few brief months ago, when Senator Morgan was exhausting the floor.

Has Troubles Enough.
Indianapolis News.

Knowing how busily he is engaged otherwise, M. Witte's statement that he did not come to America to defend the rights of the press will be accepted without either heartburnings or carping criticism.

Work for Idle Hands.
Portland Oregonian.

All over the Pacific northwest there is a great demand for harvest hands at from $2 to $5 per day. The grain crops are ripening so rapidly that some of the farmers are threatened with serious loss unless help is forthcoming.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Portsmouth turns out a daily crisis without impairing the supply.

According to Wooster, "conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman" has a variety of definitions.

The Japs are diligently raising sunken Russian ships near home and Russian money in America.

The report of an abundant crop of prunes on the Pacific coast ought to hold the boarders for a while.

The yellow fever mosquito is known to the doctors as the stegomyia fasciata and to the victim by its bill.

The tone and atmosphere of a "high old time" does not appear to advantage in the broad light of a divorce case.

Bank Kamultah, a Comanche Indian, is dead at the age of 109. He escaped being "good" all these years by staying on a reservation in Canada.

A bit of Roosevelt luck was revealed in the wreckage of the Albany department store. The president's picture wasn't hurt a bit. Not even the glass covering was broken.

The gaiety of newspaper life shines amid the shadows of human affliction. A western editress, recently bereft of her husband, soberly announces, "We have cut our weeds."

A party of seven persons in Indiana had their curiosity satisfied by the light of a match at an abandoned gas well. No funerals, but an abundance of blisters for which gas leaks are justly celebrated.

Luck clings to the plumber through all his troubles. One of the famous tribe in Maryland, while patching a drain pipe, struck a pot of money three feet below the surface. With characteristic generosity he discounted his bill for the cash in hand.

The mystery surrounding the disappearance of Mahmod Khan has been cleared up satisfactorily. "He died quite suddenly," explained a Persian functionary, naively adding, "He was not sympathetic to the grand vizier." This style of rushing the Khan is popular in Shahdom.

SERMONS BOILED DOWN.

Duty is a door to delight.
Hidden sins cannot be healed.
Worship is but the voice of love.
Disinterested men get the greatest interest.
Nothing proves culture better than kindness.
You never find a beautiful life with boastful lips.
This world needs new impulse more than new ideas.
The Lord have mercy on the boy with a faultless father.
He who would do divine work must not be afraid of dirt.
You cannot advertise men into affection for the Almighty.
Some men would be most miserable without their miseries.
He who loves men needs not to pray for power to love God.
A good deal of piggishness goes under the name of principle.
Warm friendships are not likely to be fused in heated arguments.
It takes more than milk and water to make the meekness of a Moses.
Most men imagine that a fizzle in business furnishes a fitting for the ministry.
Life is but our name for that which the great Master may call His first lesson.
No man is fitted to oversee any great work who cannot overlook some small things.
The world always will choke on a religion made out of philosophies first petrified and then pulverized.—Chicago Tribune.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Boston Transcript: According to the new Methodist Episcopal dispensation the bride promises not to "obey" but to "keep" her husband. We don't see that that reduces her responsibility much.

New York Post: Bishop Potter says that a sermon should not exceed twenty minutes. But this is no real improvement on Mr. Evarts, who put it: "Twenty minutes with a leaning to the side of mercy."

Cleveland Plain Dealer: No doubt that New Orleans clergyman who has dropped all his other duties and devoted himself to cleaning up the street or that city is firmly of the opinion that cleanliness is very close to godliness.

Boston Transcript: "Oh, day of rest and gladness" is the way the old hymn describes Sunday; but according to the headlines in Monday papers it seems to be more than any other a day of accidents, suicides and other extreme crimes.

Philadelphia Ledger: A Connecticut parson delivered a powerful sermon on the iniquity of women of his flock exclaiming "Oh, fudge!" What, may we inquire, may church women properly say in lieu of this naughty word when they make an unlucky play in progressive euchre?

Minneapolis Journal: Josh Billings said: "I like to see a man as honest when he is measuring a peck of onions as when he is shouting hallelujah." The humorist hit off in this condensation the philisophy of real church membership. The people like to see a man who can say amen to his own acts as heartily as he does to the words of the preacher. They have not much use for the sharp practicioner who uses up all his religion on Sunday and has nothing left for the weekdays following.

Springfield Republican: Writing of reforms in the Roman Catholic church in recent years, Prof. Briggs has noted that the influence of the papacy has been thrown toward the style of preaching that emphasizes the simple problems of good living rather than those of dogmatic theology. The same tendency has become strongly confirmed in the Protestant churches, and it is seldom in these days that one can hear what used to be called a strong doctrinal sermon. Clergy and laity seem to be glad that theology has suffered an eclipse, if it has not passed into downright disrepute.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.

Mrs. Popley—What do you think? Baby spoke her first word today!
Mr. Popley—Well, well! And it won't be many years before she'll be having the last word.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Hicks—What do you think of Miss Winson's new photograph?
Wicks—Well, the photographer is certainly an artist.—Somerville Journal.

"The baby always becomes perfectly quiet when I sing to it," said the proud young father.
"Yes," answered the mother, "it knows that if it makes a noise you will keep on singing."—Washington Star.

Mayme—Notice that couple we just passed? They're Mr. and Mrs. Pyrrh-Simmons. Their courtship was one of the most romantic affairs of the season.
Maybelle—Why, she's as homely as a telegraph pole!
Mayme—I know it, and he's as poor as a church mouse. That's what made it so romantic.—Chicago Tribune.

First Society Baby—I met an old friend today—one I hadn't seen for months.
Second Society Baby—Indeed! Who was it?
First Society Baby—My mother.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Miss Hygee—I saw you at the concert last night. Did you notice how my voice completely filled the hall?
Miss Jellers—Yes, dear; it undoubtedly had much to do with drawing the crowd, though there was a good deal of public curiosity to hear the new orchestra and Miss Dearly, the wonderful harpist, you know.—Chicago Tribune.

"Young man," said Her Father, "do you smoke cigarettes?"
"I should say not!" declared the youth hastily. "I would consider it disgraceful to be seen with one of the vile things in my mouth. I think all cigarette smokers should be jailed. Why do you ask, sir?"
"Thought perhaps you could let me have one," said the old man, pointedly. "I smoke 'em myself."—Chicago Tribune.

Smoothleigh—Your daughter made a great hit with me!
Wise Father—I never knew a woman yet that could keep a secret! I told her not to let you know that I had any money.—Detroit Free Press.

FOREVER AND A DAY.

Thomas Bailey Aldrich.

I little know or care
If the blackbird on the bough
Is filling all the air
With soft crescendo now;
For she is gone away,
And when she went she took
The springtime in her look,
The peachblow on her cheek,
The laughter from the brook,
The blue from out the May—
And what she calls a week
Is forever and a day.

It's little that I mind
How the blossoms pink or white,
At every touch of wind
Fall a-trembling with delight;
For in the leafy lane,
Beneath the garden boughs,
And through the silent house
One thing alone I seek;
Until she come again
The May is not the May,
And what she calls a week
Is forever and a day!