

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of August, 1906. M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN: Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested.

All hail, Ak-Sar-Ben XII! Greatest of rulers over the land of Quivera, all hail!

Even Palma's patriotic ardor seems to have become exhausted when the appropriation failed.

In declaring that he is his own platform, Mr. Hearst has made the New York issue clear.

It having been officially declared that mince meat is not meat, the pure food law has another job cut out for it.

Let us all hope and pray that the airship may escape puncture while speeding through Omaha's aerial highways.

Needless to note that all the Hearst papers are giving the democratic nominee for governor of New York their undivided support.

With one girl dead and others badly shaken up, Ypsilanti should supply the conclusive argument against "frats" in high schools.

It is "up to" the Cubans to demonstrate just how much of self-government on the island is consistent with the preservation of order.

Kansas has begun a celebration in honor of Zebulon Pike. Colorado cannot have all the glory so long as that irrigation case is pending.

It goes without saying that local politics will have to remain largely in abeyance while the Ak-Sar-Ben carnival holds the right-of-way.

Scientists may prove by rule that there is no such thing as an "equinoxial" storm, but they will scarcely start the argument along the gulf this season.

Bourke Cockran's plea that he supports Hearst because he can't help it proves that Cockran is satisfied with one spanking at the hands of Tammany hall.

Secretary Taft now has another good reason to decline the position of justice of the United States supreme court, in his appointment as provisional governor of Cuba.

Senator Beveridge states a self-evident proposition when he says no tariff schedule is sacred, but he is probably willing to admit that they should not be changed just for fun.

The hunting season has a start on the foot ball season in the matter of casualties, but November will probably see the latter ahead if not too badly handicapped by the new rules.

So long as no fighting is expected in Cuba the present occupation may be considered an excellent opportunity for experimental practice by the commissary and quartermaster's department.

Foreign packers of meats sold in the United States stand in their own light. They will lose more through absence of government certificates than they will gain by not having to pay for them.

The deposits in Nebraska state banks have increased over \$48,000,000 in ten years. This does not include the deposits in National banks. That is in part a measure of republican prosperity.

A GREAT SHAM BATTLE.

In his special endorsement of Candidate Shallenberger as the gubernatorial nominee of Nebraska democrats Colonel Bryan's principal recommendation is that "he advocated the government ownership of railroads before I did."

Following this cue the democratic candidate is appealing on the stump for votes on the declaration that he is for government ownership of railroads, as if that were an issue in the campaign in this state this year.

The people of Nebraska, before they cast their ballots in November, will ask themselves seriously how professed adherence to the doctrine of government ownership is going to relieve them of present ills arising from railroad abuses.

If Candidate Shallenberger wants to be elected governor of Nebraska because he talks government ownership of railroads, why does he not tell whether he advocates ownership by the national government, as demanded by the populists, or whether he advocates national ownership of trunk lines only and state ownership of branches and feeders, as demanded by Colonel Bryan?

If he is for national ownership of railroads, then how can his election as governor promote or retard it? If he is for the Bryan program of national ownership of trunk lines and state ownership of branches and feeders, will he explain how he proposes to go about acquiring for the state the lines within state boundaries devoted chiefly to local traffic?

If Candidate Shallenberger were elected governor and should ask the railroads to fix the price at once for a bill of sale to the state, he would first have to get the money to tender them in consideration of the transfer. The people of Nebraska are now taxing themselves an extra 1 mill every year to sink a floating debt. They are prohibited by their state constitution from borrowing more than \$100,000 in time of peace.

The attempt to inject the government ownership proposition into the campaign of Nebraska this year is simply in keeping with the democratic practice of fighting sham battles. The real railroad issue in Nebraska is not government ownership, but strict regulation and repression of railroad abuses. The issue includes the eradication of bribery by the distribution of free passes, the abolition of discriminatory rates and rebates and concessions of all kinds, and compulsion of the railroads to pay their taxes at the same time and in the same manner as other taxpayers.

On these issues the republican standard bearer is absolutely straight. The democratic candidate may, like Don Quixote, charge in full tilt upon the windmills, but the common sense people of Nebraska can see through the sham and the fraud.

POSTAL SAVINGS BANKS. In the growing agitation in favor of postal saving banks the important fact has so far been overlooked that the government has already gone far in laying the foundation for such a system. It is, of course, familiar knowledge that all money order postoffices, of which there are tens of thousands, are banks of exchange selling both domestic and international drafts for a small fee. It is not so well known, but it is nevertheless a fact, that all money order postoffices have long been and are within a hair's breadth of being banks of deposit.

For the effect of an executive rule put in force about five years ago, authorizing money orders payable at the office of issue, is that an unlimited amount of money may be deposited at a postoffice payable to the order of the depositor himself substantially the same as at any bank, except for the small money order fee. Though a money order expires in one year from its date, it can either be renewed or transmuted without cost into a treasury warrant which will be cashed on demand at the postoffice or any bank. And, in fact, an increasing amount of funds is being deposited at money order postoffices as knowledge of the right to do so spreads, money orders for thousands of dollars being now annually issued by the postoffice at Omaha and all other cities.

Practically the only thing now required to make every postoffice a bank of deposit as well as of exchange is the petty detail of abolishing the small money order fee. The only further alteration required to transform postoffices into savings banks, so far as their relation to the public is concerned, is to add payment of interest on deposits. The change necessary for the latter is no greater than that which was actually effected by the executive order making all money order postoffices virtually banks of deposit.

The machinery for conducting a savings bank as well as a bank of deposit and exchange is in the main already in existence and operation at the postoffice in every city and considerable town in the United States. The postoffice facilities in all places of 5,000 population and upwards, including the officials and the regular system for receiving and paying and accounting to the government that have long since been employed in the operations of the money order department are the same as those that would carry it on if the detail of savings deposits should be added, and no great increase even of clerical force would be needed.

The policy of the government with

respect to disposal of savings deposits under such a system, as to which, however, there are numerous precedents in other countries which long have had postal savings banks, is another matter. But the very general assumption that inclusion of the savings function in our postal system necessarily involves elaborate, radical and costly changes of governmental machinery is quite unfounded.

AK-SAR-BEN. Ak-Sar-Ben has come to be more than a name. It is now an institution and belongs to the people of the wonderful fertile region of which Omaha is the natural commercial outlet. It is supported by the business men of Omaha, irrespective of line, and is to be participated in by all the world. But the people of the country around Omaha have come to regard the autumnal festivities that attend the celebration of his coronation by the good King Ak-Sar-Ben as being as much of a fixed feature of the recurrence of Christmas and New Years.

It is a coincidence worthy of note that ever since the establishment of Ak-Sar-Ben the region round about Omaha has been bountifully blessed with full crop yields. This has insured the material prosperity of the people, and the carnival and pageants have brought them to the city in the season of their rejoicing. It is gratifying that the present season has been noteworthy, even among a series of notable years, for its abundant harvests and for its indications of continued peace and plenty in the land. Omaha was never in better condition to welcome visitors or to invite inspection. Every external evidence of industrial and commercial activity is to be observed, and the generally inviting appearance of the city in every quarter betokens the prosperity of its citizens.

All hail! King Ak-Sar-Ben XII! May his reign be no less serene and beneficent than that of his predecessors. And a most cordial welcome to all his subjects who journey to his city to do him honor during the week.

MISSOURI RIVER NAVIGATION.

The arrival of a large cargo by steambot at Kansas City from St. Louis, which has been widely hailed as marking the beginning of restoration of the Missouri river as an efficient means of transportation, may indeed have such significance. Without doubt the developments of the last two decades during which river navigation has been practically suspended and superseded by the iron roads have at length created local opportunity and demand for its resumption, but they do not account fully for the serious study that is being given in important quarters to river navigation and to artificial waterways where natural water transportation is not available.

For several years the tendency of railroad freight charges, outside of the force of water competition, has been upward, reversing the record of a long previous period, and that tendency has indeed probably been accentuated in unprotected territory by water competition outside of it. So important and unescapable is the water factor that the original interstate commerce act in 1889 expressly exempted, within the discretion of the commission, from the operation of its crucial long and short haul provision railroad charges affected by water borne competition, thus profoundly complicating the interests of rival freight centers according as they were related to the two kinds of transportation. That condition has been rendered only more important by the subsequent course of events, by present advancing freight rates and by the recently elaborate and radical amendments to the national railroad law.

At bottom of the serious steambot movement at Kansas City, therefore, is the fundamental interest of Kansas City shippers, and this it is, rather than mere local river bank freights, that gives importance to the subject. It touches equally the interests of every other important Missouri river commercial center within the reliable stretch of navigable water, and it is an interest which, opening up a prospect of restoration of efficient water competition in transportation, calls for most serious consideration.

GROWING IMPORTANCE OF WHEAT. One of the notable agricultural facts is the increasing attention given to the wheat crop, not only within the corn belt, where for years there was a tendency to neglect it, but also in the distinctive small grain regions. Under improved methods and ruling prices for a series of years wheat has proved one of the most profitable crops even in the old settled eastern portion of Nebraska, while its possibilities have been one of the main propelling causes of the extraordinary movement of farmers westward into the sub-humid region in the United States and the vast expanses of the Canadian northwest. Yet there has been a marked concurrent tendency of wheat exports to fall off.

An analysis of the facts covering twenty-seven years demonstrates a steady increase of domestic consumption, amounting in the aggregate to 40 per cent, while population has increased only 30 per cent, which goes far to explain the hitherto puzzling results, whether as regards prices, production or exports. For it appears by comparison of five-year periods that the per capita wheat consumption from 1879 to 1884 was 4.84 bushels, from 1889 to 1894 5.03 bushels, and from 1901 to 1906 5.64 bushels. Just why consumption should so rapidly increase over so long a period in the face of advancing prices, since there have been practically no new uses in

addition to that of human food, is not made clear, but the fact of such increase is established beyond a peradventure. This fact, too, raises the strong presumption that the same tendency will assert itself indefinitely in the future, making a firm basis for agricultural calculations. Excepting advancing land values and wages, the cost of producing wheat under improved methods of seed selection and cultivation has in the main been materially reduced and is known to be capable of much further reduction. This is particularly true in Nebraska with respect to transportation through competition of new routes to central markets, so that this grain, instead of being excluded from the list of chief farm products, as seemed possible not many years ago, is destined to a more important place than it ever held as a permanent source of wealth.

BANK DIRECTORS AND EXAMINERS. There will be emphatic and warranted protest against the assertion which William B. Ridgely, comptroller of the currency, insisted on before the Pennsylvania Bankers' association, "that there can be no justification in blaming the bank examiners when the crash comes through dishonest management," and that "the only guarantee of safety for a bank is the vigilance of the directors in watching the officers and checking up their accounts and supervising their methods." There is, indeed, no objection to insistence upon the importance of the duty of bank directors, which is vital and which has lately been illustrated by numerous criminal crashes. It is also true that except from rare causes there can be no good excuse for the failure of a bank or trust company if the board of directors do their full legal and moral duty. But none the less, it is fallacious and vicious, especially on the part of the comptroller of the currency, to whom the national bank examiners are subordinates, either to exonerate them from blame or to depreciate their responsibility? It is the bank examiner's duty, without which there is absolutely no reason for his existence, to examine and report the facts for the information of the government and the protection of the public. The government stands charged with the obligation to know whether a bank's board of directors is guarding all interests under the law against the incompetency, dishonesty or fraud of any of its members or of the executive officers and employes, and the examiner is the special and almost the sole means of such knowledge. It is, indeed, important that directors do their duty individually and as a body, but it is not less important that the examiner by doing his duty shall discover and make known the default before it ripens in disaster to depositors and stockholders.

The demonstrated and dangerous fact is that too many boards of bank directors do not direct, though generally intending no harm, neglecting or abdicating their functions to the mercy of some officer or employe, with the inevitable frequent result, against which the examiner then becomes the sole protection; that the bank is ruined before even danger is suspected. Experience admonishes that, both directorial control and official examination are remiss and ineffective, and that the latter especially is in crying need of reform and reinvigoration. The law without doubt is defective, but all developments indicate that there is as much room for reform through administrative rigor, so that examiners shall examine whether directors direct and precisely how they direct, as through new legislative remedies.

Has anyone called your attention to the unusual activity of professional and amateur sportsmen pursuing the game and the fish this season? Plainly more hunting and fishing expeditions are abroad in the land right now than at any corresponding time in previous years. Of course, it would be impugning the spirit of true sportsmanship to suggest that the alms and anglers are imbued with a desire to make use of available free transportation and inspired with a fear that free travel will not be forthcoming next year, when the various rate bills and anti-pass laws will be in full force. It is safe to predict, at all events, that the nearby hunting ground and fishing stream will hereafter become much more popular than the far distant game preserve and fish reservoir, to reach which will require an outlay of cold cash rather than a pull with a railway official.

Mr. Hearst's platform declaration that he believes "in the restraint and regulation of trusts and monopolies by law," collides with Colonel Bryan's platform declaration that there is no such thing as regulating monopoly and that all monopolies must be completely expunged. Mr. Hearst also proclaims his belief "in the protective principle," while Colonel Bryan denounces a tariff for protection as robbery. A few little discrepancies like these, however, do not seem to prevent Colonel Bryan from swallowing the Hearst nomination.

An alleged milk trust is the latest to be referred to the coming grand jury. If that jury investigates all the combinations and agreements which have boosted prices on the consumers, its members will be busier than the man with a Waterbury watch.

The official report on the disastrous wreck of the special steamer train from Plymouth to London, in which so many Americans lost their lives, charges the cause up to excessive

speed far above the legal limit. This is enlightening information, but it will not have half the precautionary effect as will the drafts on the treasury of the British railroad company to pay the damages to the injured victims or their heirs.

In declaring that it is "neither for nor against municipal ownership," the League of American Municipalities seems to have perfectly reflected the attitude of the average American citizen who is not ready to decide.

Between the lawyer who "chases the ambulance" to secure a damage suit and the claim agent who follows the same course to prevent one, the local bar association seems to "stand between love and duty" with no binding decision in sight.

The statement that a strict enforcement of the new rate law will increase the printing bills of each railroad company ten times may be taken with a grain of salt until the bills are presented, since publicity is the chief aim of the law.

The army is having trouble securing sufficient good horses for the cavalry arm of the service, even at greatly advanced prices. This would not indicate the automobile had made any inroads on the domain of the horse.

A Stupendous Task. Brooklyn Eagle. The task imposed upon the Pure Food commission under the new law is stupendous, but there are indications that the members of that body propose to see the new law impartially enforced. It is time.

Pictures on the Label. Washington Post. The ruling that hereafter no picture which gives any false indication of origin or quality shall be used on any labels by the packers is bound to stop the practice of giving away photographs of actors with sugar cured hams.

Texas Idol Shattered. Kansas City Star. Nothing could better illustrate the corroding influence of Standard Oil upon the moral and mental fiber of public servants than this declension of Senator Bailey to a defense that is half buncombe and half evasion—and wholly pitiful.

Thieves Fall Out. Chicago Record-Herald. In the opinion of Stensland, Cushman Herling is a very wicked man. Mr. Herling, on the other hand, gives it as his opinion that Stensland is a villain. Unfortunately the falling out of these thieves didn't happen early enough to insure the protection of some thousands of honest men.

Government Ownership and Banks. Chicago News. Government ownership may be a frightful thing to contemplate, as several speakers told the bankers' convention, but there are scattered through the country many ex-depositors in banks which have ceased to exist who think they could view government savings banks with considerable equanimity.

LOWER RAILROAD RATES PAY. Greatly Increased Business Follow Reduced Fares. New York World. When the New Haven Railroad company reduced its passenger rate to 2 cents a mile the officials estimated that there would be a loss of about \$700,000 a year in gross receipts. The reduced rate, which affects nine-tenths of the system, has been in operation several months, and instead of the predicted reduction there is an increase in gross earnings. Lower fares have given the company enough new business to more than make good the lessened profit on each fare.

When the Michigan Central charter was repealed and a 2-cent rate fixed by the legislature the company brought suit against the state of Michigan for \$5,000,000. By the time the case got before the courts the receipts already showed a large increase in passenger earnings. Instead of losing by the repeal of a charter which gave it the right to charge 3 cents a mile the Michigan Central had actually benefited.

The recent reductions in fare on the Pennsylvania were made in a confident business belief that there would be more profit for the company in carrying people for less money. Other companies are planning similar reductions.

Next five years will witness unprecedented reductions in passenger fares. Railroad managers are coming to understand the simple scientific principle that there is more money in doing a large business with a small margin of profit on each transaction than in doing a small business with a large margin of profit on each transaction.

GOOD AND ILL IN NEWSPAPERS. Doctors Disagree and Patient Worries Along as usual. New York World. Newspapers are the latest subject of disagreement among the doctors. At home we have Professor Frederick Peterson of Columbia university, declaring that the habit of daily newspaper reading leads to mental deterioration, while in London there is Sir James Crichton-Browne pronouncing decidedly that "the newspaper with all its faults is one of the bulwarks of sanity."

It is Dr. Peterson's theory that the man over his daily paper, scanning the headlines, reading a bit here and there, gathering a disorderly array of unstable impressions, is affecting his brain by wearing out "the faculty of the tissues for permanent registration." He is cultivating "the art of forgetting" and is subjecting his mentality to the peril of assault by "innumerable concepts utterly incoherent as to their elements and consciousness."

Many a man, says Dr. Crichton-Browne, "has been saved from melancholy and fatuity by his daily paper." The news sheet is "the antidote to corrosive egotism and gives a world-wide horizon to the purblind and shortsighted." Undoubtedly there are victims of too little news, but the question of the process of events all through a man's life, which of us remembers everything that happens to him or to those under his eye, to the minutest detail, day after day? Which of us would care to be burdened with a memory that should let nothing get away, from the trivial to the tremendous?

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PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. The great peril of the Cuban situation is that it may put Havana cigars in the 5-cent class.

One William Travers Jerome realizes that there is more truth than poetry in the song, "Put Me Off at Buffalo."

Banker Stensland can speak seven languages, but his audience is not such as will promote linguistic exercise.

A Philadelphia man strangled himself by wearing a celluloid collar. For promptness celluloid seems to have the edge on brass neckwear.

Automobilists are enthusiastically in favor of the federal government putting \$20,000,000 into a good road between Chicago and New York.

A young man in Chicago who persisted in marrying the sister of two big brothers received a pair of black eyes as a wedding present. The bride got one.

The Oregon land fraud prosecution is playing havoc with shady lawyers. Four have been convicted of conspiracy and

perjury, eight more have been indicted and await trial, and three are slated for disbarment. And the government drag net is still busy.

Casale Chadwick has concluded to serve out her ten-year sentence without further effort for a new trial. Ohio bankers are thus relieved of considerable worry.

To show its zeal for the rate law and to confound critics, the Boston & Maine railroad has abolished the annual free junkets provided for stockholders and their relatives.

Mrs. Russell Sage settled for \$700,000, will contest that would have cost a million. The family traits survive the late lamented, in carrying out plans for "the city beautiful" in St. Louis, the man in charge has been informed by interested parties that a railroad track or two with bustling trains would materially enhance the picturesque charms of Forest park. Strange to say, the suggestion hasn't called out a responsive cheer. It wasn't presented properly.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES. "So," said one of the guests at the wedding of Mr. Roxley's daughter, "your house loses a daughter today." "Huh!" snorted the old man, "I don't know yet whether the house loses a daughter or merely gains a son-in-law." Philadelphia Record.

Diamonds and Watches On Credit

Never before were such bargains in the jewelry line placed before the Omaha public as I am offering you now. If you are wise you'll invest now—next year these gems will bring double the price. Take advantage of my liberal credit plan. Open evenings all this week.

A Dollar or Two a Week Will Do.

This Diamond Ring \$20. A nice white stone—in a solid gold mounting—suitable for lady or gentleman—is yours in a few weeks time at the rate of \$1.00 a Week.

This Gentleman's Handsome Gold Filled Watch Only \$12.50. \$1.00 a Week.

This Diamond Ring \$30. A large pure white stone—in a Tiffany mounting—would make a dandy engagement ring—why not buy it now and pay me \$1.50 a Week.

New thin model—warranted for twenty years—17 jewels—Choice of Waltham or Elgin movements—Charge it if you wish.

This Diamond Ring \$25. A pure water gem—just the size that satisfies—you'll like it, if you see it—it will be worth double in a year. It's yours for \$1.25 a Week.

Choice of Waltham or Elgin movements—Charge it if you wish.

Spectacles and Eye Glasses on Payments

MANDELBERG OMAHA LEADING JEWELER. 15-22 BARNHARTS.

SERMONS BOILED DOWN.

The ready made religion always looks the part. There is nothing holier than everyday helpfulness. Faith never would know itself but for foul weather. A passion for speaking seldom is a passion for souls. You cannot elevate society at the price of the individual.

The strain of the market should be the gain of good morality. The man who can keep his religion to himself hasn't any to keep. There never will be a closed town until there is a wide open church. He who does not get his education from everything gets it from nothing. A man who knows himself too well to think he wholly is self-made. Religion never will be attractive so long as it only offers easy things to men. No man worships the divine better than he who works for the poor old man.

This world is enriched not by the laurels you lay on the strong, but by the loads you lift from the weak.—Chicago Tribune.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PELPIT.

Washington Post: The Scranton people who forced their clergyman to resign because he attended base ball games would probably be delighted to have a Pittsburgh millionaire present them with a new pipe organ. Brooklyn Eagle: John Murray denied hell from a New Jersey pulpit 136 years ago, thereby creating a panic. So well are they getting used to the idea of this deprivation, that some ministers are even questioning heaven.

Philadelphia Record: Forty years ago the Sioux were unreclaimed savages. Their name was a terror like that of the Apaches at a more recent date. Ten thousand Christian Indians are now attending the convocation of the Episcopal church on the Santee reservation. Most of them are Sioux, and some of them have traveled 200 miles to attend the convention. All those from distant points are being entertained by the Santee Sioux. It is a splendid result of missions to the Indians.

Boston Transcript: Bishop McCabe would like to have the United States war on Turkey "on general principles." He would like to see every steam through the Dardanelles and knock the Sultanate to pieces. Such was the burden of Bishop McCabe's discourse before the Detroit Methodist Episcopal conference at Lansing yesterday. If one of the ulama should preach at Constantinople that the short and simple way for preventing the United States pestering the sultan about the rights of naturalized citizens was to levy war on Americans, what preachment on ulmanian fanaticism would come from the American press and pulpit.

SEEING AMERICA.

Wallace Irwin in Life. He never really saw a town. From Maine to "Frisco bay." The hills were merely streaks of brown. The cities streaks of gray. Save when he slowed down for the night or took on gasoline. The rivers were a blur of light. The woods a dash of green. A passing hawk a splash, a size—Was that Niagara? Toot! through New York, then whang! and through Philadelphia.

Chicago like a dusty daze. Ruled by and faded hence. He saw the buildings in a haze. Like pickets on a fence. "Alphonse, Alphonse!" at last he cried. "What was you blur we saw?" "I think that it was Great Salt Lake, Or maybe Omaha."

"What are those streaks of black and white? All mixed with blue and green?" The chauffeur skidded to the right. And when at last the tour was done, The chauffeur and the yan They sat them down at set of sun To draw an auto map. Wherein their native land they showed As out there was a blot. A hyphenated country road Between a dash and dot.

Fall Announcement 1906. We are now displaying a most complete line of foreign novelties for fall and winter wear. Your early inspection is invited, as it will afford an opportunity of choosing from a large number of exclusive styles. We import in "Single suit length" and a suit cannot be duplicated. An order placed now may be delivered at your convenience. Guckert & McDonald TAILORS 317 South 15th St.