

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss. I, Charles C. Rosewater, general manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, depose and say that the actual number of copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of December, 1906, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Copies, Paid, Total. Rows 1-18 showing circulation data for various days and totals.

Net total, \$73,149. Daily average, \$1,219.1. CHARLES C. ROSEWATER, General Manager.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 18th day of December, 1906. (Seal.) M. B. 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.

With the senatorship settled and off their hands, Nebraska lawmakers have no further excuse for falling to buckle down to business.

Remarks by Nebraska editors make it certain that Senator Brown will be compelled to surprise some people no matter what he does.

The suggestion that "the entire race question" be investigated by the senate evidences the desire of that body to keep "unfinished business" on hand.

Chancellor Day of Syracuse is not going to be forgotten when endowment funds are being passed around, but some day he may overshoot the mark.

As long as "contract cotton" is not fit for cloth, the brokers may continue to weave schemes with it without taking any valuable staple from the market.

In sentencing two men to hang for killing a Japanese banker, California proves that it recognizes a difference between the islanders and natives of China.

Congressmen who voted to increase their own salaries will now have to demonstrate that they are worth the money. Actions speak louder than words.

Railroad engineers may come to consider absence of signal where one is expected a more imperative demand to stop than a red light in the middle of the track.

It begins to look as if the late candidacy of William Randolph Hearst for governor of New York threatened to land him in the office of mayor of New York City.

The attitude of the California legislature on the Japanese school question indicates that the shock of the "big stick" covered a wider area than that of the earthquake.

If the government establishes the contention that bank officials cannot "unload" questionable securities on their banks it may be a tip to states whose resolutions on the subject are hazy.

Wall street speculators are said to be agitated over the report that railroad earnings are to go into improvements rather than into dividends, but the patrons of the roads can survive the shock.

If Mayor McClellan finds himself unable to get a New York City judge to declare the new attorney general in contempt of court, relations between the bench and the city hall will be shown to be beyond question on a new basis.

It remains to be seen whether the same bunch of rebate shippers who went to the front for the railroads against the rate regulation bill previous to its enactment by congress, will again go to the front for the railroads against regulation legislation proposed at Lincoln.

Nebraska railroad tax cases are to be argued before the supreme court of the United States this week. The railroads have lost out each time the cases have been tried in the lower courts and should they lose again they will probably have learned a lesson that will last them a little while.

CONSTITUTION REVISION.

The adoption of the constitutional amendment creating a state railway commission submitted to the voters at the last election seems to open the way for the long delayed and urgently needed revision of the Nebraska constitution. Our experience with this amendment proves conclusively that it is possible to secure the required majority at the polls provided the amendment proposed is acceptable to all the great political parties and evokes no serious opposition from any large body of voters.

With this situation clearly before us, the plan for a constitutional revision commission embodied in the bill introduced by Senator Aldrich should receive immediate and favorable consideration at the hands of the legislature. This plan contemplates the appointment by the governor of five commissioners to meet at once and go over the constitution with a view to finding its defects and bringing it thoroughly up to date. It provides that not more than three members of the commission shall be affiliated with any one political party, thus giving the minority ample representation, and provides further that no amendment be reported to the legislature for submission except by unanimous agreement of all the commissioners.

The commission plan would give us the services of our ablest lawyers in drafting the desired amendments. If men of the highest rank were put upon this commission, such for example as ex-Senator Allen, former Judge Sullivan, former Attorney General Smyth or W. H. Thompson to represent the democrats and populists, and H. H. Baldrige, John L. Webster, E. J. Hainer, Allen W. Field or John C. Cowin to represent the republicans, the work would not only be speedily and efficiently performed, but it ought to command acquiescence at once of members of the legislature irrespective of partisanship and later secure without opposition the endorsement of the different political parties, without which ratification would be impossible.

Where the constitution is really defective or has been notoriously outgrown in the thirty years that it has remained practically unaltered, there should be no difficulty in reaching unanimity among men of this caliber as to what changes should now be made. At the same time, all propositions which would involve us in rancor and contention would be barred out from the start.

To bring about the desired result the proposed constitutional revision commission bill must be hurried through the legislature in order to hasten the appointment of the commission. Nothing but utmost expedition of the bill would give the commissioners time to examine the constitution critically and formulate the desired amendments before the forty-day limit for the introduction of bills expires so that the present legislature may pass upon the commission's report and set in motion the machinery for submission and adoption. If the legislature now in session will do this it will make at least one record that will become historic, and it will receive a good share of the credit for securing to Nebraska a revised constitution for lack of which it is grievously suffering.

IS LIFE WORTH LIVING?

"I early became convinced," wrote the late J. B. Kitchen, in his self-prepared funeral address, "that it was a serious matter, if not a real misfortune, to be born into the world." In effect, this is but a revival of the ever-old, always new question: "Is life worth living?" a problem that has been kept alive throughout the ages, challenging the attention and discussion from the Hottentot in South Africa to the robed priest of our most advanced civilization. The halting logic of one and the acquired wisdom of the other have been brought to bear upon the problem and both have left the solution, where it must remain, with each individual.

The world will not hesitate, however, to return an emphatically affirmative answer to the question. If the problem ended with the cradle, the joy of motherhood and the pride of paternity, with the betterment of mankind that follows their manifestation, would be justification sufficient for bringing new lives into the world, regardless of the future of such lives. But life is worth living for the child. The sunshine, the flowers, the birds and the world's love are the natural heritage of children and every day is brightened and better by the laugh of a happy child, the laugh that makes dimples in enough cheeks to catch and to hold and to glorify all the tears of grief.

It is difficult to understand how the man of mature years can hesitate as to the answer he should return to this perpetual question. As co-heir in the estate of achievements of all the ages, he has his part to play, his fight to make in adding to the sum of human progress and happiness, not only for his own enjoyment, but for the pleasure and advancement of those who will succeed him. Pessimists may continue to wall against fate and muck-rakers to find fault with existing conditions, but the average man will still go forward, making every effort to better his equipment for his battle of life, finding strength with each obstacle overcome, reveling in the very joy of life, with his face to the sunlight, keeping step with the progress of the nations.

When his life account is balanced, the average man invariably will have been found to have received more from the world's stock of human happiness than he has paid in griefs and disappointments. Assuredly, the ques-

tion must be answered in the affirmative. Life is worth living.

SALARY GRAB TRICKERY.

By the tricky injection of the amendment for a 50 per cent salary increase for congressmen into the legislative appropriation bill the house confirms the bad impression of its previous action in this matter. That body is on record at this session as voting down this identical proposition. Its action cannot be sincere in both cases.

The reports rife at the time the original bill was up in the house raised suspicion of a discreditable purpose to make show of opposition to the increase, throwing over onto the senate, whose responsibility to the people is not so direct, the burden of giving it an advantageous place in the appropriation. It is a trick not unusual in parliamentary sharp practice. To pretend to reject the grab when the roll is called and then to sanction it anonymously and underhand on a yea and nay vote is self-evident trifling.

In a word, the public issue under the circumstances is not on the merits of salary increase, which is always a delicate matter when the beneficiaries for the most part are themselves the donors. In this case the matter had not even been thoroughly discussed in public, but rather held back till the term of the present congress was within a few weeks of expiration. The paramount question is the evasive and disingenuous treatment of the public. If it were a good end the method used is so bad as to invite condemnation.

There is only one proper disposal of the whole business, namely, for congress to take the constituents first into their confidence. If conditions really call for a salary increase the people would readily give their sanction and the matter might be dealt with squarely and above board.

THE WORLD'S RELIEF RESPONSE.

Within a year the world has answered numerous special calls upon its sympathies and generous impulses, and the response has been full of encouragement for the optimist. The Kingston catastrophe is a new and notable case. The spontaneous efforts for relief show that the wellsprings of generosity have not been exhausted or diminished by the recent immense drafts upon it in like emergencies at San Francisco and Valparaiso. They have on the contrary rather been stimulated and enlarged by those very experiences which impress the dire need and utter helplessness of great communities thus stricken.

Selfish interest does not explain incidents like the universal uprising to aid the Kingston victims, which is as quick in remote as in nearby localities, among strangers and foreigners, as among the sufferers' own people. The result is not perhaps altogether due to sheer growth of humane spirit. Facilities for communication have brought the whole world incomparably closer together than they were only a generation or two ago, so that appalling calamity becomes now real at distances where it could not then have been heard of or from which relief could not be made effective. But certainly humane feeling and world brotherhood have been vastly developed as the horizon has broadened.

Modern means of distributing loss by insurance and innumerable other forms of regular associated effort have accomplished much to improve the average lot, and in no small measure they, too, reflect a genuine and rational philanthropy. But they are utterly inadequate to the overwhelming needs of a Kingston or a San Francisco catastrophe. The consciousness that the utmost that all can bestow is imperatively called for is what sets every official or private energy in motion on the instant. In the present emergency it is gratifying that our own government and people are foremost to help a grievously hurt community upon another flag. We have no monopoly of generous instinct, but the precedent is honorable and creditable.

SPOONER AND TILLMAN.

No utterance delivered in the senate during this session has been better received by the enlightened sentiment of the country than Spooner's condemnation of Tillman. The rebuke is the more effective because judicial rather than vituperative. It is opportune because the vogue of the South Carolina senator, though it has offended intelligent men with a species of coarse sensationalism and anarchism, has caused imitation and produced a new type of politician in the south. To controvert, even with parliamentary courtesy, the dangerous sentiments which Tillman from the first, and more frequently of late, has expressed on the floor of the senate and in promiscuous public addresses, was to invite the vengeance of his unlicensed tongue and to provoke wilder excesses, and many of our public men have undoubtedly been deterred by this reason from vigorously combatting him to his face. But especially with reference to lynching and the relations of the black and white races, his incendiary and lawless spirit has already done incalculable harm.

The problem of race adjustment may be peculiarly one for the south, in parts of which the blacks are so densely massed. But even there the only true solvents must be justice and right law, all of which Tillman in his public character as a United States senator ostentatiously and contemptuously tramples on. If such is not his real purpose his public record is that of a trifler, a panderer to vicious instincts and passions, more offensive than if he were merely a furious fanatic.

If the standards of public morality

and propriety are to be vindicated at all, the spirit which Tillman defiantly represents is occasion for their stern assertion. There must be response in the south among the educated, worthy and well meaning people and also among those who are taking part in its notable industrial development. Injustice and insecurity for the color-marked part of the population are obviously and utterly incompatible with the peace and well-being of the whole, and regard for self-interest, as well as for human rights, cannot too soon move the south and the whole country to repudiate Tillmanism in all its repulsive phases.

THE JAPANESE SCHOOL CASES.

The suits now formally brought by the United States place in due course of settlement the questions arising under California law from the segregation of Japanese pupils in the San Francisco public schools. A question of fact and a more important constitutional question are involved. The national government maintains that exclusion of the Japanese from the grade schools attended by whites is in contravention of treaty guaranteeing to them all rights and privileges under the familiar most-favored-nation clause, which is a point made by the Japanese themselves.

But the chief interest is in the extent of the treaty power under the constitution which has never yet been definitely bounded. If the supreme court should hold segregation to be in violation of the treaty, still the validity of the treaty itself and the power of the national government to enforce it in such matters against state and municipal laws remain for determination. This is indeed one of the oldest controverted points of constitutional construction, and as the number of foreign residents multiply its importance must increase. If treaty force is limited by the "reserved rights" of the several states, the national government must obviously be powerless to enforce against local opposition and violation the obligations usually carried by treaties among the great civilized nations. Sooner or later some remedy would have to be devised, because just grievances are not to be inflicted on subjects of foreign nations resident here.

Back of constitutional construction, however, is the offense to Japanese pride involved in what appears to them prejudiced discrimination, whether the San Francisco school regulation be held technically within the treaty or not. What really stirs indignation is probably rather numerous instances of hoodlum persecution and outrage, not a few of which are collected in Secretary Metcalf's report, the school law being only the occasion selected for diplomatic action. The substantial basis for tolerable relations must be public sentiment reflected through local public authority, insuring justice and equal protection at least in the common rights of humanity. If this should fail, as it has already too often failed, remedies must be found through national authority under penalty of infinite trouble and disaster.

IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION.

The ultra immigration restrictionists will never rest satisfied until they shall have surrounded the United States with an insurmountable wall through which no foreign-born immigrant will be allowed to pass. Pending that time they are bending every effort to lay the foundation for their wall of exclusion and build it constantly higher and higher. Every American citizen, barring the aboriginal Indians, must trace his ancestry back to some foreign-born immigrant, and were it not for the liberal policy pursued during the first century of our existence toward recruits from abroad this country would never have grown to its present greatness and prosperity. No one contends that we should not exclude newcomers who are undesirable because of criminality, pauperism or dependence, but our present laws cover all these points with rigid stringency. The proposal now made to go further than ever before and vest examining boards with authority to reject immigrants on so-called evidence of "low vitality" would set up an unheard-of test of fitness and give practically autocratic power to immigration officials.

The people of the United States, and especially of the great west, are eager to welcome any well-intentioned, able-bodied immigrant willing to work to better his condition. They have great undeveloped resources, which require labor as well as capital to exploit, and they are ready to share opportunities with those who have been less favored in European countries and who at best have serious obstacles to overcome when they set out afresh in a new country and among neighbors who speak a strange language. Our lawmakers at Washington should understand this and keep it in mind when besetted to raise the wall of exclusion still higher.

It turns out that not only is the State Fair board asking for a perpetual eighth of a mill levy appropriation, but that the normal school boosters are also lying in wait with a mill levy proposition to provide unlimited funds indefinitely for their institutions. The success of the state fair and of the normal schools in getting special taxes imposed for their exclusive benefit would be immediately followed by propositions for similar levies for the penitentiary, the insane asylum, the soldiers' homes, reform schools and every other state institution receiving bounty from the legislature. The camel who poked his nose under the Arab's tent and finally worked his head in, then his neck and his hump, evicting

his master, would not be in it compared with the state institution lobbyists after special appropriations, if they were allowed to have their own way unhindered.

A divergence of opinion is promised as to proposed measures to define the duties of the State Railway commission created under the newly adopted amendment to the constitution of Nebraska. Congress has recently passed an act giving authority to the Interstate Commerce commission over interstate traffic, and the legislature will not go far amiss if it keeps close to that law in delegating powers to the State Railway commission with reference to traffic within state boundaries.

North Carolina has a word to say when the child labor bill is mentioned as a democratic party measure—and a few other southern states are as practical, if not as loud, in their indifference to the subject.

When the casualties of the year 1907 are tabulated first place as assistant to the grim reaper will lie between railroads and earthquakes, with the former still several points ahead north of the tropics.

A reliable authority declares that "most railway accidents are preventable." If that is so, every preventable accident resulting in loss of life means that someone is guilty of culpable negligence.

Getting a Few Pointers.

By the time it gets through with its investigations the Interstate Commerce commission will know how to run a few railroads itself.

Close Watch Ahead.

From the falling off of the number of railroad accidents lately, it appears that the engineers are taking the trouble to look at their signals.

Ought to Feel at Home.

As the new senator from Kansas is a descendant of an Indian chief, it is to be presumed that he will feel thoroughly at home in the powwows in the big wigwag on the Potomac.

Theory and Practice.

Jim Hill is certain that the railroads are swamped with business, but these are the same railroads that were giving rebates in order to get more business until the government made them quit.

Needless Uneasiness.

The fear entertained in some quarters that the country will be injured by too much prosperity need not cause any general uneasiness. Mr. Bryan is always available as a sure remedy for any trouble of that nature.

Bothing the Job.

For years the south has been begging to be allowed to settle the race question in its own way. No one has been interfering with it of late, but somehow it does not appear to be making a glowing success of its settlement plans.

Getting Together.

President Roosevelt appropriates the money received from the Nobel prize for use in promoting industrial peace. President Gompers turns away from the field of industrial struggle to that of peace and war among the nations. Each president seems bound to get into the territory of the other.

Company for All Seasons.

May be it is just as well to have several different kinds of ambassadors. After the president has enjoyed a steeplechase with Speckie and knocked Jussard all over the court he may enjoy a wash-up and a gallop through the sagas of Ireland with James Bryce.

Somewhat Muddled.

Does the statement that has appeared in dispatches to a number of newspapers that the lowest bid on Panama canal work was 6 1/2 per cent of the cost mean that it was 62 1/2 per cent of the estimated cost? If not, what does it mean? Of course, it can not be a correct statement and it conveys not the faintest idea of truth.

Prefers a Friendly Eye.

Senator Bailey is willing to be investigated, but wants to prescribe the lines on which the investigation shall be conducted. He doesn't want "anarchists" and "socialists" running amok with his record and hopelessly confusing his political, politico-legal, plain legal, legal-financial and other manifold activities as a promoter and statesman.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

It is safe to prophesy that the sun is shining somewhere.

All accounts agree that a policeman's job in Kansas is not a joyous one.

With Bailey and Brownville shaking regularly, Texas elbows up to Jamaica on the front page.

Reports from European health resorts show weather conditions uncommonly enticing for Americans threatened with the interstate commerce probe.

San Francisco views with varying emotions the reports of tremors in various parts of the world and exclaims, "I'm not so lonesome—there are others."

The fashion for beards promoted by the governor of New York is becoming dangerously popular in the empire state. Barbers are already honing their razors for a few cutting remarks in the next campaign.

The heroic rescuers of the steamer Ponce did not forget the business end of the game while hauling the disabled steamer to port. A little bill for \$30,000 salvage has been handed in by the rescuers, who prefer coins to have medals.

The Pennsylvania state capital contractor will look like bargain rushers beside the New Yorkers out for the new court house job. The site is estimated to cost \$5,000,000 and the building any old sum in the millions. Prosperity and job lots are comrades.

A cross-examination of witnesses in a New York court conducted by a man temporarily released from an insane asylum was pronounced by experts to equal the standard of the sane article. All the same the court sent the cross-examiner back to the padded cell.

On striving to determine what constitutes a meal in Sunday saloon hotels a New York court went far enough to say that a sawdust with galvanized covers, hitched to a table, "did not constitute elements needed to satisfy an honest appetite." But the sandwich fetched the best every time.



GIVE A DIAMOND FOR A VALENTINE

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SERMONS BOILED DOWN.

Loves of the law finds liberty in the law. The way to keep friends is to keep faith. The sleeping church always awakes to shame.

Scratch a chronic critic and you find a hypocrite.

The heaviest chains are made from liberties abused.

He cannot move hearts whose heart cannot be moved.

A moonshiny religion does not make a sunny world.

A worthy life is impossible without a worthy motive.

The worst punishment of sin is that one learns to love it.

He who must be goaded to do right is going to do wrong.

You never know what is in a man until he gets in a minority.

The bread of life is never on the lips of the bread and butter preacher.

The only good that really is good for any is that which works good for all.

The really moving sermon is the one that makes you get up and do things.

Let money talk and you are sure to hear the account of a fool before long.

A man does not have to look sheepish to prove that he is not one of the goats.

The minister oppressed by a sense of his modernity will paralyze his ministry.—Chicago Tribune.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Minneapolis Journal: The name of the deity has been taken off the French coins. We do not recall the number of the chapter and verse, but the man who did it has been tersely and accurately described.

Chicago Record-Herald: More than 1,000 ministers have applied for the position of chaplain to the Pennsylvania legislature. Evidently the Pennsylvania preachers have a idea that their legislature is going to need a good deal of praying for.

Boston Transcript: The church of the future is not only to be more catholic in its spirit, simple and spiritual in its creed and ethical and practical in its aim, but also more responsive to environment in its policy; and that policy is to have its seat of authority in the needs of the hour, rather than in any tradition of the past. Efficiency of administration and operation in accomplishing rational ends is to be the test, just as in the larger world of affairs.

Philadelphia Record: If Cardinal Gibbons' quotations from the speeches of M. Briand about "hunting Jesus Christ out of the government of France" needed any corroboration they would find it in Finance Minister Gaillaux's directions to the mint to omit from the coins the words "God Protect France" and substitute "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity." This is frankly going back to the revolution, with its enthroned Goddess of Reason. It had been supposed that French secularism was on a higher level than in 1793.

REVERIES.

Boston Transcript.

'Tis a merry old world when the heart is young.

When happiness beckons and hope lures on. When the moonlight entices and songs are sung. Eyes shining with laughter, and every Full of promise and faith in the things to be— 'Tis a merry old, jolly old world!

'Tis a busy old world when the season's tide is rushing us on in the high noon glow. And strength and power and manhood's pride. Stem the forces of nature, and side by side Goes the struggle of living, of riches, and need— 'Tis a hard old, busy old world!

'Tis a funny old world that the plans we laid Should fail and miscarry—'tis strange to see Time's vista illumine the parts we played! How the roles have altered, the changes made. Quite other from what we had hoped it to be— 'Tis a queer old, funny old world!

When hope has vanished and pleasure is gone 'Tis a dreary old world when the skies turn gray. When the heart beats are ticking the end of the day— 'Tis a weary old world when the sun is away. And world values perish, its glories decay— 'Tis a woe old, dreary old world!

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