

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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

Table with 2 columns: Circulation category and Number. Rows include Total, Less unsold and returned copies, and Net total.

Net total 97,149. Daily average 31,391. CHARLES C. ROSEWATER, General Manager.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 28th day of December, 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.

If it is true that Governor Swettenham has resigned, the rest of the country will be.

The vote in Germany strengthens the conviction that the civilized world is not yet ready for the red flag.

Dorothy Russell, daughter of Lillian Russell, is exhibiting hereditary traits. She has secured her first divorce.

Morocco authorities are making every effort to trap Bandit Raisuli. They might try baiting the trap with a missionary. It worked once with him.

Christian scientists may cure by faith, but they are taking no chances on curing the legislature of its antagonistic hallucinations by the faith method.

Chicago is said to be harboring 20,000 tramps this winter. Chicago ought to explain whether it is preparing for a municipal census or a city election.

Unexpected results were shown by the elections in many districts in Germany. It is evident that Germany has no General Grosvener to forecast its elections.

Theodore Shonts is still chairman of the Panama Canal commission, but it will be noticed that another Theodore is issuing the orders and awarding the contracts.

It is asserted that 1,473 more Philippine islands have emerged from the ocean. If so, that will reduce the per island proportion of that \$20,000,000 originally expended.

Minnesota would not oppose Uncle Jim Hill's proposition to build 5,000 miles of new railroads if he would agree to locate the terminals of some of them at producing coal mines.

Nothing contained in the report and recommendations of the postal commission will prevent congressmen from continuing to frank their laundry and household effects through the mails.

The fistic contests with which Omaha has been celebrating the advent of a cowboy mayor are now to be followed by wrestling tournaments. Isn't it pretty near time for another bull fight?

It is doubtful if James McCrea, the new president of the Pennsylvania railroad, will achieve any great success. None of his biographers claims that he started in the business as a water boy.

The local democratic organ is almost hilarious over what it thinks foresaw a break between Governor Sheldon and the officers of the republican state organization. Drowning men grasp at straws.

The Omaha grain market has managed to get space in the congressional record. Admission to that staid old journal should entitle it to recognition by all the other newspapers whenever the occasion demands.

John Sharp Williams denies that he is opposed to Colonel Bryan, but says he wants him nominated on a platform that will insure his election. It is difficult to see how Williams can figure out that he is supporting Bryan.

PROPOSED POSTAL REFORMS.

The joint postal commission, authorized by congress to investigate and report its conclusions on the operation of the existing law relative to second-class mail matter and what changes, if any, should be made, has submitted its report with a number of recommendations that if adopted by the congress, will cause at least a radical revision of methods by many of the publications and periodicals that now enjoy the second-class-mail privileges.

Some of the recommendations of the commission promise relief in this respect, while others appear to be rather far-fetched, or at least based upon an imperfect understanding of the methods employed in the modern daily newspaper, that furnishes the bulk of second-class mail. The commission's recommendation that no newspaper shall print any section or part of its issue on paper of a different weight than that used in the main sheet would affect nearly every daily paper of the nation.

The magazines are clearly aimed at in the recommendation of the commission that no newspaper or other periodical shall carry advertisements that occupy more than 50 per cent of the superficial area of any issue of such publication. The enactment of the recommendation into law would bar most of the magazines of the day, that carry two or three times as many pages of advertising as of reading matter, from participation in second-class mail privileges.

Recommendations are also made for a radical revision of the system of weighing the mails and fixing the compensation of railroads for carrying them. These contracts have been a source of trouble for years and responsible, in the opinion of many experts on the subject, for the heavy deficits in the postal service.

It is unfortunate that a Milwaukee editor, the associate and intimate friend of the late General Alger, should publish a long-suppressed interview reflecting bitterly upon President McKinley's part in the general's resignation as secretary of war. The reasons, which were ample for suppression since 1900, of such an obviously colored and unfair version, are tenfold stronger now that the author is dead.

It would have been incomparably better for the general's memory to have left the subject there, because the attack on McKinley is a challenge to his friends to set forth emphatically the truth, and the full truth will not redound to the credit of his secretary of war. It is well known that what the latter stigmatizes in the post-humous interview as "back of backbone" was really McKinley's excessive kindness.

The general verdict is now, as the informed opinion was then, that the calling of Alger to the head of the War department was a mistake. He was not equal to the place. If there had been no outbreak of war at a time when the department had fallen into notorious inefficiency and disorganization, Alger might have gone out as a mere perfunctory secretary.

months after the probate of the will, which is always at least a few days longer. In other words, the inheritance tax is payable before it is possible to find out definitely how much must be paid.

The Civic Federation in its rejoinder to the answer of the chief of police to the charges filed against him makes some remarks with reference to the lawless example set by the members of the police board, themselves, which border close upon lese majeste. If a lawyer filed a document like that in a case triable before Judge Sutton we would expect contempt proceedings, if not a disbarment commission.

All three of the political parties in Nebraska—republicans, democrats and populists alike—made platform pledges last year to abolish fees, to enact statewide primary nominations and to give the people relief from oppressive passenger and freight rates. Under such conditions there is no possible excuse for drawing party lines in the legislature on any of these measures.

An Indiana man has secured a divorce, with the provision that he may not marry anyone but his former wife until thirty years from the date of the decree. Rulings of that kind would have a tendency to check the divorce evil almost as materially as a decree preventing a divorced man from marrying anyone younger than his first wife.

The Young Woman's Christian association is starting out to complete its building fund for the new home it is about to erect in this city. There are hundreds of people in Omaha willing to contribute to this worthy object who have not yet done so and who should respond voluntarily without further urging!

No mayor and council should have the power to issue bonds and use the proceeds for current expenses. The issuing of bonds, except to renew mature obligations, should not be authorized unless by vote of the people, and then only for permanent improvements not properly paid for out of current revenues.

Iowa solons are up against the same proposition which besets our Nebraska law-makers, namely, regulations from state institutions far in excess of all possible state revenues. The only thing to do in such cases is to use the pruning knife, and to use it vigorously.

Sir William Crookes promises to cheapen food by the use of nitrates extracted from the air. That sounds good, but the consumer will probably have to spend his savings in getting air from which the nitrates have not been extracted.

Young Mr. Rockefeller has told his Bible class that the country will be all right if the young men will only look out for the pennies. He still has confidence, apparently, that Father Rockefeller will be able to look out for the dollars.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor scenes and incidents sketched on the spot. President Roosevelt's message to congress, in number and variety, leaves all former records away on the back benches.

The president's message to congress, in number and variety, leaves all former records away on the back benches. The total for this session to date, regular and special, is twenty-six. So far results of presidential recommendations have not been in proportion to the energy and industry of the president.

The president, of course, has been acquainted all the while with the attitude of the senate toward him, and yet he has gone right ahead as if he believed he had the loyal co-operation of the body. He has never shown any coldness toward those republican senators who were plotting to embarrass him. When they call at the White House he tells them frankly what he thinks should be done, and if they show a disposition to argue with him he goes in for argument.

Nicholas Longworth, an honorable law-maker from the state of Ohio, and Sherman Boutell, an honorable law-giver from the state of Illinois, were discussing the origin of the expression, "He handed me a lemon." It was a very learned discussion.

Frogs are responsible for the abolition of the biological survey of the Agricultural department, which spends annually about \$600,000. When the appropriation for it was reached in the agricultural bill the committee wanted to know exactly what the biological survey was.

What is this new industry that has been going on at \$50,000 a year? Representative Lamb of Virginia asked. "It is studying the gases in which frogs are most prolific, in what kind of water they prefer to live, and how they can be raised," Representative Brooks told him.

Only Frenchmen eat frog legs," insisted South Trimble of Kentucky, "and I'm opposed to raising frogs for our French population. If they must have frogs let 'em bring 'em with 'em. It's class discrimination."

They are taxed in the Dingley bill as dressed poultry at 2 cents a pound. "If that's all the tax there is on them the frog industry should be stopped," Mr. Lamb said. "We can raise all the frogs the people can eat in the Dismal swamp in Virginia."

It is said with authority that Congressman Wadsworth, who for twenty years has been a member of the house from the Genesee district in New York, has definitely made up his mind to retire from all active participation in politics with the expiration of his present term next March. Apparently this veteran legislator's defeat by Peter Porter has crushed his ambition longer to serve his district in Washington and it is said that he is anxious to step aside and make room for his promising son, James W. Wadsworth, Jr., who is now speaker of the house at Albany and whose wife is a daughter of the late John Hay.

NEBRASKA PRESS COMMENT.

Schuyler Free Lance: If Mickey would look over our exchanges and see the editorial opinions expressed as to him he would not think he was such a wonderful Grand Island Independent. Ex-Governor Mickey is quoted as saying that if the Lord will he will never run for office again.

Pierce Call: The first thing Judge Boyd should do after donning his congressional suit is to pry off the lid in Thurston county and see what's rotten on the Winnebago reservation. Those high minded reformers (?) down there at Pender certainly would not object to a little house-cleaning.

Kearney Hub: At the recent meeting of the Farmers' Co-operative Grain and Live Stock association at Lincoln it was charged that the Omaha grain market is discriminated against in favor of other markets by means of false gradings, and it is proposed to investigate the matter with a view to improving the Nebraska grain market.

Lincoln Tribune: The Nebraska supreme court has just rendered a decision that may prove valuable for those who are insisting on Mr. Roosevelt standing for another term. The statutes of this state provide that no county treasurer shall hold his office more than two consecutive terms.

Another uprising is threatened in Cuba. A distinguished general has been fined for promoting a cock fight. He has been twice elected since and his contestant for the place in bringing suit maintained that he was on his third term.

Justice takes a sport in Ohio occasionally and soaks a sinner enthusiastically. A life sentence for a man who stole a side of bacon is the latest proof of what Buckeye courts can do to a crook without a pull.

As a means of reducing the mortality record in Massachusetts a bill has been introduced in the state legislature requiring hotel and lodging house keepers to equip their establishments with automatic extinguishers.

It is reported in knowing quarters that the warmth of the gulf stream now lapping the Atlantic coast has been increased several degrees by the exclamations tossed overboard by Admiral Evans when he heard from Swettenham.

The senate of Massachusetts resolved to exclude lobbyists from the floor of the senate and also from the cloak room, reading room and corridor. There are many places in Boston outside of the capitol where business may be transacted without batting the eye of the sacred codfish.

The United States Government Report SHOWS Royal Baking Powder of maximum strength, pure and healthful. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

ONE CAUSE OF CAR SHORTAGE.

Tricks of the Trade in the Northwest Brought Under the Light. Testimony in the Harriman merger hearing at Seattle discloses the Northwestern equivalent for the eastern system of distributing cars to those concerns which were to distribute their stock to the best advantage.

Grand Island Independent. Ex-Governor Mickey is quoted as saying that if the Lord will he will never run for office again. It is related in—but we hesitate to quote the scriptures to Mr. Mickey.

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In the Name of Sense, that good common sense of which all of us have a share, how can you continue to buy ordinary soda crackers, stale and dusty as they must be, when for 5¢ you can get Uneda Biscuit fresh from the oven, protected from dirt by a package the very beauty of which makes you hungry. NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY