

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: 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 Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of January, 1907, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Number of copies and Total. Rows include 1. 30,900, 2. 32,600, 3. 31,970, 4. 31,960, 5. 31,860, 6. 30,600, 7. 31,860, 8. 32,200, 9. 32,260, 10. 32,040, 11. 31,670, 12. 32,050, 13. 32,050, 14. 31,730, 15. 31,930, 16. 32,190. Total: 502,480. Less unsold and returned copies: 9,134. Net total: 493,346.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of January, 1907. (Seal) ROBERT HUNTER, 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.

We will now settle down to six more weeks of winter and twice six more weeks of the legislature.

Dr. Wiley says "oysters are worthless after they have been frozen." So are men, for that matter.

An English writer who has never visited Chicago says Budapest has the filthiest streets in the world.

Speaker Cannon says he can see no need of a revision of the tariff. The speaker should consult an oculist.

Carrie Nation has left Washington in disgust, having found it impossible to divert attention from the senate.

A Chicago scientist says this severe weather is caused by the spots on the sun. Someone should knock them off.

Two local concerns are advertising reductions in thermometers. They seem to be going down all over the west.

Carrie Nation has been refused admission to the White House. The White House mirrors are of great value.

Senator Perkins of California insists that war with Japan is inevitable. It may be averted by allowing California to secede.

Office seekers who are kicking their heels on Governor Sheldon's front doorstep may as well keep warm that way as any other.

William Allen White says "Roosevelt will never be found out." It's a safe wager that he will be when Senator Foraker calls.

Senator Dryden is to be allowed to talk to the New Jersey legislators, but his opponents insist that he must keep his money muzzled.

A magazine that can stand Bryan and Beveridge's ammunition for two years without exploding ought to be able to stand anything.

The health officer of Atlantic City says the kissing promotes the spread of grip. A kiss without a proper grip is seldom satisfactory.

Senator Hale says there is "too much oratory in the senate." Substitution of "talk" for "oratory" would make his statement stronger.

By starting a presidential boom for Senator Beveridge, the Chicago Evening Post refutes the assertion that American humor is dying out.

The mint crop in Japan is said to be three feet high. Colonel Henry Watterson's departure from Paris for Tokio may be expected at any time.

Mr. Hill and Mr. Harriman have apparently overlooked the chance to hold the fire in the Baldwin locomotive plant responsible for the car shortage.

The French senate has refused to pass a house bill taxing pianos, insisting that the law would be a blow at art. That argument will not hold good in some countries.

Colonel Bryan has printed in full in his weekly newspaper "The Prince of Peas: An Address Delivered on Various Occasions." Colonel Bryan must be ready to withdraw this particular address from his repertoire.

ABSURD WAR RUMORS.

It was not to be expected that the important negotiations pending between the American and Japanese governments could go through without the interposition of meddlers and mischief-makers. The sensational newspaper rumors, however, of a warlike turn of affairs and imputations of inflammatory utterances to Secretary Root and to the Japanese minister of foreign affairs are absurd on their face and hardly need the formal denials they have received.

The negotiations are of the highest importance, looking to a solid settlement of the relations between the two countries. The sole irritating question arises out of the San Francisco school regulations, a purely local matter, and our government has moved promptly to have the rights of Japanese children there defined in the only practical way, namely, by submitting the case to the courts. Their decision, whatever it may be, will clear the way for practical adjustment. In the meantime the two governments have wisely gone on in search for an abiding and conclusive basis of agreement as regards not only the school, but also Japanese coolie immigration and other questions.

But all these exchanges have gone forward in the spirit of most assured friendship. The two nations stand towards each other on present and traditional terms of special confidence and comity. It is an ill service for public men, and especially members of congress, in the spirit of local prejudice, to magnify and distort mere exceptional irritating circumstances because reckless rumor mongers are always ready to superadd sensational and outright fabrication, as has been done by current stories of war preparations in the Pacific.

There are altogether only 60,000 Japanese among our population of 80,000,000 Americans, a number comparatively so trivial that insuperable difficulty in their relations is inconceivable. But because the two nations are so friendly and are mutually so profoundly interested in preserving and strengthening their friendship is the very reason why both governments have been moved to make the first local irritation in the school matter the occasion for thorough settlement. And there is not the slightest ground for apprehension that such a result will not be duly reached in spite of the worst that sensationalists and mischief-makers can do.

GET THE DELEGATION TOGETHER.

The members of the Douglas delegation in the legislature ought to get together for more harmonious action, especially on measures involving the interests of Omaha and Douglas county. On some bills before the legislature the members from this county will doubtless be at variance the same as members from other counties, but on the main propositions affecting the welfare of business interests here or the simplification or reorganization of city and county governments they ought to be of one mind.

Unanimity of purpose, however, is not all that is needed to put legislation through. Harmony of action and agreement on method are just as important. It is highly imperative that we have team work from our senators and representatives, rather than individual play. The delegation has so far avoided any spectacle of dissension, and it is to be hoped it will not spoil the record during the remaining weeks of the session, yet it is positive results that count in the long run, and if the delegation from Douglas county is to achieve results in the legislature it will have to get together without further waste of time.

TRAFFIC AND NEW CONSTRUCTION.

The significant statement is made on what passes in financial circles as the highest authority that 75 per cent of all the railroad financing for this year has been provided for, and detailed lists are published showing such operations aggregating over \$600,000,000. They include the provisions made by the Hill lines for \$153,000,000, by the Harriman lines for \$100,000,000, by the Milwaukee for \$100,000,000 and by many other roads for amounts ranging down to a few millions, some of them by the sale of short-time notes. Not in every case, however, do the arrangements contemplate the expenditure of the full amount within the year.

The total, if it could be expended, would still fall far short of the necessary new construction and equipment which the accepted authorities have asserted to be necessary to accommodate traffic. J. J. Hill recently estimated that fully 15,000 miles, requiring \$1,200,000,000 a year for the next five years, would only meet the growth of business. If every dollar of the funds authorized and provided for by all the roads could be transmuted into new tracks, terminals and rolling stock within twelve months it would be only one-half the figure set by Mr. Hill.

The financial limitations are not the only serious conditions. New construction is also restrained by the supply of materials. Practically every ton of steel rails, every freight car and every locomotive that the mills and shops can turn out within the year have been already contracted for, and the orders might have been doubled if there had been possibility of filling them. There is also shortage of labor.

Meantime there is no sign of subsidence of the deluge of freight and travel. Pressure of tonnage is reported from every quarter of the country, and actual industrial engagements indicate that it will continue at least

HATS OFF TO ROOT.

We doff our hats to Root. Not this time to the Hon. Elihu Root, secretary of state, but to the Hon. Jesse L. Root, state senator from Cass county.

The Hon. Jesse L. Root is author, sponsor and introducer of a bill recorded in the archives of the state senate as Senate File No. 14, entitled "A Bill for an act to repeal sections 569c, 569d and 569e of the criminal code of the state of Nebraska."

It developed, however, that this bill as introduced contained a serious error and to correct it an amendment has been proposed which has been printed under like title and reads as follows: Amend the title by striking out the small "s" in the word "state" and insert in lieu thereof a capital "S."

By the terms of the contract made with the legislative printers the production of this amendment as a gem of the printing craft costs the taxpayers of Nebraska \$11.46.

But what care we for \$11.46 when the dignity and prestige of the great State of Nebraska is at stake and the purpose is to spell the state with a big "S" instead of a little "s."

The sovereignty of the state must be maintained and defended at whatever cost.

HATS OFF TO ROOT.

ENCOURAGING POSTAL FRAUDS.

Postal authorities at Washington have become aroused over a bill passed by the house and now pending in the senate which, they claim, would have the effect of nullifying much of the good work done in the last few years toward eliminating the get-rich-quick concerns and other shady enterprises using the mails to defraud the public.

The bill, which went through the house without attracting any attention, provides that after a hearing before the Postoffice department fifteen days must elapse before a fraud order may be issued against any party complained of and that, if the defendant wishes, he may take the case to a civil court for trial, subject to the ordinary rules of practice.

Under existing law, the postmaster general may, when convinced that any concern or individual is using the mails for purposes of fraud, instruct the postmaster at the home office to withhold the mail of the offending concern, returning it to the sender, when known, or to the dead letter office. This power is a large one, it is true, but the law has been in force many years and nothing in the record shows that it has been seriously abused or that any legitimate concern has been injured by its operation. It was the chief instrument employed in breaking up the Franklin syndicate, Ryan's turf swindle, the St. Louis concerns that had Senator Burton in their employ and scores of other swindling outfits throughout the country. So effective has been the operation of the law that most of these concerns have been retired from business or compelled to use other methods of communicating with their victims.

The enactment of the pending measure would undoubtedly furnish an opportunity for the fraudulent concerns to resume. It would make the stoppage of a fraud possible only after a long legal process, involving postponements and other technical forms of delay, during which the harvest of victims would proceed. It would substitute a lawsuit for prompt administrative action. As these swindling concerns change names and methods in a night, prompt action is necessary for their punishment upon discovery of their guilt. In the last five years 2,476 fraud orders have been issued by the Postoffice department. Of these but thirty cases have been appealed to the courts, and in no instance has the Postoffice department been reversed. The record refutes the charge made by the champions of the pending measure that the postmaster general's power under the existing law has been abused. It would seem, also, to furnish an unanswerable argument against any far-reaching change in the existing law and practice on the fraud order subject.

MISDIRECTED SYMPATHY.

The New York Times waxes indignant that western stockmen are not punishable by law for allowing their cattle to freeze to death on the ranges during the blizzards and snowstorms. Referring to the loss in recent snowstorms of live stock valued at \$1,000,000, it says: "This cruel slaughter can hardly be ascribed to the weather at all, for the stockmen know that such storms are among the probabilities of every winter, and if they do not prepare for them by providing food and shelter for emergency use it is simply because they have found that it is, or hope that it will be, more profitable to let the cattle take their chances on the open plains. It would be hard to figure out why a western cattleman goes unpunished when he lets his stock starve and freeze while an eastern farmer who does the same thing on a much smaller scale is despised by all his neighbors and finds himself promptly in court, confronted by fine and imprisonment."

Difficulty naturally attends the task of explaining to a New York man the difference between the farmer of the east, who has his bunch of a dozen steers and heifers pastured on the "back forty," and the western cattleman, whose thousands of cattle roam from Jackson's Hole to the Wind River, scattered over a range of territory in which New England would only make

a "settlement." He will be slow to understand that all the barns in Pennsylvania and New York would hardly hold the stock that carries the brand of one big concern on the open ranges. He does not realize that the hay crop which he would have stored for storm emergencies would call for the services of an army of gleaners and would have to be drawn largely from states hundreds of miles from the range country. He does not know the range, the range steer, the range man or anything that appertains to the cattle business as conducted in the west. His knowledge of the cattle business bears the stall-fed brand.

The range steer is a product of the open, a skirmisher for forage and unfamiliar with the water trough, the silo tank and the fodder grinder. It is possible the steer might spurn these products of an effete civilization if it were possible to introduce them in the range country. It is possible, too, that the range steer, if he could know that he was destined for slaughter, would prefer to sleep his life out in a soft snow bank rather than be yanked across the continent in a crowded car, only to be hit in the head with a butcher's axe. Sympathy for the range steer and resentment at the heartless cattlemen are both largely misplaced.

POPULATION AND WEALTH.

The completed estimates of the census bureau fix the population of the United States at the close of 1904 at \$1,752,000, or an increase since the civil war of 32 per cent per decade. At the same rate of increase the total will reach 170,000,000 by the close of the present generation, or, making considerable deduction of rate, it will fully double by 1940. The figures recently given out by the bureau show that the production of wealth is going forward at a more rapid rate of increase than that of population, the total in 1904 standing at \$106,000,000,000, or a net increase within two decades more than equal to the total wealth of the country before the civil war.

It is only by reference to such facts that some of the questions of the era upon which we have already well entered can be appreciated. The very rapidity of population and wealth growth has tended to deceive those who are in the midst of it, and it is only as practical difficulties press for attention that the full extent of changed conditions is disclosed. It is, however, obvious from the outlook that that class of vital questions which President Roosevelt has had the courage and force to push to the front in public attention was not seriously taken up one moment too soon. The taking over of wealth under corporate forms and its concentration in the control of vast organizations had gone so far, already in a multitude of cases evading or setting at naught public authority, that orderly and progressive reform might have become impossible if the work had been delayed only a short time.

Government has thus been aroused to the necessity of providing for changes that amount to a veritable revolution in the industrial and social life of the people. It is not so much a question of general principles or constitutional axioms. But the relations of the mass of the people, their employments, their exchanges, the control and employment of wealth especially as modied by corporate forms, have clearly outgrown old legislative arrangements sufficient in their day, and even found in them restraints and obstructions. It is infinitely better to attack in time the problem of conforming the government to the public necessities, although the natural tendency is to let things drift.

The movement in which President Roosevelt has broken the way must go on, for the forces with which it deals will not wait. In the light of the facts presented by the census bureau it is safe to say that our population will within two presidential terms increase 15,000,000 and our wealth \$20,000,000,000, and the pressure for relief from corporation abuses and outward legal forms and adjustments, unless duly met, will grow many fold. The hopeful fact is that the mass of the people are becoming conscious of the true emergency and are educating themselves to meet it and effectively demanding that their representatives in every department of government shall carry out their will.

Here is a hunch for republican members of the legislature who are interested in federal patronage for themselves or their friends: It is quite within the range of possibilities that Nebraska may be a pivotal state in the next presidential election and should Nebraska elect Bryan as a consequence of illadvised legislation driving any number of voters into the democratic party, there will be no federal patronage for republicans to divide.

Unless Justice Moody disposes of his holdings in Union Pacific stock he will be deprived forever of the privilege of listening to the entrancing oratory of John N. Baldwin when enlisted in behalf of Mr. Harriman's parent corporation.

Automobile manufacturers declare that they cannot keep pace with the demand for self-propelling vehicles. Under these conditions it is not surprising to hear complaints that their auto cars do not always keep pace with the promises made for them.

An eastern current topic weekly declares that the elections during the last fortnight of United States sen-

ators "have been of peculiar interest because of the number of well known men who have been chosen to succeed themselves for six years." It might have noted another peculiar interest because of the number of ill-famed senators who have been chosen to retire to the obscurity of private life.

Some of the railroad magnates are now trying to explain the inadequacy of their facilities to meet demands on the score of "too much prosperity." None of them, however, are ready to exchange the prosperity surplus for a prosperity deficit.

William Alden Smith, the new United States senator from Michigan, is a drummer, and Senator-elect Taylor of Tennessee is a fiddler. This is encouraging for Mr. Tillman, if he wants to reorganize his senatorial minstrels.

Dr. Wiley is the latest man slated to succeed "Tama Jim" Wilson as secretary of agriculture. It is about time for a reunion of the men who have succeeded Mr. Wilson since March 4, 1907.

New York promises to increase the carrying capacity of her street railways by five-fold. It is not explained how they will find room for that many more straps.

Mayor "Jim" says they were not prize fights, but simply boxing contests. A prize fight in a cowboy country leaves only one man to tell the tale.

Costly Rivalry. Chicago Record-Herald. Germany is preparing to build several 25,000-ton battleships. England will, of course, reply at once with an order for as many 25,000-ton fighting vessels.

Ancient History in Official Form. Baltimore American. Many of the assertions in the report of the Interstate Commerce commission with reference to the Standard Oil company do not belong to the category of startling revelations.

One Old Faithful Remains. Indianapolis News. In view of the fact that there has been such a material shrinkage in other campaign contributions, the house presumably felt justified in calling on the government for a \$28,000 contribution in the form of garden seeds for campaign purposes.

Disturbing the Peace. Baltimore American. Just when mankind had learned to console itself by reflecting that sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof, the United States weather man comes along with his declaration that the weather bureau will soon be able to predict the weather a year in advance.

Cuban Patriotism. New York Sun. "That Cuban patriot who was going to rebel if he had to lose his job as a mayor, but buried the hatchet when \$300 a month as road inspector was given to him, should not be misunderstood. Money is nothing to him. Official place is nothing to him. He is sensitive. He wishes his merits to be appreciated."

DO LAWYERS NEED THE MONEY? Taking Retainers Which Arrays Them Against Public Interests. Louisville Courier-Journal.

Ex-Governor Higgins of New York said in an address to the State Bar association: "I want to say it will be a sorry day for this country when the leaders of the American bar are to be deemed unqualified for public service. Such men ought never to take a retainer which arrays them against public interests. A man that engages in practice that involves such antagonism is a traitor to the interests of the people and commits treason."

Is not a lawyer already in public service, theoretically at least? Lawyers are officers of the court, and they are licensed by the state after a suitable examination made in pursuance of law. They are not paid by the state except for special services rendered, but they are in a sense in the public service.

Still it is an open secret that many lawyers devote themselves almost exclusively to defending the proper execution of the laws. Somebody has discussed the idea that they are sworn to do the best they can for their clients, but this is a mere superstition. They take no such oath, and it is against public policy that they should do anything unlawful to further the interests of those whom they represent.

When it is said that a lawyer should not take a retainer which arrays him against the public interest, a principle is laid down which is difficult of application. What some consider against the public interest others might think highly favorable to it. The statement, however, is absolutely correct, and when a lawyer is offered a retainer to do what is clearly and unmistakably opposed to the public interest, it is his duty to refuse. He may need the money, but he is in the public service, and ought not to take a bribe.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Washington Post: Bishop J. W. Hamilton of the Methodist church was in the San Francisco earthquake and also in that at Kingston. Having been called upon to settle a number of church rows, he doesn't mind a little thing like an earthquake.

Chicago Chronicle: It is disagreeable to have to say anything complimentary about socialists, but it is impossible not to commend the socialists in the Wisconsin legislature who have taken up arms against legislative chaplains. They complain that the chaplain of the lower house lately took up twenty minutes of precious time in giving the Almighty his views concerning the legislation pending in the body. As the socialists are not alone in this matter, it is to be hoped that the chaplains will be abolished and the solemn compelled to pray at home, where they can pray as long as they wish.

Boston Transcript: The minister of the Highland Congregational church of Lowell has introduced a substitute for the prayer meeting, known as "church night," with an appeal to a larger audience than the traditional weekly evening service. For three-quarters of an hour each Friday evening devotional exercises are held, somewhat specialized in form. The next three-quarters of an hour is given to the committee work of the church, to the choir rehearsal and to other business that needs attention. Persons not thus employed in any of these ways are known as the social fellowship committee, and they get in readiness for the third of the periods into which the evening is divided, which arrives at 9:15, when light refreshments are served. It is said that the attendance has increased materially under this plan, which was devised by Rev. A. S. Dunneal, and that both young and old look forward to "church night" with pleasant anticipation.



Give a Diamond for a Valentine. \$75.00 \$2.50 \$1.00 \$18.00. This handsome watch, fully guaranteed, Elgin or Waltham movement, actually valued at \$25 in other stores. YOUR CREDIT IS GOOD. 1522 A. MANDELBERG FARNAM OMAHA'S GIFT SHOP STREET

SERMONS BOILED DOWN. DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES. No man ever did his duty standing on his dignity. The finger of scorn never is on the helping hand. Soul culture is a matter of spiritual companionship. He who has no faith in goodness has no experience of it. Character is the only absolutely indispensable capital. Men are always weary until they take up some worthy task. Knocking the saints will not open the doors of paradise. Our goods do us no good until we try to do good with them. Men who elope with a single idea never get wedded to truth. He who does not fight his appetite must forego his aspirations. One of the great mistakes of this age has been the substitution of the church as an institution for the church as an inspiration. PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. With an uncommon record of disaster and human slaughter, January earned its repose in the cemetery of time. St. Louis grocers propose to start a co-operative bakery to head off the Bread Trust. Both sides will knead the dough. A Texas prophet throws a hammer at Medicine Hat by predicting that a hot wave will blister the world in a few days. All hail the thirteen hoodoo. A shameless polygamist was caught redhanded with wife No. 12 at Toledo, O., and given a sentence of six years in the penitentiary. The marked activity in religious revivals would be productive of more enduring results if communication with New York's criminal court could be severed for about sixty days. The saddest spectacle ever put up to the "Old Kentucky Home" was an even hundred barrels of booze gathered up by the Ohio river flood and gleefully floated toward the gulf. It is calculated that the estate of the late Marshall Field will yield a yearly tax of \$1,000,000. During life Mr. Field was a generous taxpayer, but he did not know how much he was worth. Five fairly competent business men consumed nearly a year in determining the value of Marshall Field's estate. Yet the law of Illinois expects a plain assessor to do a like job in sixty days. The proposition to tax bachelors has broken out again in several legislatures. Let's see. Didn't King George impose unjust burdens on liberty, and didn't George get what was coming to him? The Year 1906 Brought Many Blessings. No other piano store in the United States has such a business as ours. In the last year we sold 1,000 pianos, a great increase over the business of the preceding year. This statement means much—especially when coupled with the further assertion that ours is the only one price, no commission paying piano store in the west. We pay spot cash for every piano we buy, and buying in such large quantities, too, secures to us price concessions impossible for small dealers to get. We are not afraid to quote you from time to time the names, styles and prices of pianos. The public is becoming well acquainted with the Hospe price, always the lowest; for instance: It is impossible to buy a piano elsewhere for the same money that's as good as our Style M Cramer at \$190, our Style 80 Hinz at \$200, our Style X Wener at \$250, or our Style E Cable-Nelson at \$275. We have not space to mention the entire line, but as factory distributors for the Knabe, Kranch & Bach, Kimball, Bush Lane, Hallet Davis, Hospe, etc., etc., carrying always the best and latest product of these factories, marking them in plain figures at the lowest cash price, is making for the people of this section the greatest possible economy and the most satisfaction. A. HOSPE CO., 1513 Douglas St. MARY IS A GRAND OLD NAME—SO IS SHERIDAN COAL. WE HAVE THE ONLY GENUINE—BREN OUT FOR 3 MONTHS VICTOR WHITE COAL CO., 1605 FARNAM STREET, TEL. DOUGLAS 121. TEL. DOUGLAS 127 FOR GENUINE SHERIDAN COAL. CAN NOW SUPPLY IT AFTER BEING OUT FOR 3 MONTHS VICTOR WHITE COAL CO., 1605 FARNAM ST.