

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE
FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR
Entered at Omaha postoffice as second-class matter.

THE WIDE OPEN PRIMARY
It is a noticeable fact that those persons who were most violently opposed to the open primary and secret ballot plan are those that have been for years the political manipulators, the wire-pullers and convention tricksters, who have depended for revenue upon the ability to make political trades in connection with the interests of whom it is to prevent the people, the independent voters of the state, from being able to have a word or two in the nomination as well as the election of candidates.

UNWRITTEN LAW IN VIRGINIA
The strongest word against the theory of the "unwritten law" was uttered by Judge Harrison at Culpepper, Va. The other day in delivering his instructions to the jury in a sensational criminal case. Two Strothers brothers were on trial for the killing of one Bywaters, said to have wronged and then married their sister. There was no conflict in the evidence of the case. The brothers had been present at the marriage of their sister to Bywaters, and had shot him to death when he attempted to leave the house to return to his own home after the ceremony.

A NEW LINE OF THREATS
When the railroad influence at Washington succeeded in killing an amendment to the postoffice appropriation bill for a change in the method of weighing the mails the railroad managers were in high spirits and accepted without great protest other provisions of the bill which provided for a reduction of about \$1,000,000 a year on the item of railway postal cars and another \$3,000,000 a year in lowered contracts. Under the old law the mail carried by a road for a week of seven days was divided by six to ascertain the average daily weight, on which the compensation to the railroads was based.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot
Telegraph operators engaged in railroad service demonstrated in an effective way the importance of quickly reaching the car of congress in a crisis, while the LaPlatte house-of-service bill was pending in conference during the closing hours and the opposition was putting in its deadly work, word was sent along the lines that the bill's life depended on prompt messages of appeal to individual senators and representatives. Within ten hours 2500 telegrams from all parts of the country were crissed in upon congress.

NEBRASKA PRESS COMMENT
Rushville Recorder: Omaha celebrated its golden anniversary as a city government on March 5. We congratulate our metropolis upon the splendid progress it has made. May it continue to grow in size and grandeur, and in the same measure flourish as a progressive city.

TIPS FOR THE LEGISLATURE
Blue Springs Sentinel: If the few democrats in the state legislature are as successful as the opposition on the plank contained in the republican platform, as they were in securing their own main plank, the two-cent fare into law, they can feel that they have not lived in vain. As the home run is now being made the republicans will have to look well to their laurels or there will be none.

Table with columns for subscription rates: Daily Bee (without Sunday), Daily Bee and Sunday, Sunday Bee, etc.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION
State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.
Charles C. Rosewater, general manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the actual and complete circulation of the Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of February, 1907, was as follows:

Net total... \$26,527
DAILY AVERAGE... \$1,677
CHARLES C. ROSEWATER, GENERAL MANAGER.

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

The editor of The Bee does not hesitate to say, even with the prospect of being classed among "the politicians," that we prefer the primary plan which compels the voter to announce his party affiliations. The wide-open primary makes it possible not only for the majority party to make the nominations for the minority party, but also for the minority party, under certain conditions, to make the nominations for the majority party as well.

The senatorial deadlock in the Rhode Island legislature has become really serious. Even Senator Aldrich says he cannot break it.

The average American has lived in the woods too long to be scared by screech owls. Mail carrying is not the exclusive business of railway trains these days. The monthly statistics of the different railroads show almost invariably large increases in the passenger earnings and no railroad manager can deny that, with the rapid development of the country, the passenger traffic of the country justified the passenger train accommodations offered, without regard to the item of mail carrying.

Omaha High school boys lost out in their debate at Des Moines in which they advocated election of United States senators by direct vote of the people. But they should not be discouraged.

So much is being said about Mr. Carmack's notable performance in leading the successful filibuster against the passage of the ship subsidy bill in the closing hours of the senate that an even greater achievement of the same kind by Senator Carter of Montana at the close of congress in 1905 seems to have been forgotten.

Our old legislative friend, requiring gasoline cans to be painted red, has bobbed up again at the top of the bill file at Lincoln and managed to run the gauntlet of one branch of the legislature. A red oil can, of course, will not explode half as easily as a blue one or a green one.

Probably the most remarkable voice in the senate is that of the senior Vermont senator, Redfield Proctor. It has been called a boiler factory voice, but that description does not begin to do it justice.

Mr. Hearst has formally announced that he has no further use for the democratic party, but returns from several New York elections would indicate that the democratic party beat him to it.

They stood in "Russia" side by side, they filled the rowdied shelf, they were now belonging, far and wide, to any but the righteous.

President Roosevelt says he does not like the designs on our gold coins. Most people do not know the designs well enough to dislike them.

The construction of the canal was begun under most depressing conditions. While the public sentiment had been coached up to great expectations, the engineers in charge found it simply impossible to do anything in the way of actual digging for more than a year after the first working corps reached the isthmus. It was necessary to practically rebuild all the towns in the canal zone, adopt a sewerage and sanitation system, construct water works and living places for the laborers and make the zone a fit habitation for white men.

Remarkable progress is being shown in practically everything that advances the wealth and comfort of Americans except in the matter of improving the health conditions of the people. According to government statistics, covering ten states and two-fifths of the population, investigations in this "health area" by the census bureau show a death rate for 1905 of 16.2 for each 1,000 of the population.

Colonel Bryan certifies in his Commoner that Mayor Dunne of Chicago "has been an honest, courageous and faithful mayor," who deserves a reelection. Roger Sullivan's endorsement has not yet been printed.

Mr. Perkins is the one of the most important figures in the campaign committee in 1904. He says he paid \$100,000 for the campaign of his party and at the request of its president.

Mr. Cortelyou's last act as postmaster general is much to be commended. In vindicating arithmetical principles in the carrying out of a day's carrying of the mail he cut a knot which congress could not find a way to loosen.

They were the traditions of the craft upheld. "How does that pushing woman manage to get into the society by leaps and bounds?" "I suppose she manages to do it by the hope she gives."

Apparently Secretary Taft wasted his time in trying to induce congress to pass the Philippine tariff reduction bills, instead of going direct to the Sugar trust with his arguments.

When Omaha comes to celebrate the one-hundredth anniversary of its city government, wonder if anyone will take the trouble to dig up the names of the present council members.

Probably the most interesting of the men who were gathered from Connecticut, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey and the District of Columbia, and from 123 cities in other states, the mortality registration statistics in the other thirty-five states not being accepted as complete or reliable by the census bureau.

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