# THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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| 4 | 31,630 | 19 | 32,080 |
| 5 | 31,600 | 20 | 32,550 |
| 6 | 31,070 | 21 | 33,470 |
| 7 | 32,120 | 22 | 32,400 |
| 8 | 31,660 | 23 | 32,060 |
| 9 | 32,120 | 24 | 30,820 |
| 10 | 30,450 | 25 | 32,060 |
| 11 | 31,750 | 26 | 31,060 |
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CHARLES C. ROSEWATER,
General Manager.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of March, 1907.
(Seal) 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.**

Abe Ruef is in a pickle at San Francisco with fifty-seven varieties of indictments against him.

The spring equinox seems to have come and gone without leaving a card to remind us of the visit.

Honduras now has an audience for its tale of troubles. The American marines have been landed there.

A play is to be written dealing with the incidents of the flood at Pittsburg. It will be another tank drama.

Spring is surely here. A Washington paper notes the opening of the tennis court on the White House lawn.

A New York physician advises people to leave prunes alone. California is a great prune country, and see what happened at San Francisco.

Oklahoma made no complaint the other day when the thermometer registered 102. The constitutional convention had been in session all winter.

The Iowa legislature has about agreed on a direct primary law, but it is not wasting any time on wide-open voting booths and rotation ballots.

If South Omaha gets tied up with a few more injunctions and mandamuses the people there may beg for annexation as the only solution of their troubles.

Legislative pay day ends this week, but our statesmen at Lincoln will not be particular about serving a few days overtime for the good of the country.

Thirty-seven voting machines will be used in the Chicago city election. In the old days only one was used, and that was patented by Carter Harrison.

"Finally the backbone of winter has been broken," says the New York Mail, without telling on what railroad Winter was riding at the time of the accident.

Colonel Bryan denies the report that Tom Johnson of Ohio will act as his campaign manager. The colonel has learned that two hoodoos do not make a mascot.

The king of Siam furnishes proof that he is not in touch with real modern affairs. He is going to take his wives with him on his forthcoming visit to Paris.

President Roosevelt may be pardoned for giving Secretary Taft's presidential boom an early boost. The secretary needs a little start, as he is not of sprinter mould.

Nebraska banks continue to show up real prosperity in their periodic statements. Nebraska banks do not yet know that there was a stock flurry on Wall street the other day.

Former Senator Clark of Montana has again been telling about the time he worked in a mine for $1.25 a day. It is difficult for a man to forget the creditable things he has done.

Milwaukee will take no interest in that lecture on "Millions for Moisture," which is attracting attention in the east. It relates to the expenditures for water for irrigation purposes.

Senator Cullom wants to put E. H. Harriman in the penitentiary on account of his deal with the Alton. Having been thus forewarned, Mr. Harriman should be able to have alienists on hand to prove that he is suffering from brain storms when he makes one railroad bloom where two grew before.

## PROSPERITY AND CITY BONDS.

The sale of $200,000 worth of Omaha sewer and intersection 4.5 per cent bonds at a premium, which amounts to a reduction of the interest rate to 4.2 per cent is an evidence of the high credit of the city, in view of the fact that eastern cities whose bonds have always been in prime demand on the market at 3.5 per cent are unable to float their debentures at that figure, even by making them tax free, thus raising their interest practically to 4 per cent. Philadelphia has just had the embarrassing experience of placing several million dollars worth of 3.5 per cent improvement bonds on the market without getting a bidder. Other eastern cities have had similar experiences.

The explanation of this condition is simple. The bond market is suffering from the prevailing prosperity of the nation. There is a scarcity of capital for the conduct of the business of the country and the launching of contemplated enterprises. With trust companies paying the same rate of interest on monthly balances that cities pay on their long-time bonds, the investor naturally prefers to keep his money where he may command it on short notice to meet opportunities constantly offered for its investment in other lines of activity. The railroad companies, which usually make the market for bonds, appreciate this condition and are now practically out of the bond business, preferring to secure needed money by short time notes at from 5 to 6 per cent interest, rather than to attempt to sell bonds to capital that is more profitably employed in other fields.

This peculiar condition of the bond market is not due to a currency stringency, but to a shortage of capital. Nor is the condition confined to this country. British consols are selling at a higher rate than at any other time in forty years while money rates are unusually high in France and Germany. This is not due to any lack of faith in the stability of English bonds or the securities of other countries, but solely because other investments are so much more profitable.

Industrial expansion in the last few years the world over has simply absorbed all the surplus capital that has formerly sought permanent investment in government bonds and like debentures of high grade. Capital is but responding to the law of supply and demand and is scarce and high because of the varied and expanded demand for it.

## THE STOCKHOLDER AND THE SHIPPER.

When railroad magnates fall out honest shippers and stockholders learn a lot of things they might have suspected, but which they have had great difficulty in proving. After his recent examination by the Interstate Commerce commission at Washington, Mr. E. H. Harriman showed signs of repentance and publicly confessed that the troubled conditions in the railway world today were due to the sins committed by railway managers in ignoring the rights of shippers and patrons and in opposing laws designed to correct these abuses. Mr. Harriman's confession was frank and complete. Incidentally, he took occasion during the inquiry into his manipulation of the affairs of the Chicago & Alton and the Illinois Central to throw a few rocks at his ancient railroad enemy, Stuyvesant Fish, former president of the Illinois Central, whose official scalp has been dangling at Mr. Harriman's belt for some time. Now Mr. Fish has accepted the challenge and is saying a few very caustic things about railroad managers in general and Mr. Harriman in particular, and the public is learning things.

In an address to the students of the University of Pennsylvania, Mr. Fish declared that the recent stock panic was not caused by President Roosevelt or the action of state legislatures on railway bills, but was due to the "rotten conditions in certain railroad circles unearthed by the investigations." He declared that he had made railroading his life study and he summed up the result of his observations and experience in this striking statement:

> I have no hesitancy in saying that no railroad fortune was ever made through enhancing rates, oppressing shippers, or withstanding the general tendency of rates to decrease. And what is more, every dishonest railroad fortune has been made by robbing the stockholder.

Corporation managers have long been in the habit, when their methods of conducting their affairs has aroused the opposition of the public and the legal authorities, of appealing for the protection of "the poor stockholders" and "the small investors." According to Mr. Fish's contention, the big fortunes dishonestly gained by railroad manipulators have not come from the shippers and the general public, but from the stockholders. Acting upon this cue, railroad managers throughout the country are furnishing data to show that the stock in their companies is held by working people and represent the savings of hard toil. The Pennsylvania has displayed the fact that a majority of its stock is owned by women, and the inference is plain that any legislation affecting the value of such stock would be aimed directly at widows and orphans whose savings are thus invested. The Boston & Albany shows that its stock is divided among 9,000 individuals, most of them workingmen and farmers in New England. Clearly, any reduction of railroad earnings, if Mr. Fish's statement is correct, would simply work a hardship on stockholders and small investors in railway securities.

The public will not be deceived by such argument. The dishonest fortunes railed against by Mr. Fish have been secured by inflation of securities, watered stock and deals calculated to destroy competition and build up transportation monopolies. To secure earnings on this overcapitalization, the rates have been raised and the screws put to the shipper and passenger for all the traffic would bear. The shipper has had to pay the freight and has been the real sufferer.

## CUT OUT THE ROTATION BALLOT.

The primary election bill passed by the house is in process of revision by the senate. There is no doubt that the senators are for the most part sincerely desirous of perfecting the measure so that it will work out satisfactorily in practice. No primary election law, however, will work out satisfactorily if it retains the rotation ballot left in the bill as it came from the house.

The rotation ballot is not only an expensive luxury, multiplying many fold the cost of election printing, but it is a confusing device that amounts to disfranchisement of a large number of voters. By reason of the rotation no two ballots handed out in succession at the voting booth are alike and it becomes impossible to provide a sample ballot that will be of any material assistance to the voter.

When the rotation ballot, as applied to Douglas county, was questioned in court the judges, while upholding its validity in the specific case, declared that they did not want to be understood that conditions might not be presented in which such a ballot would be a denial of the constitutional rights of the voter, and the example was cited of a ballot forty feet long, containing so many names as to make it practically impossible for the voter to pick out his preferred candidates. Commenting on that decision at the time, The Bee said:

> The question arises, How long must the ballot be to interfere with the free choice of the voter to a degree that it violates his constitutional rights? The ballot in the forthcoming primaries, containing the names filed for state delegates only, will be seven feet four inches long, and if the strict letter of the law as enunciated by the court were followed by the addition of the candidates for delegates to the congressional convention, the ballot would be ten and a half feet long.
>
> The question is, How long must it be to violate the voter's constitutional rights? If a forty-foot rotated ballot would be clearly illegal, how about a twenty-foot ballot? If a twenty-foot rotated ballot would be only half as illegal as a forty-foot ballot, how about a ten-foot ballot? At what point of the yardstick does injustice begin and justice end? If six more names had been filed for the coming primary, adding three more inches to the ballot, would it have been illegal?

With a primary law opening the door wide to everyone with the inclination to have his name filed and printed on the official ballot, the rotation scheme would endanger the success of the reform. The rotation ballot should be cut out. It should be cut out completely—for Douglas county as well as for the rest of the state.

## SUFFRAGE IN CUBA.

It develops that Secretary Taft's proposed visit to Cuba will be for the purpose of trying to straighten out a very awkward tangle that has resulted from efforts to revise the election laws of the island, preparatory to the promise of the administration at Washington to call a new election as soon as possible and allow the Cubans another chance to select a congress and establish a stable government. To meet emergencies and conditions which threaten to place the extreme radicals in power, the administration has been put to its wit's end to devise some plan by which the influence at the polls of the mass of illiterate negroes, the majority in Cuba, might be overcome. A plural voting proposition, allowing property owners to have two ballots, has been rejected and the authorities are now considering a proposition to allow foreigners who have lived in the islands for five years to exercise the right of suffrage. The liberals are opposing this proposition and threaten to take up arms if an effort is made to enforce it. "If the Americans try to force this plan on us," declares General Eestnov, the negro leader, "we will declare war and ask the Japs to help us whip them."

The threat of General Eestnov will create no particular thrills of fear in this country, but it does serve to demonstrate the apparent utter inability of the Cubans to abide by the decisions of a majority and their lack of preparedness for the functions of self-government. The government at Washington has shown remarkable patience with the restless Cubans. President Roosevelt is determined to follow his original plan of providing self-government for the Cubans and the return to them of their complete independence as soon as they demonstrate their ability to shoulder the great responsibility attendant upon the management of their own affairs. His plan, urged through Secretary Taft, for city elections in the coming June as a sort of educational step preparatory to the presidential and congressional elections for the re-establishment of the Cuban government has met with bitter opposition by the liberals and it is now feared that Secretary Taft may not be able to secure an adjustment of the differences that will enable the holding of the elections at the time specified.

The conditions make the stay of the American army in Cuba very indefinite. The Cubans are responsible for it. They are themselves uncertain and their failure to help themselves, when shown how by the United States, makes it impossible for this government to invite anarchy and insurrection by withdrawing the army and abandoning the American protectorate over the lives and property of the island. The American effort to prevent Cuba from accomplishing its own ruin has been an expensive and thankless task, but no other course has been open to this country which has kept faith with promises made when Cuba was rescued from the grip of Spain.

Paul Morton declares that more than 80 per cent of the business of the railroads is interstate traffic. That explains why they resisted so strenuously President Roosevelt's proposal to give the rate-making power to the Interstate Commerce commission, but it does not explain why they should make such a fuss over having the other 20 per cent of the business subjected to regulation by state railway commissions.

Why should the railroad lobbyists be so anxious to widen the scope of the exceptions to the anti-pass bill? The interest of the owners of the railroads would naturally be to cut out all the passes possible and make every one pay fare unless actually engaged in the business of the roads.

The Postoffice department has a mail twine famine, being unable to supply the requisitions of postmasters for the twine used in binding packages of letters and other mail. It might relieve the situation if the government should cut up a lot of its red tape for use as a substitute for twine.

The plan to cut the rotation ballot out of the primary bill for the rest of the state while retaining it for Douglas county will not commend itself to voters of any political party. In a statewide primary the same conditions should apply to candidates and voters no matter where the ballot is cast.

The paving contractors are busy trying to get the charter changed or to hold it unchanged as they think will favor one side as against the other. What Omaha needs is a chance to order the paving done with the best bidder getting the work and being held strictly to the terms of his agreement.

It is now admitted that Mayor "Jim's" "clean-up" proclamation was written for him by officers of the Civic Improvement league. That explains why it fell so far short of his "jar loose" proclamation.

The bribe takers in San Francisco are being indicted with astonishing regularity, while the authorities seem to overlook the fact that there is a bribe giver for every bribe taker.

Realty operations in Omaha are already quite active, and with the assurance of the terminal tax against increased tax burdens the real estate business ought soon to be even more brisk.

Legislative liberality with the taxpayers' money is proverbial. The pruning knife, however, will have to be wielded by some one before the drafts are made on the state treasurer.

**Advance Notice.**
Cleveland Leader.

Ohio is for Taft.

**Real Source of Power.**
Cincinnati Enquirer.

One of the beautiful things about our system of government is that if the people really want to have anything settled it is in their power to settle it.

**Music that Has Charms.**
Minneapolis Journal.

Former Senator Burton was met with a band when he reached Abilene, Kan. If there is anything that will make a man forget a term in jail, it is the village band.

**Rivalry in Big Warships.**
Cleveland Leader.

Germany will now build a battleship that is bigger than the biggest. As Great Britain has just launched the biggest yet, this action on the part of the kaiser's naval board must be looked upon as a barefaced attempt to humiliate J. Bull. But, alas! his only recourse is to see the kaiser's warship and go it one bigger and better.

**Oslerism Swatted at Home.**
Chicago Chronicle.

It is an illustration of the insincerity of some public men that Dr. Osler, who wanted everybody to be chloroformed to death at the age of 60, has just buried his mother, who died in the full possession of her powers at the age of 100, and that he has several brothers who are eminent men who have passed the prescribed age. It is astonishing how much nonsense is talked at the present day by eminent men and how much interest their nonsense excites among people who are not eminent, but who have more sense than the eminent gossips.

**Investigating and Helping the Poor.**
Cincinnati Enquirer.

Part of Mrs. Sage's fortune is to be devoted to investigation of the cause of poverty. Better give the money out, without investigation, except as to personal worthiness, for bread and meat and clothes and roofs. There is no mystery about poverty. Everybody comes into the world without money or property. Some grow to affluence. Others get a competence. The vast majority remain poor till their death. There is not enough money to go round. Poverty is an essential of the world's economic system, and will always be. That need not prevent Mrs. Sage from making her vast surplus useful. There will be less waste in direct relief than in perfunctory and "scientific" examination.

## HOT RUN FOR BACHELORS.

**Iowa Town Insists on the Music of the Union.**
Philadelphia Press.

They do things out west. While there has been talk in many states of enacting laws to tax bachelors the mayor of Fort Dodge, Ia., has secured the enactment of an ordinance by the city council sweepingly covering the whole subject. It is provided that all ablebodied persons between 25 and 45 not now married shall be required to marry within sixty days or be subject to a fine of from $10 to $100. It seems to make no distinction of sex. The spinster who doesn't hunt up a husband within two months will have to suffer the same penalty as the bachelor who fails to take a wife. It is uncertain, however, how long a fine will secure the single blessedness of the person paying it. If any one can get an indefinite release from the operation of the ordinance by the payment of a single fine it will not be so difficult, but if the authorities are going to pull a person in whenever they happen to think of it and keep on imposing fines the persistently unmarried will have to get out of town or go into bankruptcy—and some would rather do either than to get married.

## ARMY GOSSIP IN WASHINGTON.

**Current Events Gleaned from the Army and Navy Register.**

The army signal office may avail itself of the experience in ballooning of Lieutenant Frank P. Lahm, Fifth cavalry, who is expected to return to this country from his present course of instruction at Saumur, France, in the autumn. In order to do this it will be necessary to have Lieutenant Lahm detailed to the signal corps, in which event he will be assigned to duty at Omaha and aid in the experiments which are planned with military balloons. The program is to have ascensions under varying conditions and to develop a generating plant for gas, together with the means of transporting and taking care of military balloon trains in the field in time of war. This is considered an important branch of work under the signal corps, and the experts are prepared to apply themselves to the subject with diligence.

The sudden death of Brigadier General Theodore J. Wint creates an unexpected vacancy in the list of brigadiers. That officer was spoken of for promotion to the grade of major general upon the retirement of General Wade and now there is no indication which of the brigadiers will be advanced. General Funston is senior and Generals Carter and Bliss follow in the order named. The situation is altogether interesting. There is nothing vouchsafed from the War department as to the appointee to the grade of brigadier general in the vacancy created by the death of General Wint, but it may be stated on excellent authority that a senior colonel will be appointed to the grade.

There has been a need to construct as a part of army post hospitals a room which might be used in connection with the photographic work and other labors involved in the establishment of the identification system. It is considered that in the execution of the instructions of the secretary of war a suitable place must be provided for the performance of these duties, and if it does not exist, such a place must be erected. Under the circumstances this work is considered a proper charge to make against the appropriation for the construction and repair of hospitals.

One of the important provisions of the army appropriation act of the late congress is that for heavy furniture for officers' quarters at military posts. Furniture of this type has been issued to the public rooms of officers' mess under provision of law and the additional provision which is now made is of far-reaching extent, affecting as it does those officers who maintain establishments and who are put to much expense and trouble in the way of transferring household material in individual changes of station. It has not yet been decided what articles shall be included in the class of "heavy furniture," but it is assumed that they will include bedsteads, bureaus, sideboards, dining tables, chairs, hat racks and ice boxes, at least. This furniture will become a part of the fixtures of the officers' quarters to remain there and be used by successive occupants. Of course it will be impossible to equip all of the officers' quarters at every military post out of the appropriation of barracks and quarters, which amounts to $3,750,000 for the next fiscal year, and must cover the cost of construction and equipment as well as pay for the increased commutation for quarters. It is of importance, however, that a start has been made in this particular and it is to the credit of Quartermaster General Humphrey that he was able, after urging it upon congress for two years, to obtain approval of his plan for giving this allowance of an important part of the household equipment of officers at army posts.

The army is to have a new water wagon, which is in all respects an up-to-date vehicle. It is an important contribution to the comfort of men in the field and shows the enterprise manifested in military methods in order to furnish soldiers with the best possible conditions of sustenance when remote from the usual and regular sources of supply. The water wagon will make it possible to deliver drinking water to a regiment of men, a dozen of whom at one time may fill their canteens from that peripatetic fount. The wagon is comparatively light in construction with the idea of being taken wherever the military body may be serving and at the same time it is sufficiently strong to stand the more or less rough usage which such a vehicle is bound to encounter. The wagon will have a capacity of 225 gallons, or enough to furnish drinking water for nearly a regiment of men. The tank, mounted on wheels, is of metal and heavily lagged with wood in order to keep the contents cool. It is filled from the top through a trap door, and in filling it is possible to make use of a hand pump or buckets, twelve of which are carried in a box on top of the tank directly behind the driver's seat. At the base of the tank, extending along the sides and across the rear, is a pipe interrupted at intervals with twelve spigots, enabling that many soldiers to fill their respective canteens at the same time. It is so arranged that this pipe outlet may be thrust back out of the way of injury when not in use. The wagon is intended to be a regimental vehicle.

## THIEVES AND THIEVES.

**Inadequate Penalty for High Crimes Against the Government.**
Chicago Tribune.

Four Nebraska cattlemen who conspired to steal 200,000 acres of government land have been condemned to pay the penalty for their crimes. Two of them are to pay a fine of $1,500 each and serve one year in a county jail; two of them must pay $800 each and spend eight months in jail. It cannot be said that this is an excessive punishment for the theft of 200,000 acres of land.

Suppose that these men had been convicted of stealing $200 in cash or that by force they had held up a citizen and taken a dollar from his pocket they would not have got off so easily. There is a defect in the laws when greater thieves escape with penalties mild in comparison with those imposed upon lesser thieves. If the man who stole $173,000 from the subtreasury is found to be a trusted employe of the government no greater punishment can be inflicted upon him than upon a sneak thief who takes an overcoat worth $15, while the minimum penalty in the latter case is one year and in the former case six months.

Whether viewed from the standpoint of punishment or warning the penalty inflicted upon the land thieves is not likely to have a great deterrent effect. To serve one year in a county jail, where money will procure luxuries and where there is no hard labor to perform, is little enough to pay for the use for years of 200,000 acres of land. The government is making a good beginning in prosecuting the men who seize the public domain, but the next convicted criminals should be given the extreme penalty of the law if the practice is to be rendered unpopular.

**Some Rights for States.**
Indianapolis News.

The opinion of Attorney General Bonaparte that a state has a right to induce immigration is rather encouraging in these days when there is beginning to be a serious doubt as to whether states have any rights at all.



## PERSONAL NOTES.

James Bryce, ambassador to the United States from Great Britain, will visit Chicago on April 6. He will be the guest of the Commercial club and there will be a banquet at the Auditorium.

St. Patrick's day and the birthday anniversary of Grover Cleveland and William J. Bryan covered the first three days of last week, giving the various divisions of the democracy a chance to make good.

Baltimore is talking of pulling off an exposition in 1914 to commemorate the historic incident immortalized in the "The Star Spangled Banner." The monument City must be anxious to work overtime.

Lewis Nixon, the designer and builder of ships, has designed engines which he hopes will develop horse power sufficient to carry a big thirty-three-knot ship across the Atlantic in four days. The boat will be of the torpedo craft type.

The announcement of a modern water wagon for the army is received with varying emotions in interested circles. From the meager details given it is presumed that its capacity will be sufficient to allay a moderate thirst and afford convenient facilities for dismounting.

A son of the late Thomas Bailey Aldrich, who was at his father's bedside when the end came, says his father died a poet. Only a little while before the end he said: "I regard death as nothing but the passing of the shadow of the flower." His last words were: "In spite of all, I am going to sleep; put out the lights."

William O'Brien, the Irish member of Parliament, has been in prison more than once because of his public utterances. The last time he was behind the bars he spent the time in close study of the Bible. The copy he read had been read by the former occupant of his cell. At the end of the lamentations of Jeremiah this prisoner had scrawled: "Cheer up, old boy! Cheer up!"

President Roosevelt has designated Major General F. C. Ainsworth, the adjutant general of the army, as acting secretary of war in the absence of the secretary and the assistant secretary. The same order designates Major General J. Franklin Bell, chief of staff, as the head of the department in the absence of the secretary, the assistant secretary and the adjutant general.

Mrs. Roosevelt will, with her own hands, fashion a silk American flag to be presented to the Naval academy at Annapolis for the draping of a small bronze bust of Admiral Lord Nelson, the gift of King Edward to that institution. Queen Alexandra of Great Britain will provide British colors for the same purpose, the presentation of which will be made by Mrs. James Bryce, wife of the British ambassador.

## SMILING LINES.

"I can't say your speeches were very interesting."

"Didn't want 'em to be," answered senator Sorghum. "I merely wanted to say enough to show I was keeping busy, without starting an argument."—Washington Star.

"You don't agree with the sage who said that learning is better than house or land?"

"Well, if it was true when the sage said it, then real estate has gone up since or learning has had an awful slump."—Brooklyn Eagle.

"Of course," said the long-winded bore, "it's essential that a man should weigh his words when speaking."

"Yes, and for some," remarked Pepprey, "it's well not to give such generous measure."—Washington Herald.

"This watch," said the society girl, "was given to me by papa on the day of my coming out."

"Indeed!" exclaimed her rival. "How well it has worn."—Philadelphia Ledger.

"There is no doubting that congress does a great work."

"Yes," answered Senator Sorghum. "It has developed some of our most capable lecturers."—Washington Star.

"Don't you want to get a talking machine for your home?"

"Thanks; I have a wife at home now."—New York Herald.

Caller—You will laugh at it, I suppose, Mrs. Suffren, but I have known many a person who claimed to have been relieved of rheumatism by merely carrying a buckeye around with him."

Elderly Victim—Buckeye? I've tried that for forty years, and it never did a bit of good. I married one.—Chicago Tribune.

## WHISTLE.

The Dreamer.

As a boy when, coming homeward,
When the sun had said "Good night,"
Just before the stars were shining,
When the road was scarce in sight,
When the woods seemed thickly peopled,
When the seconds dragged like years,
Did you whistle through the darkness,
Just to drown your mounting fears?

When the owls had joined in hooting,
Sending down your back the chills;
When the silence fell upon you,
Rousing weird and ghostly thrills;
When the prancing, dancing phantoms,
Chased each other here and there;
Did you whistle through the darkness,
That you might not seem to care?

When upon life's homeward journey,
Shadows fall across the way;
When the seeming dangers threaten,
When 'tis neither night nor day;
When the hours with fears are freighted,
When the road is scarcely plain;
Whistle! Whistle through the darkness;
Whistling is not always vain.

Whistle, man, and whistle loudly!
Make the world with music ring;
Never mind the tune you whistle,
Whistle! Whistle anything!
Phantoms vanish when you whistle,
Half the dangers disappear;
Whistle, then! Oh, whistle! Whistle!
You at least can conquer fear.