

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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M. H. HINGOATE, Notary Public

WHEN OUT OF TOWN

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them.

"The New Yorker is not proud"

declares the New York Press. Why should he be?

The fountain pen must be Black Hand societies.

Chicago trunkmakers have gone on a strike.

A careful canvass shows that Pittsburg has twenty-eight men who do not register under assumed names when away from home.

Senator Tillman knows the value of brainstorms.

There should be little opposition at the next session of congress to the bill providing for publicity on the subject of campaign contributions.

The treasurer of the United States says this country now has \$1,600,000,000 in gold.

After watching the fight between the Wall street high financiers, the small investor is about convinced that he put up good money to see a fake show.

The Kansas City Times is anxious to have a new union depot built in time for the republican national convention when it meets in that city.

Governor Sheldon has vetoed two or three bills, presumably just to get in practice to draw a line through several items in the appropriation sheets.

Congressman Cooper of Wisconsin declares that "the United States ought to keep the Philippines." It begins to look as though we would have to do so.

A Yale professor has discovered that the kies was originally only a sniff.

Colonel Bryan hopes the day will soon be here when great educational institutions will refuse to accept tainted money.

Former Senator Thurston declares that Foraker "is a man free from corruption influences."

The Iowa law-makers are still in session and able to do business.

Senator Bailey is against using federal money for the improvement of the inland waterways.

This action of certain railroads in giving back local lands to the government is encouraging.

Mayor Danne of Chicago insists that the money power of the entire United States was used to accomplish his defeat for re-election.

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SOMETHING OVERLOOKED.

There is one thing that cannot be overlooked, that, now more than ever, is a living issue.

The trouble is that the World-Herald has "overlooked something."

That is a law enacted by the last congress covering the very point of which it complains.

"An act to prohibit corporations from making money contributions in connection with political elections."

It shall be unlawful for any national bank, or any corporation organized by authority of any laws of congress, to make a money contribution in connection with any election to any political office.

Every corporation, which shall make any contribution in violation of the foregoing provision shall be subject to a fine not exceeding \$5,000, and every officer or director of any corporation who shall consent to any contribution by the corporation in violation of the foregoing provisions shall upon conviction be punished by a fine not exceeding \$1,000 and not less than \$25, or by imprisonment for a term of not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court.

Congress, then, has passed a law forbidding contributions from corporations and this law is as comprehensive as is possible within the federal authority.

It forbids contributions by any corporation organization under federal law to any election to any political office and it forbids all corporations, however they may be organized, to contribute to any election in which federal officers are chosen.

The one point not yet covered by congressional act is that requiring publicity of contributions made to committees in charge of national campaigns, since it is clearly impossible for congress to legislate on contributions to committees in charge of state or local campaigns.

Inasmuch as in practice campaign money, even though collected by national committees, is almost all spent by state and local committees, most of it is covered by state laws compelling publicity.

In this discussion of campaign fund morality the democratic organs and orators must not be permitted to overlook the fact that a republican congress and a republican president have put on the statute books the only law that ever got these designed to restrict corporation contributions.

A HALT IN SPELLING REFORM.

Members of the simplified spelling board, at their meeting just held in New York, have wisely decided to adopt a more conservative course in their campaign for the advancement of their cause.

The decision doubtless is the result of the shock the promoters of the propaganda experienced in their collision with public sentiment about a year ago, when President Roosevelt came openly into championship of their program and tried to incorporate the reform into the public documents.

The president accepted the simplified spelling with enthusiasm, adopted the revised version of the 300 words which the committee had put out as a starter and advocated the use of the new method in all government reports and publications.

Some enthusiastic newspaper publishers promptly followed the president's lead and spelling reform movement received an impetus that promised well until it received a sudden check by a resolution of congress establishing Webster's dictionary as the standard of spelling for the Congressional Record and other public prints depending upon congressional authorization.

That was about the last heard of the spelling reform movement until the recent meeting of the board, charged with responsibility for its birth and future growth.

Desirable as spelling reform may be, it cannot be accomplished by executive decree. The English language is a plant of slow and sturdy growth and it will not stand radical pruning.

The constant trend is to the shortening of words, the dropping of unnecessary and silent letters, but the reform must come through successive moves and these moves must not be radical.

Any change in the accepted spelling of the words in the language must come from constant usage and, to be general, must be uniform. No change will be effective and permanent until it has met the approval and acceptance of teachers and text book printers and it will be impossible to do that by wholesale methods.

The members of the simplified spelling board have acted wisely in deciding to make haste more slowly in the future efforts to change the English orthography.

A PREPOSTEROUS CLAIM.

A student in the Oregon State university at Willamette has placed a too heavy tax on the credulity of that portion of the American public that has read about the trouble in which he finds himself.

This student, named Wallace Trill, it appears, won the honors in an oratorical contest and was basking in the joy of wearing the laurel wreath of victory when some coarse, brutal person came forward with the charge that a full 300 words of his eloquent peroration had been lifted bodily from Senator Beveridge's masterly speech in congress on the future of the Philippines.

Instead of admitting his plagiarism and throwing himself on the mercy of the court or hitting back to the farm in time to help with the spring plowing, the student orator rose in his place and publicly declared that not only had he never heard of Senator Beveridge's speech, but had never even heard of Senator Beveridge.

All or much might have been forgiven had Trill but stopped when he said he had never heard of Senator Beveridge's speech on the Philippines, but the country will refuse to believe that any young American who has progressed to the point of taking part in university oratorical contests never heard of Senator Beveridge. Is it possible that Student Trill never read "The Russian Advance," in which Senator Beveridge showed how impossible it was for Japan to meet anything but defeat in the war with the czar's invincible legions?

Does Trill want folks to believe that he never read "Advice to Young Men," by Albert Jeremiah Beveridge, United States senator from Indiana? Will Trill rise in his place again and confess ignorance of the fact that Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona and the Indian Territory are yet debating whether to build monuments or tombstones to Senator Beveridge on account of his efforts on the statehood bill?

Did Trill overlook the fact that Upton Sinclair's book, "The Jungle," was accumulating dust in the bookshelves of the country until Senator Beveridge read extracts from it in the United States senate and started the packing house investigation?

Will Trill plead ignorance of the fact that Senator Beveridge, alone and unaided, has discovered "The Bible as Good Reading," and that he has stood for some years as almost the sole defender of the Constitution?

Complete and humiliating as the confession is, the nation will refuse to accept it. The farm for yours, Wallace.

RED TAPE—A PROFIT EATER.

Charles M. Schwab, steel magnate, ship builder and inventor of ideas on economic subjects, has delivered a rather effective blow at the red-tape evil.

Red tape seems to be inseparable from the administration of federal affairs and has been the subject of more or less flippant press comment since the day, long since passed, when the federal officials at Washington, finding themselves short of twine, began using red tape in binding public documents.

In his annual report as president of the Bethlehem Steel company Mr. Schwab asserts that his company will "never build another ship for the government" and explains that his decision is due to the "unreasonable delays caused by government red tape." He adds: "I have sometimes thought that it was possible to turn out more tonnage in steel for a private consumer in a month and a half than can be turned out under present methods for the government in fifteen years."

The complaint of Mr. Schwab is neither original nor exceptional. Contractors the country over know that Uncle Sam is a hard patron to satisfy. A federal building costing \$500,000 or over requires several years in building and it has not been unusual for a growing city to secure an appropriation for a postoffice structure only to find that before the building is completed the demands of the city make it necessary for practically a new building. Other ship-building firms have had experiences similar to that of Mr. Schwab and they today accept government contracts only at fancy prices and when other heavy construction is not available.

Statistics show that there is little money in ship building for the United States. The average cost of construction per ton in this country is but \$374, while Great Britain, with cheaper material and less highly paid workmen, pays \$371 per ton for battleship construction. Competition among American shipbuilders has been keen and when the interest on money tied up in delays at Washington is considered there has been but a very small margin of profit in the business.

Under the circumstances it is not surprising that Mr. Schwab should be willing and anxious to get out of the battleship building business and to confine his efforts to supplying the wants of the private consumers whose offers are now taxing the capacity of every steel plant in the country and whose check books are not bound up with red tape. The need for the adoption of modern business methods in some of the departments at Washington instead of following the precedents established a century ago is growing daily more apparent and more urgent.

Mayor "Jim" has suddenly discovered that he is shorn of half his power and authority by inability to name the fire and police board. It is not so long ago that we were told that the mayor was the whole thing and that the police board had no power except to approve payrolls and O. K. license applications. What has caused this sudden change?

It is announced that one of the first cases to be heard by the new Nebraska State Railway commission will be brought by Chairman Allen of the democratic state committee "on behalf of a shipper who is a client of his."

The democratic chairman would feel much more at home if he appeared on behalf of a railroad which was a client of his.

Mayor "Jim" is cocksure that if he were a republican the legislature would have passed a home-rule bill vesting him with authority to appoint the police board. That is possible, but it is not up to Mayor "Jim" to complain. Omaha once enjoyed complete municipal home rule, but because Mayor Moores was a republican

THE DEMOCRATS REFUSED TO REST UNTIL THEY PREVAILED ON THE FUSION JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT TO REVERSE A DECISION AND REMAND THE POLICE GOVERNMENT OF OMAHA BACK TO THE TENDER MERCIES OF THE GOVERNOR.

The Douglas delegation comes home from Lincoln in better shape than usual. Every one of them stood firm for all their platform pledges and a goodly number of bills which they fathered have found their way to the statute books.

Some of the delegation have done better than others, although several have not come completely up to expectations. On the whole, however, Douglas county has a right to feel especially gratified in the work accomplished by the Douglas delegation for its constituency.

The democratic World-Herald repeats that for the first time in many years the legislature of Nebraska has adjourned "with no apologies to offer and no difficult explanations to make for its record." Just paste this in your hat for ready reference when the democratic organ begins to cawfish as soon as the next political campaign is on.

The early report of that anti-Roosevelt conspiracy dinner stated that the plot was given away by a prominent republican who got drunk at the feed and talked about it. Senator Penrose comes forward hurriedly and declares that he was not present at the dinner. He ought to go further and declare that he was also sober that day.

Our old friend John M. Thurston is out against Roosevelt and any one Roosevelt wants. But he is careful not to say how many of the delegates from Nebraska he will guarantee to deliver to the anti-Roosevelt combine in the next republican national convention.

It is reported that Senator Dick is going to desert Foraker and join the Taft forces. Senator Dick has an unbroken record of never having missed a good seat in the band wagon, and he has changed so often that he is on chummy terms with all the drivers.

A Fair Field for All.

Kansas City Star.

The Roosevelt square deal is nothing else than a fair field for all, and its mission is to preserve good times against the certain destruction of any other program.

They Need the Money.

New York Evening Post.

Soon or late everybody gets even. General Manager Clowry of the Western Union says the widows and orphans who own the company pay up the rates because they must have the money. Pity the poor rich who have to pay!

The Root of the Trouble.

Indianapolis News.

Now that it has been made to appear that the high cost of living has a good deal to do with the shortage of 2,000 ministers in this country, perhaps some of the more pious of our philanthropists will sit up and take notice.

One of Many Patriots.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

From Omaha it is heard that if W. J. Bryan had a million dollars he would devote his entire time to the service of the public. This is not remarkable. In our politics men are to be found who will do the same thing for a few years' interest on a tenth of that sum.

Inspecting Presidential Timber.

Philadelphia Record.

There seems to be a gradual slimming of presidential candidates. Senator Bailey of Texas has definitely taken himself out of the list. Foraker and Taft are trying to eat each other. Bryan is making effort to escape from his government ownership prolepsis. Even the third-term candidate has a less enticing aspect in the light of recent happenings. Perhaps it is just as well. There are others.

Secrecy of Food Inspectors.

New York Tribune.

Both the government and those who wanted to serve it in the capacity of inspectors under the pure food law must have been astonished at the outcome of the recent examination of applicants for appointment. Still, the failure to fill the prescribed quota of forty officials out of nearly four hundred candidates may be due rather to the exceptionally high standards of the government than to a conspicuous lack of technical knowledge or character on the part of the aspirants.

PERSONAL NOTES.

The governors of Pennsylvania and Minnesota have approved the 3-cent fare bills passed by the legislatures of those states.

It is peculiarly fitting that proceedings against shady pool room proprietors in New York should be taken in the name of John Dough.

The multitudes of Harvard college, to the number of six, attended a banquet recently and conducted themselves in a real ladylike manner. The only article broken was bread.

A few days after putting on his halo one of Pittsburg's "unlucky sons" tossed the handle into the junk piles and waddled a fair young divorcee. Environment is hard to overcome.

The addition of an American cocktail foundry to the modern comforts of King Edward's court is a statesmanlike concession to the elbow movement which accompanies "Hands Across the Sea."

Madison county, Ohio, has a buxom widow who runs a farm, conducts an insurance business and edits a paper, and, besides, is allowed to get it alone under the name of Mrs. Kate Looftowner.

The gaiety of the world is materially increased by an American woman, who, on presentation at a foreign court, presented among other credentials a bill for surgical attendance for appendicitis. She was allowed to "eat in."

President Roosevelt will deliver the address at the dedication of the Rough Riders' monument in Arlington cemetery on Friday afternoon of this week. It is one of the handsomest monuments in the artistic collection in the national cemetery.

The senate of the United States lost a lot of hair March 4 when Clark of Montana, Carmack of Tennessee and Spooner of Wisconsin retired to private life. Up to the class of the fifty-ninth congress the senate was almost evenly divided between republicans and democrats. What ever their general attitude, they will be wise to accept most of them with the largest grains of salt obtainable, else consumers as well as producers will be found to be suffering from paranoias of an extreme type.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot.

It is not difficult to believe the statement that President Roosevelt reads a greater number of daily newspapers than he was ever known to read before.

Besides the usual grip of such events of general interest the newspapers bring to the White House just now a great variety of "hot stuff" of direct personal interest to the chief executive. The president does not confine his scrutiny to the editorial columns, says the Washington Herald. He scans their news columns with more avidity than their editorial pages.

The old custom of some member of his office force clipping from the daily prints merely such articles as in the judgment of the clipper the president may desire to read has been completely abandoned, and now every paper, whole or in part, is laid before him immediately upon its delivery to the White House.

The president begins his reading of the newspapers on rising, and keeps at it steadily until he goes from his breakfast table to the executive office, with, of course, only such intervals as may be necessary while dressing and breakfasting. The Washington morning papers are the first that reach him.

Then come those from Baltimore, and later the Philadelphia and New York papers. He hurriedly scans their headlines, going through only such news articles as may interest him. Then he turns to the editorial pages, and reviews such of the mental pabulum there offered as may strike his fancy.

Upon reaching his desk to begin the day's work he takes up in detail articles such have attracted his attention earlier in the day and goes through them carefully. A caller who a few days ago was admitted to the president's inner office states that the newspaper articles which seemed to appeal with most interest to Mr. Roosevelt were those dealing with his latest discussions of the railroad question.

There was a clerk who spat and a stenographer who told in the Department of Justice. The clerk spat by habit, and soomed the signs hanging around on the walls reminding him that it was not only unbecomingly to spit on the floor, but was also forbidden by the rules of the District Board of Health. Also the stenographer, who, being a nice man, one who does not spit tobacco and has no imperative need to spit, objected bitterly to the habit of his fellow-servant.

At last, realizing that his protests were in vain, the stenographer told. But instead of telling his superiors in the Department of Justice, he wrote a formal letter to the tuberculosis commissioners of the district. Shocked that such a flagrant violation of the law could be going on unchecked in the Department of Justice, the tuberculosis commissioners descended in a body upon Attorney General Bonaparte.

They told on the stenographer who told on the clerk who spat. Thereupon Mr. Bonaparte discharged the clerk who spat in violation of the district law. And then, that justice might be even handed, he discharged the stenographer who told, not for telling, but for telling the wrong people.

Approximately 1,400 men who took the civil service examination for chemists to serve as inspectors to enforce the pure food law only forty passed. These will receive salaries of from \$1,500 to \$2,000 a year. The examinations must have been given by a number of Minnesota men who took them the only man that passed was the state chemist.

There has been a marked stiffening of civil service examinations recently. In an examination for stenographers only twenty candidates passed out of a total of 581 candidates examined, and the government pays stenographers to start with only \$750 a year. At the suggestion of the secretary of the treasury a short time ago, examinations were held for the position of "clerk" in the House of Representatives. Candidates only twenty passed. These "clerk clerks" will receive salaries of \$1,800 up, with opportunity for rapid advancement.

The death of former Congressman Galusha A. Grow of Pennsylvania recalls a once famous episode in the House of Representatives when, during the angry days before the civil war, actual bloodshed or even murder were narrowly averted by one of the most humorous occurrences on record. During the debate on the Leconte constitution for "Kansas" Kansas was "Missouri" and Mr. Grow happened to stray over to the democratic side of the house to speak privately with one of the democratic leaders. In doing so he had to pass the seat of Lawrence M. Keitt, a representative of South Carolina, who was at the time very ill. Mr. Grow came up the aisle Keitt told him in a churlish tone to get back on his own side of the house, where he belonged. Grow replied that the house was free to all members, and pressed on. At that Keitt sprang up and attempted to catch Grow by the throat. But just as they attacked Grow struck out with his fist and, whether from the force of the blow or his own unsteadiness, Keitt fell to the floor. Instantly the house was in wild uproar. Knives were freely drawn and struck aimed certain. But just as the carving was about to begin a gasp and then a shout of laughter went over the house. William Barksdale of Mississippi was the man who all unconsciously had saved the house from a disgraceful event and Mr. Grow from a possible early death. Barksdale boasted a peculiarly little long after the fashion of the day, and it had been the admiration of the house without arousing even a suspicion of its genuineness. But at the first sign of trouble some one clutching or striking at Barksdale. The next second he stood exposed to the house, his head as bald as a hilliard ball and the absurd wig on the floor. Overcome with confusion Barksdale rendered the sight still more ludicrous by hastily seizing the wig and putting it on wrong side foremost. Struck the house recovered from his laughter knives and weapons of war, including a swimming cap-pole with which one valiant member had hastily armed himself, were sheepishly put away. This is the story as told by David W. Bartlett, who for many years was the Springfield (Mass.) Republican's special Washington correspondent. "Van," and who witnessed the incident. To add another touch of burlesque to the whole affair, a newspaper correspondent named Harle, representing the New York Courier and Inquirer, so lost his head that he threw off his coat and, with knife in his teeth, started pirate fashion, and was caught in the act by sanner scribes who seized him by various portions of his remaining clothing.

Political Heat Storms.

Washington Herald.

The public will do well to maintain a particularly firm grasp on its equilibrium until after the subsidence of the various brain storms resulting from the Roosevelt-Har-riman incident. These are perilous times and many wild tales are knocking about seeking those by whom they may be de-veloped. Some of them are the offspring of ignorance, some of honest error and some, perhaps, of pure malice. Whatever their general attitude, they will be wise to accept most of them with the largest grains of salt obtainable, else consumers as well as producers will be found to be suffering from paranoias of an extreme type.

ROYAL Baking Powder

Made of Pure Grape Cream of Tartar.

Safeguards the food against alum.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

SOME LEGISLATIVE PERSONALITIES.

Aurora Republican: Senator Joe Burns and Representative Adam McMullen evince considerable fear that the passage will wield undue influence under the direct primary law.

State-ment of the Burns-McMullen type have good reason to fear the great white light of publicity.

Tekamah Herald: It would be appropriate this week for the Herald to contain an obituary on Hon. H. D. Byram's "buried ambition," but instead it will endeavor to console his grief by spreading the broad mantle of charity. The Hon. H. D. made the political mistake of his life when he lined up with corporate influence and against the best interests of the dear people.

York Times: There has been some complaint in Lincoln of Senator Joe Burns because the State university did not get all that was asked for it, but Mr. Burns is not at all to blame. Year after year he has pulled out fabulous sums of money for the state institutions at and around Lincoln, until the people there evidently began to think he could give any amount they had the nerve to ask for. But there had to be a stop put to it somewhere. There is a limit to everything, even to the size of an appropriation for the State university, and the limit was reached and passed.

Tekamah Herald: Hon. I. C. Eller, our representative in the legislature, from the Thirtieth district, has made a commendable record. It is an honor to himself and a credit to his constituents in Washington and Burlington counties. Mr. Eller stood manfully for the people and worked and voted to redeem every pledge made in the platform. The members of the recent legislature who proved true to the people's interests will be honored and respected, while those who yielded to corporate influence will be too dead to skin. They showed by their vote and actions that they were unworthy of the trust reposed in them, and their political hide is on the fence—their names is "Denial."

Albion News: Representative Smith from Boone county has not attracted special attention at Lincoln during the session just closing. According to the best information we can get, he has been a faithful attendant to the sessions and has made a study of all matters under consideration, and endeavored to vote right. So far as we have observed he has in the main voted right. On all the platform pledges, we believe, he has conscientiously supported them. While no one will bear his name, the fact is true of a majority of the members. He has not cost the state anything for valuable time consumed in dress parade under guise of debate. The News is glad to be able to commend Mr. Smith, notwithstanding he was not our choice for the position.

What you will bear his name, "Yes, I told you so." While we might have had a better man to represent Boone county, we also might have had a very much worse one.

Broken Bow Beacon (pop.): It is not to be denied that the legislature whose sessions are about to close has passed many good laws, for which they are entitled to the gratitude of the people. Unlike the members who constituted a majority of the legislature of 1906, a majority of the members of the present legislature will go back to their constituents and be received with the "well done, good and faithful servants." Representative Mackey of this district has made a good record. His usefulness was somewhat impaired by sickness in his family, but his vote is recorded in favor of nearly all the progressive measures which have distinguished the present legislature above all others for many years. We regret to say we cannot say this of Representative Wilson and Senator Glover. Wilson, it is true, did occasionally stray over to the representatives of the people and occasionally recorded his vote with wisdom. He was not, however, relied upon as a friend of progressive measures, but was regarded as a friend of the railroads. This is too bad, representing as he claimed to.

LAUGHING GAS.

Think—I see that the Chinese make a practice of buying money with the dead. Winks—I suppose that's to be used when the ghost walks.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"You can't fool all of the people all of the time," declared the amateur sage, with malice aforethought, "I've even at the start that he was abandoned to the railroads early in the season and surer the most conservative corporation concernant will find no fault with Glover.

"I don't you hate to run over a man?" asked his friend.

"O, yes," said the chauffeur; "but it's not half as bad as running over a woman; she makes so much more fuss over it, don't you know."—Chicago Tribune.

"Did you see where a western millionaire married a manure girl?"

"Yes; that seems to be a very promising business to have on hand."—Baltimore American.

Cubans were awaiting the arrival of Taft.

"This thing must be settled one way or another," hissed a native.

There was applause.

"Yes," continued the speaker, "they tell us we have liberty and then stop our cook fights. It's an American bunco game."—Philadelphia Ledger.

The owl was exhorting the jaybird to reform.

"I know I'm a tough proposition," acknowledged the jay. "But how can you expect me to turn over a new leaf when the tree is only in bud?"

Then, with a mocking scream, she went and stole a nest that a trusting robin had just built.—Chicago Tribune.

"Doctor, my son is excessively diffident."

"Ah, he has a rare ailment."

"Indeed?"

"Yes, he is troubled with ingrowing ego."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"Stella—I always get to the theater last, so as to be talked about."

Belle—And I always get to the club first so as not to be talked about.—Judge.

"What?" exclaimed the plain citizen, "of course it was wrong. He accepted a bribe."

"O! I don't know," replied the politician, "there's nothing wrong about."

"What?" Why, they caught him with the goods and he admits—