

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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Net total 1,095,953. Daily average, 35,808. CHARLES C. ROSEWATER, General Manager.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 21st day of May, 1907. (Seal) M. H. 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.

These stories about the antics of the lodge goat may be the work of a nature fakir.

"What is the greatest need of democracy?" asks the St. Louis Republic. Votes.

The Hague peace conference delegates should cheer up. Switzerland is ready to disarm its navy.

If the Jamestown exposition only changes heads a few more times it will not have any place to put the blame.

If Senator Beveridge is going to be married he ought to begin now taking a few lessons in the art of listening.

Before deciding to secede Colorado might at least submit its differences with the United States to The Hague.

Mayor Schmitz of San Francisco says he has an incurable disease. It has already been diagnosed as graftitis.

Harry Orchard was not so bad, after all. He admits that there were days at a time when he did not kill anybody.

One of Senator Aldrich's defenders declares that "he never betrayed a trust." That's one of the charges against him.

Richard Croker insists that his father was a gentleman. Richard Croker's father is making no claims for his son.

"Will women ever dress like men?" asks a New York dress reformer. Some of them are already credited with wearing 'em.

The San Francisco operators appear to have dashed the hopes of an amicable adjustment of the telegraph troubles by peaceable wire-pulling.

Which are you reading more carefully, the proceedings of the peace conference at The Hague or the reports of the Haywood trial at Boise?

"You cannot serve your fellow men unless you touch them," says Dr. Felix Adler. Still most of your fellow men try to avoid the man who tries to touch them.

Uncle Sam was strong enough to take twice as much from China as the country owed him and he is now showing that he is strong enough to give half of it back.

Senator Foraker may yet prove his assertion that the soldiers did not kill anyone at Brownsville if he can secure proof that those Brownsville folks committed suicide.

Colonel Watterson inquires: "Is not the democratic party an empty bottle without a label?" It takes a real Kentucky gentleman to appreciate the emptiness of an empty bottle.

"I leave your beautiful soil with regret," said General Kuroki. The land syndicates, whose representatives have just been in session, also regret having to leave a little of the beautiful soil to the rest of the country.

In Nebraska the railroads opposed the 2-cent fare legislation because the country was so sparsely settled. In New York and Pennsylvania the railroads oppose the 2-cent fare legislation because the country is so densely settled.

STILL IN THE OLD RUT.

When Mr. Harriman gave out his authorized interview a few months ago promising "co-operation on the part of the railroads on the one hand and the public and the government on the other," the people were led to expect a change in the attitude of the railroads, or at least of the Harriman roads. Mr. Harriman declared at that time:

We have tried the other method. We have left it to our lawyers to take care of legislation by whatever means might be the most effective and to our subordinates to explain things to the general public. It won't do.

While Mr. Harriman was eminently correct in declaring that the policy of constantly antagonizing the public would no longer do and that a change was imperative, the railroads seem to be still joggling along in the same old rut. They are still leaving it to the lawyers to take care of legislation by whatever means they may think effective and to subordinates to defy the government authorities at will with a high and mighty hand.

It would have been supposed, for example, that the railroads doing business in Nebraska would have learned the costly lesson taught by the expensive litigation resulting from their unsuccessful appeal to the United States supreme court to protect them in their tax-shirking practices. But they seem bent on playing with the same fire a second time by going into the courts again on practically the identical proposition rather than to submit to taxation on an equal basis of valuation with other property owners.

It would have been supposed that the railroads in Nebraska would have accepted the anti-pass law with good grace, especially after their spokesmen had pretended that they would be glad to abolish the free pass altogether and augment their revenue by cash fares from those whom they had been carrying for nothing. But the "co-operation" has been entirely lacking in this state and reluctant compliance with the terms of the anti-pass law has been forced upon the railroads like distasteful gruel upon an unwilling child.

It would have been supposed that the railroads, although feeling aggrieved by the 2-cent fare law, would have encouraged "a kindly feeling with the public," when giving it a trial, by smoothing down the rough edges and endeavoring to make good the difference by stimulating increased passenger traffic. Instead of doing this, however, they have sought to make it as difficult and embarrassing as possible for patrons to take advantage of the 2-cent rate.

If the railroads of Nebraska ever had any intention to seek "to co-operate with the public and the government," and to cease leaving everything to lawyers and subordinates, no indication of putting the preachment into practice is yet visible. On the contrary, they seem to be pursuing the same old course of law-defiance, tax-shirking and disregard of public rights which brought them into their present odium and keeps them in disrepute.

THE COST OF VAGRANCY.

Some rather startling statistics have been presented to the National Conference of Charities and Corrections at Minneapolis relating to the cost of vagrancy, the loss of life to trespassers on railroads and the burden placed upon taxpayers in different communities by lack of system in deterring and punishing vagrancy. Orlando F. Lewis, one of the superintendents of the New York City Charity organization, declared that in the years from 1901 to 1905, inclusive, 23,964 trespassers were killed and 25,236 injured by railroads. From one-half to two-thirds of these, he declared, were vagrants. Railroad officials represented at the conference offered much testimony showing the difficulty the railroads experience in dealing with the tramp problem. The conference adopted the following recommendations, looking to a solution of the problem:

Greater co-operation should exist between towns and railroads in prosecuting and convicting vagrants. Convicted vagrants should be imprisoned at hard labor for considerable periods.

Trespass laws should be enforced with adequate stringency when inadequate, and adopted when none exist.

The costs of prosecution and maintenance of vagrants should be made a state charge.

Individuals should refuse "kitchen-door aid" to vagrants.

With rare exception concerted plans for dealing with the tramp have never been formulated. The "move-on" policy is followed in most cities of the country, the police officials simply ordering the vagrant to get out of town, thus passing the responsibility for his care to some other municipality. The railroads, which are the greatest complainants against the tramp nuisance, too often do little more than kick the box car tourists off their right-of-way, leaving the local authorities to deal with them. The vagrant's crimes are usually petty, often undiscovered and municipal officers are prone to be lenient with him. Nearly all states have anti-vagrancy laws, but they are usually inadequate or futile from lack of vigorous enforcement. Nebraska has taken the lead in this matter, the last legislature having passed a law making it a penal offense for any person to be caught stealing a ride on a railroad train. General enforcement of such enactment would go far toward solving the vagrancy problem.

Law officers can offer no acceptable excuse in these days of failure to vigorously enforce anti-vagrancy measures. In times of industrial depression honest and worthy workmen may

be compelled to beat their way or turn tramps, temporarily, in their search for work, but when there is an insistent and growing demand for labor in every branch of industrial and commercial activity the able-bodied man who systematically shirks work instead of seeking it should be given short shrift by the authorities.

REMITTING THE INDEMNITY.

President Roosevelt has evidently determined to give some of the powers an object lesson in national morality by asking congress to remit the millions still due us from China as our share of the indemnity awarded for the Boxer outrages in 1900. When the United States joined the other powers in the march on Peking, to protect the lives and property of foreigners living in China, the expenses, of course, amounted to many millions of dollars, and after peace had been restored the nations agreed upon the indemnity that should be asked. The share of the United States was estimated at \$25,000,000, which, with interest for the forty years for which bonds raised for the purpose were to run, would amount to \$54,000,000. Since the award was made, the officials at Washington have been figuring up the cost of the American expedition to Peking and find that it was about \$11,000,000. The president has notified the Chinese minister at Washington that he will ask congress to waive the claim against China for all but \$11,000,000, about half of which has already been paid.

The president's action promises to be rather embarrassing to the united powers, all of which put in large bills and forced China to agree to them because in no position to refuse. It is generally admitted that the bills presented were largely in excess of the actual loss sustained. The president's action is one of strict justice and should have a potent influence in giving the United States an immense prestige in its future dealings with China. It will be interesting to note the effect upon other nations of this application of the square deal principle to China.

THE NEW COLLEGE GRADUATE.

The tendency toward the practical in twentieth century education is demonstrated forcibly by the character and tone of the addresses by students and professors in the commencement exercises crowding the days of June. It is estimated that about 50,000 young men and women are being graduated this month from the higher institutions of learning in the country, not counting the large number receiving diplomas from academies and training schools of various kinds, and there is abundant evidence that the graduates of the year are better prepared to begin their larger course of study in the university of the world than their predecessors have been. The typical old-time graduate, the "cloistered student pale," has succumbed to the environment of a generation that demands men and women whose eyes have been opened by education to an appreciation of their duty to the world, rather than merely crammed with outworn knowledge and impractical theories. The prodigy of book learning is now almost an extinct species and the colleges and universities are doing their utmost to make his elimination complete.

The average college graduate today is a rather practical fellow, who has kept in touch with actual affairs of life during his academic course. He leaves the campus with a clearly defined idea of his own shortcomings and limitations and a reasonable comprehension of what the world, from which he is going to ask employment, will expect from him. The outdoor sports, incident to the college career of the day, have bronzed his cheeks and hardened his muscles and made him physically fit for the contest. The courses of study have reached out into practical affairs of the world and the graduate is stronger for it. He has encouragement, too, in the knowledge that the professional, commercial and industrial world are holding a welcome for him, offering special inducements to the college-trained man willing to devote his energies and acquisitions to the advancement of world conditions.

Never before in the history of the country has the active modern life been so ready and eager to assimilate this yearly accession of energetic and enthusiastic young men and women. There is room for all of them. May they all be useful, successful and happy.

THE WILD OYSTER.

Students of nature, men and women who find delight in studying the habits of animals, learning the innermost secrets of their ambitions, longings and passions, owe a debt of gratitude to Attorney General Jackson of New York, who has come valiantly to the front, braving the ridicule of an ignorant public, and declared that the oyster is a wild animal. In a letter to the Tax department of New York, General Jackson goes on record with the assertion that he can prove that the oyster, in its native state, is a ferocious denizen of the deep and no more amenable to tax laws than the tiger of the jungle or the man-eating jackrabbit of the western plains. General Jackson admits that the "domesticated, tamed or garden variety of oyster, that has been artificially planted and cultivated," may be considered personal property and taxed as such, but that the real wild oyster is as free from the exactions of the tax agent as is Hetty Green or the ma-

jority of the New York millionaires.

Now that General Jackson has broken the ice, so to speak, we may expect the fiction writers of the country to emulate his courage and hump themselves to the belated task of according the oyster its proper place. They have tamed grizzlies to eat out of the hand, have described canyons of the coyotes and taught the habits of the bobcat to the toddlers in the kindergartens, while ignoring the more daring exploits of the oyster, the terror of the deep, the scorpion of the salted seas. We will be told the truth about it now. The disappearance of the lobster will be shown to be due to the ravages of the Pulajanas tribe of oysters that have broken away from the reservation at the foot of Chesapeake bay and carried ruin and desolation to the peaceful inhabitants of the brine clear up to the coast of Maine. The whale crop is a failure because the savage oysters have crowded the huge leviathans out of their feeding beds and watched them succumb to starvation. The sea serpents that appear periodically in the vicinity of Atlantic City are always headed south. It will be shown that they are speeding for the gulf stream, the warmth of which is the surest protection against the wild oysters, who fight in their heavy coats of mail and avoid warm climates.

When the real life story of the wild oyster is written, as it is sure to be, much that has heretofore been classified under the general "mystery of the deep" will be fully explained and revealed.

MICROBES AND KISSES.

According to the dictum of Dr. Knopf, a noted German scientist who has been lecturing before the Conference of Charities and Corrections at Minneapolis, kissing is a bad thing for the race; resulting in disease and death, and therefore must go. Being a scientist, Dr. Knopf is without sentiment, and he has pilloried osculation, declaring that it produces consumption and many other diseases and, if persisted in, will cause the early decay and downfall of the great American nation. The most alarming feature of Dr. Knopf's note of warning is that it comes in the nature of corroborative evidence. The American Medical association, in convention at Atlantic City, recently listened with approval, or at any rate without protest, to one member who declared that thousands of mothers were "kissing their own and helpless babies' lives away, causing and spreading epidemics of grip and fever."

He urged action looking to the adoption of anti-kissing laws in all the states.

In the face of such warning, what is the layman to do? The kiss is as old as the human race and, if mythology and history are to be believed, some 33d degree experts in the art lived back in the old days before the microbe had been publicly introduced. Old Homer furnishes this description of the kiss preferred by Aphrodite, daughter of Zeus and Dionæ: Give me a kiss, and to that kiss a score. Then to that twenty add an hundred more: A thousand to that hundred, so kiss on. To make that thousand up a million; Treble that million, and when that is done, Let's kiss afresh, as when we first begun.

According to the Knopf idea, Aphrodite would simply have been consumed by bacteria, with a surplus sufficient to form several overflow meetings. But the record shows that her health was exceedingly good and that her appetite for kisses grew by what it fed on.

Aphrodite may have had few peers in the kissing line, but the world, savaged and civilized, has been filled with her disciples and emulators. The kiss has carried love's message from the cradle to the grave. It has been a balm for baby's hurts, the sign manual on Cupid's contracts; it has inspired romance and poetry, brought happiness to millions and millions of souls and dried oceans of tears. It has played an important part in the sentimental relations of human life from the first day, and the plain people who have already lost too many of their cherished rights, are certain to oppose this effort to have the kiss taken into the laboratory, analyzed, disinfected and sterilized before it is allowed to perform its proper function.

Ordinary people will withhold their enthusiasm for any crusade calculated to recognize the supremacy of bacteriology over heart throbs. They will prefer, undismayed and unafraid, to agree with Dante that "kisses are the messengers of love," rather than accept Dr. Knopf's contention that they are messengers of microbes, measles, mumps, meningitis or murder.

In an address at the Columbia university luncheon Governor Hughes of New York said:

We want in connection with all these public questions a damper put only upon the man who insists on talking without thinking and having the words without regard to their essential justice and merely because it may be pointed out as a thing accomplished.

The governor might just as well demand that the prevailing style of politician be changed, and be done with it.

David R. Francis of St. Louis says Bryan will receive the democratic nomination next year, "practically with no opposition." Yes, and he doubtless whispered that the republican candidates will be selected about the same way.

One of the subjects proposed for a joint discussion of opposing candidates for republican nomination for United States senator in Illinois is a declaration in favor of amending the

federal constitution so as to provide for the election of United States senators by direct popular vote. Can it be possible there any serious difference of opinion in Illinois on this point?

Colonel Bryan's Commoner has come to the conclusion that the new Oklahoma constitution is "the best constitution that there is in the United States today." The only possible way of securing an improvement on the Oklahoma constitution is to procure another constitution written by Colonel Bryan.

Secretary Taft will be out of the country from September 10 to December 10, and most of the time on the high seas of the Pacific ocean without communication with Washington, except possibly by wireless telegraphy. That will be the time for the political pipe dreamers to indulge themselves to their hearts' content.

A Gentle Reminder. Philadelphia Press.

It is all right for a state to have a favorite son, but Ohio is admonished that the rules of the game bar two favorite sons from one state.

Pay Up or Walk. Washington Star.

Railways are preparing to make a determined fight on tramps who steal rides. The abolition of the free pass system is evidently to recognize no exceptions.

Expert Talent in Action. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The latest group of snupots is \$2.00 miles long, and the theorists who follow them are still able to prove anything with the facility of experts in a criminal trial.

Is It Forbidden Fruit? Chicago Tribune.

It will be noticed perhaps that the Adams Express company did not cut its juicy morsels on the part President Roosevelt had temporarily relaxed his grip on public affairs.

Too Much of a Start. Indianapolis News.

Notwithstanding the announcement of an increase in wages that has been made by some of the railroads, the cost of living is not in the least alarmed. It feels pretty sure that it has too much of a start every to be caught.

Expert Opinion Revised. New York Tribune.

Squaring the circle is an operation which expert mathematicians have deemed impossible. But the opinion may need revision. An English railroad company has just built for its locomotives a rectangular round house.

A Friendly Lift. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Uncle Sam thinks of remitting to China the millions in indemnity in excess of the cost of sending American troops to help put down the Boxer outbreak. This may be considered unprofessional in some diplomatic circles, but looks like friendly consideration for a troubled country.

Painful Enjoyment. Kansas City Star.

The railroad magnates throughout the country have waxed facetious in their comments on the part President Roosevelt's Indianapolis speech in which he declared that "there are many honest railroad officials." The magnates are heartily well-pleased. They are glad that they may be able to glean from the information that the public also regard with utterance with some sense of amusement.

GLITTERING GENERALITIES.

Honorable Cockran and His Visit to Colonel Bryan. New York Evening Post.

"If the situation," observes Representative Cockran, "develops a stronger man than Mr. Bryan, he will undoubtedly be to the front." Such a thing it is to be a political oracle, adrip with wisdom! Similarly, if Yale develops a stronger crew than Harvard, it will undoubtedly be first at the finish. These sagacities are admirable; but they do not get us forward. Mr. Cockran has just returned from Lincoln, Neb., and may there have imbibed his splendid vagueness about the democratic candidate. He reports Mr. Bryan as still undecided whether to accept the nomination. Just at present, it appears, the platform is the chief thing under consideration at Lincoln. But if Bryan is to write the platform and insist, if he does not run himself, upon a nominee of his own kind, it would need a very strong man indeed to come to the front. And there is always that difference between coming to the front in a national convention, and in the election.

THE NATION'S PEACEMAKER.

American Spirit of Good Will Personified by Secretary Taft. Broadway Magazine.

The American people are beginning to realize that in William Howard Taft they have a man who handles national affairs with an integrity and brilliancy of performance that stands second only to the beloved "steady." He was one of the few large men whose ability is commensurate with his imposing avoirdupois.

Mr. Taft is the great silent statesman, the one man of national importance who has reached the stature of presidential possibility with no political effort or campaigning of any sort on his own part. He was born in Cincinnati in 1857, and prepared there for Yale, where he graduated in 1878. He was chosen orator of his class of 121. It was here he acquired the nickname, "Big Bill" Taft, which has stuck to him all through his public career. At college he was famous for his physical strength and was champion wrestler of the university.

From Yale he went to the Cincinnati Law School, where he divided the first prize for scholarship. In 1880 he was admitted to the Ohio bar and for ten years was occupied with state affairs. In 1890 his federal career began, and he was chosen solicitor general for the United States, and then United States circuit judge.

In 1900 he began the work for which he gained a unique and national reputation, for in March of that year he went as president of the Philippine commission and turned his wonderful executive ability to the tangled affairs of our new possessions. He is the great American peacemaker.

On the fourth of July, 1901, he was appointed first civil governor of the Philippine islands. In 1903 he was made secretary of war by President Roosevelt, but he has never lost his interest in the islands he reconquered for us.

During his illness in the Philippines there was a daily interchange of cablegrams between Taft and the White House. At last the mighty governor called—"Much better; rode thirty miles into the interior yesterday." This proved too strong a temptation for his friends in Washington. Secretary Root replied: "Congratulations, but how about the horses?"



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SERMONS BOILED DOWN.

The religion that produces no sunshine is moonshine.

It takes a strong man to stop doing weak things.

You must master your own moods before you can master men.

Half of success is in seeing the significance of small things.

To set a child's face toward gladness is to incline him to God.

Faith is not built by failing to take fair account of all the facts.

Red letter days are not made by looking on the blue side of things.

Salvation often means making man over according to one's pattern.

Many a preacher says he is seeking souls when he is chasing statistics.

You cannot weld folks to the good by a frosty smile at the church door.

The possession of the vocabulary of virtue often is mistaken for its practice.

Convert preachers to absolute sincerity and you can convert people from their sins.

It's easy to build ideal castles if you'll let the contract for the roads to them to others.

When your face is an advertisement of failures it's no use talking of the glory of your faith.

A lot of Sunday religion would put up a better front if it was backed up by weekday reality.

The important thing about a sermon is not the impression it makes on you but the impression you give to it.—Chicago Tribune.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

You can't convince a leaman that there is any romance in the question, "Is it warm enough for you?"

The statute of limitations doubtless prevented the prosecution from showing that Orchard is the man who struck Billy Patterson.

A physician says that hot water will cure anything. This accounts for the zeal of some people in keeping their neighbors soaked.

Indiana factories are making light of expert testimony by turning out fuel gas at 16 cents a thousand. But consumers cannot see that figure in their bills.

An unknown savant contributes to the gaiety of the season by knocking at Mendelberg's age. Muckrakers must be desperately hard up when they tackle dead subjects.

Japan has concluded to put in operation an indirect but no less effective method of collecting damages from this country. The current price of tea has been raised to a substantial figure.

Massachusetts follows Missouri in outlawing the bucketshop business. In Boston and St. Louis it is still possible to place a piece of money on the weather, but the quality is too poor to rouse sporting blood beyond the nickel limit.

With characteristic indifference to custom and tradition Kansas handed diluted lemon juice to the officers and crew of the battleship Kansas. The tart tingle was softened by a magnificent silver service presented by the state.

As women progress into the domain of man and catch on to his caprices they do a turn as deftly as any of the lords. Testimony in a Chicago court brought to light the payment of \$100,000 on millinery when husbands foot the bill.

A Chicago girl candidly admitted in court that she did not object to kissing, but will not permit any male cannibal to chew her cheek. This is the first time Chicago cheek has been esteemed a confession. There is no accounting for tastes.

Now that the newspapers have picked out the most beautiful woman in the United States, makers of complexion powders and other toilet essentials can obtain valuable information and choice positions by applying to the respective business offices.

Why? The answer to this, too, can be PLAINLY TOLD. Commissioners are unfair to the customer. The dealer who gives them adds them to the real price of the Planos he sells, thereby making an extravagant cost for more than it should. A store that pays

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Brooklyn Eagle: A Philadelphia Methodist minister deputed his wife to fill his pulpit on "Children's Day." A proper recognition of masculine limitations is peculiarly admirable in a minister of the gospel.

Buffalo Express: A church with a press agency suggests conditions not usually associated with religion. Whether religion in this case will benefit by the contract is a matter of doubt with the imagination of a press agent and the limitations of a church.

Chicago Record-Herald: A Boston minister announces that in eight years the reign of the devil will come to an end. This is important if true, and we could name several gentlemen who would like to know whose presidential administration Mr. Satan's reign is to end with.

Leads Weekly: The subject of ministerial relief was one of the most prominent and important ones considered by the recent Presbyterian general assembly. The average salary of preachers in that great and strong church is only \$500 a year. In speaking on this subject Rev. Dr. Agnew of Philadelphia referred to the preachers as idolized at 30, criticized at 40, ostracized at 50, ostracized at 60, and canonized at 70. He said that the average salary of \$500,000 was needed. A hod carrier, who learns his trade in a day, can earn more in a year than the preachers get on the average, though the education of the latter costs them years of study and thousands of dollars of expense.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTIES.

Mrs. Jawback—I'm surprised at you! Before we were married you told me you never used profanity.

Mr. Jawback—I didn't. I wasn't ever married before.—Cleveland Leader.

"I wouldn't be afraid to trust my husband anywhere," Mrs. Henspeck.

"Why? Doesn't he care for women?"

"If he does he never shows any signs of it when I'm around."—Chicago Record-Herald.

"I wonder if Croker will wear it?"

"Wear what?"

"I didn't read the article, but the headlines say he's going to wear it about his winning a derby."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"What did papa say when you told him you wanted to marry me?"

"He just laughed."—Houston Post.

"Tinkletell tells his wife everything he knows about her." Mrs. Henspeck.

"I notice he hasn't much to say to her."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Teas—There goes Beas Mugley.

Jess—Yes, she played the part of the heroine in the private theatricals at our church.

Teas—The idea! Did she have the face to play the heroine. In cinema and stage.

Jess—No, but the costume fixed one for her.—Philadelphia Press.

IT LOOKS LIKE IT.

When looklike folks get sick a bit, they send for ails, not doctors.

Grand Dr. Ails—He looks like it—like won't their firm reliance.