

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR. Entered at Omaha Postoffice as second class matter.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas county. Charles C. Rosewater, general manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of copies of this newspaper published during the month of September, 1907, was as follows:

Net total 1,028,252. Less unsold and returned copies, 8,987. Daily average 34,139.

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

THE ILLNESS OF FRANCIS JOSEPH.

All the civilized powers of the world feel a keen interest in the reports from the bedside of Francis Joseph, emperor of Austria-Hungary, whose illness is of such character as to force the fear that he has lost his strong hold on life. This world-interest is largely personal, for Francis Joseph is one of the best beloved rulers, but it is also political, as the future of the dual monarchy may materially affect the history of Europe.

Francis Joseph has done much to cement the conflicting elements of his empire into a union, with a distinct national purpose. Recently he brought about the grant of universal suffrage, thus largely destroying the power of the aristocratic classes and privileged minorities. This strengthened the foundation of the Austrian dynasty by rallying to its support a popular enthusiasm previously lacking. While the Hungarian Parliament has not yet endorsed the universal suffrage proposition and the Magyar nobles have thrown all their influence against it, the measure will surely be approved finally and Francis Joseph's dream of empire realized.

One source of possible trouble has been removed by the announcement that the German population of Austria, representing 24 per cent of the total, favors the continuance of the dual monarchy. This relieves the anxiety of England and France of an extension of German influence in the Adriatic by partition of Austria-Hungary, as was once thought to be the plan of the Germans in Austria.

a year. His failure to produce better results he excuses on the pretext that he has been unable to collect a large part of the fees and the county is today owing him for some \$50,000 of uncollected fees, or fees unaccounted for, including about \$5,500 of fees pocketed by him as member of the Insanity board under the flimsy claim that the law limiting his salary does not cover these perquisites. In a word, the conduct of the district court clerk's office under the present regime could hardly be worse for the taxpayers, because it has been run on the graft principle of leaving as little surplus over revenues as possible.

The election of the democratic nominee for the office of district court clerk means its continuance as a tax-eating office. The democratic nominee is "Andy" Gallagher, who was four years Mr. Broadwell's official deputy in South Omaha before he became clerk of the court and has been his chief lieutenant for the seven years he has been in charge of this office, and half of that time his recognized deputy. "Andy" Gallagher is a pupil in the Broadwell school and could be expected to do no less in his own behalf than he has been doing for his chief.

The republican nominee for clerk of the district court, on the other hand, is Robert Smith, who as county auditor has had a principal part in uncovering the extravagances and questionable transactions of the district court clerk's office. No one doubts but that as clerk of the court he would give the taxpayers a businesslike administration, that he would collect all the money that is due that could be collected and scrupulously turn back to the treasury every cent in excess of his legal salary and the reasonable cost of running the office.

MR. BRYAN AND THE SOUTH. The democratic faction that has been making a determined effort to wear the solid south from William Jennings Bryan may as well close its headquarters, dismiss its press agents and submit to the inevitable. For more than a year this faction has been persistently and perniciously busy in encouraging an anti-Bryan agitation in the south, with some results that have been significant, to a certain unsatisfactory degree. Colonel Watterson, the veteran democratic editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal; Colonel Hemphill, the editor of the Charleston News and Courier; and Colonel Joseph Bryan, the owner and editor of the Richmond Times-Dispatch, have been set against a renomination of Mr. Bryan for the presidency and have used all brands of eloquence and arguments to convince the south that the time had come for a change.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot. The Department of Agriculture is about to pass up to the Department of Justice a number of cases against manufacturers who think they may defy a pure food law without serious risk.

Over in Illinois they are considering a proposed direct primary law which is very close to that enacted by the recent Nebraska legislature, although with a few noticeable modifications. The Illinois law-makers would abolish conventions altogether and put the platform-making into the hands of the respective state committees in conference with the candidates on the state ticket.

Five companies of the Iowa National Guard are in danger of being mustered out for failing to come up to the standard set by the federal law. The Nebraska National Guard is comparatively small in numbers, but so far has managed to maintain itself in good state of efficiency. What is happening in Iowa, however, ought to be an additional spur for improvement of the militia men everywhere.

An eastern pictorial paper illuminates a group of western governors attending the reception to President Roosevelt on his Mississippi river trip by labeling one of them "Governor Sheldon of North Carolina," and another "Governor Cunningham of Iowa." Such is fame. It is needless to say that the paper is published in New York.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Denham Thompson, the veteran actor, celebrated his 74th birthday on Tuesday of this week. He is on the stage again this season and is in excellent health.

Dr. Jerome Schneider, emeritus professor of Greek language and literature at Tufts college, and last surviving member of the original Tufts faculty, celebrated his 83d birthday last Monday.

Ex-Senator Chandler of New Hampshire is a good stenographer and it is hinted that he has kept stenographic reports of his conversations with public men in recent years, which he will use some day in the writing of his "Reminiscences."

The bureau of supplies and accounts of the Navy department, struggling with the old dried apples and water scheme of filling up ever dried, is solemnly assuaged by experts who have never eaten them that three-eighths of a pound of dehydrated potatoes contain as much nourishment and are just as acceptable to the palate as ten pounds of fat, fresh Irish butter.



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LAUGHING GS. Owner: "They say that the own constable is mighty stupid about trying specks. Do you think we might want to fool him?"

THE VANISHED DAs. Atlanta Georgian. Lay the jest about the Joplin, the camp-bells at last.

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BABY'S VOICE Is the joy of the household, for without it no happiness can be complete. How sweet the picture of mother and babe, angels smile at and commend the thoughts and aspirations of the mother bending over the cradle.

MOTHER'S FRIEND. A \$20,000 contest, which threatened to be interminable, over the will of the late Nelson Morris, the multi-millionaire packer, has been adjudged by mutual agreement. What a terrible blow to the lawyers.

Office Furniture. A specialty with us. We're ever better prepared than ever before to make out of your office furniture what you want, having just received several carloads of desks, the newest and best in construction, design and use.