

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

Entered at Omaha Postoffice as second class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Daily Bee (without Sunday), per week \$1.00; Daily Bee and Sunday, one year \$12.00; Sunday Bee, one year \$5.00.

DELIVERED BY CARRIER: Daily Bee (including Sunday), per week 15c; Daily Bee (without Sunday), per week 10c; Evening Bee (without Sunday), per week 5c; Evening Bee (with Sunday), per week 10c.

OFFICES: Omaha—The Bee Building, 100 South Omaha—City Hall Building, Council Bluffs—111 Scott Street, Chicago—1000 North Dearborn Street, New York—160 Home Life Insurance Building, Washington—724 Fourteenth Street N. W.

CORRESPONDENCE: Communications relating to news and editorial matters should be addressed, Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

REMITTANCES: Remit by draft, express or postal order payable to The Bee Publishing Company. Only 2-cent stamps received in payment of mail accounts. Personal checks accepted, Omaha or eastern exchange, not accepted.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION: State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: I, Charles C. Rosewater, general manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being sworn, depose and say that the number of copies of the Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of November, 1907, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Number of copies and Total. Rows include Daily Bee, Sunday Bee, and Total for various days.

Less unsold and returned copies, 10,188. Net Total, 1,113,928. Daily average, 37,108.

CHARLES C. ROSEWATER, Notary Public.

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

Sleep early if you would be well served.

The Jamestown exposition is quoted as fair in the list of the season's failures.

Bellevue's foot ball team now knows that it pays to be first in the contest.

St. Joseph had to get back on the map somehow, but took a very strenuous method of doing so.

No more question about the end of the "panic." New York society has resumed its bridge whist parties.

Premier Stolypin has made something of a fizzle in his effort to be the Speaker Cannon of the Russian Duma.

A professor at the Berkeley university has discovered that the sawfish has 25,000 jaws. He is the politician of the fishy tribe.

According to Speaker Cannon, the tariff should not be revised when times are bad and should be let alone when times are good.

Corn still holds its kingly rank in the list of farm productions. The production of this cereal for 1907 is put at 2,553,732,000 bushels, or four-fifths of the world's production of corn.

Mr. Justice Brewer has declined to discuss the president's message. This is important only as showing that the justice can keep still.

Prospective Christmas buyers should remember that the days are gliding swiftly by, and opportunities for making selection are going even faster.

The editor of the "Junior Yellow" reminds us of Aesop's dog that barked at the elephant and was so pleased because the elephant looked around at it.

A Kansas City widow caught a burglar and held him until the police arrived. Even burglars should remember Samuel Well's advice about "widowers."

Copper exports in November were the largest in the history of the country. Butte will be clamoring for a place on the saws map again if this keeps up.

That murder will out is again supported by the apprehension in Washington of a man who tried to poison his father-in-law's family in Omaha fifteen years ago.

New York is talking about abolishing its board of aldermen and trying the government by the commission plan. Any change would necessarily be an improvement.

An increase of 25 cents a ton has been placed on anthracite by the Coal trust, which evidently does not want people to recover too rapidly from the tightness of the money market.

"The eagle on the \$20 gold coin looks like a sick turkey," says the Topeka Journal. That's the first hint that one of the new coins has been on exhibition as far west as Kansas.

A handbill can be printed and called a newspaper, and then you can throw the handbill around and call it circulation. Advertisers discriminate between a handbill, that is thrown around, and a newspaper for which people subscribe and pay.

THE TARIFF ON FOREST PRODUCTS.

One clause in the president's message is fraught with more significance than would appear on the surface. It relates to the tariff on forest products and is as follows:

There should be no tariff on any forest product grown in this country, and in special cases there should be no tariff on wood-pulp. The repeal of the duty on wood-pulp should, if possible, be accompanied by an agreement with Canada that there shall be no export duty on Canadian wood-pulp.

Tariff revisionists, who have been tempted to complain because the president did not take more decided and radical ground in favor of some general modification of the Dingley schedules, will find by a study of the Dingley law that the recommendation of the removal of the duty on forest products is as radical as the most ardent revisionist would wish.

Under the Dingley law, timbers used in building wharves and other heavy construction work are taxed at 1 cent per cubic foot. Timber used for the manufacture of toothpicks is assessed at 2 cents per 100 cubic feet and 15 per cent ad valorem. Wooden furniture of all classes pays 35 per cent ad valorem tax and nearly all the common woods of commerce pay from \$1 to \$2 per 100 cubic feet.

Compliance with the recommendations of the president's message would furnish the greatest impetus to the work of forest preservation, which is one of the most vital questions before the country. It would, by inviting competition from Canada, lessen the burden placed upon consumers by the exactions of the Lumber trust and serve the general good in many ways.

Opposition to the measure will be abundant from Michigan, several Pacific coast states and in some parts of the south where the greed of the timber syndicates has not yet accomplished the complete demolition of the timber resource. The benefits that would follow congressional enactment in line with the executive suggestion are so many and manifest that congress should not hesitate to embody the president's recommendation into national law.

YIELD OF AMERICAN FARMS.

The country understands, in a general way, that the basis of its great wealth and prosperity lies in its agricultural development, but it is almost impossible to grasp the enormity of this wealth, as set out in the annual report of the secretary of agriculture. Mr. Wilson's report furnishes data concerning the production of American farms which shows that all other sources of wealth in this country are comparatively insignificant, great as they may be when considered individually.

He places the grand total of agricultural wealth production for this year at \$7,412,000,000, an increase of 10 per cent over 1906, which was the previous banner year in the history of American agriculture. This production was accomplished in the face of untoward conditions, requiring all the skill of our farmers to grow an average crop. The season was erratic and there was a scarcity of help, yet there was no general crop failure, even within small areas, and, while the production was not up to the average, the financial returns, owing to a largely increased foreign demand, will be larger than of any previous year.

Corn still holds its kingly rank in the list of farm productions. The production of this cereal for 1907 is put at 2,553,732,000 bushels, or four-fifths of the world's production of corn. There have been three larger crops of corn—in 1892, 1905 and 1906—but at the prevailing prices its value will be about \$1,350,000,000, or 26 per cent above the average value of the five crops preceding. There is some question as to the second crop in the list. The south, of course, holds cotton as king, but the secretary of agriculture places the hay crop second, with a value of \$650,000,000, with cotton and its products valued at \$650,000,000. Cotton ranks first in the list of our agricultural exports. The cotton supply, with the surplus left over from last year, is sufficient to meet the wants of the world. Wheat comes fourth in rank and value, the production for the year being placed at \$275,000,000 bushels, valued at \$500,000,000. This will meet local needs and leave about 100,000,000 bushels for export. The oats crop, while 19 per cent below the average in yield, is valued at \$350,000,000, or 18 per cent above the five years' average value. The tobacco crop, aggregating 645,213,000 pounds, is valued at \$67,000,000. While much of this mammoth production is consumed at home, the secretary furnishes these figures to show the important part played by farm products in the export trade.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907, the domestic exports of farm products were valued at \$1,055,000,000, or \$79,000,000 above the high record for 1904. Plant products made up four-fifths of this total, cotton alone amounting to \$457,000,000.

Animals and animal products (mostly packing house products) were exported to the value of \$230,000,000. The live animals exported were worth \$41,000,000 and the dairy products \$5,000,000.

Cotton is the greatest of all our exports, having, in 1907, 29 1/2 per cent of the total value. To animals and animal products should be credited 17 per cent of the total, to grains and grain products 10 1/2 per cent, to all other agricultural products 6 1/2 per cent, and to forest products 8 per cent. Thus farm and forest products made up, on a value basis, 71 1/2 per cent of the total exports of the United States in 1907.

The farmer does not depend alone on his field crops. He produces meat animals; he keeps dairy cows, he raises sheep for mutton and wool and he keeps poultry. The animals sold from farms and those slaughtered upon them in 1907 were worth \$1,270,000,

000, or about twice as much as the cotton crop. The dairy products of the country for the year were worth \$800,000,000, or more than any other crop except corn. The poultry and egg products were worth \$600,000,000, or more than the wheat crop.

Enormous as the present annual yield of farm products is, the soil surveys of the Department of Agriculture insist that only about 420,000,000 acres of land can be classed as improved, while but 230,000,000 can be classed as fruitful. The effort is now directed to the study of these conditions and the enlargement of the productive area. This work should be encouraged, as the secretary urges in his report to congress.

Mr. Davis introduced a bill (S. 100) to suppress pools, trusts and combinations in trade, and to provide penalties for violations of its provisions, and for other purposes, which was read twice by its title.

Mr. Davis—I ask that the bill be laid on the table, subject to call, and I desire to give notice that on next Wednesday, the 13th instant, I want to make a few remarks on the subject to which the bill refers.

The Vice President—the bill will lie on the table. Mr. Davis—Subject to call.

So the time is fixed. Trusts that persist in remaining in existence after next Wednesday will do so at their own risk. The pledge made to the unmaneuvered constituency in Arkansas is to be redeemed.

Why Western Men Win. Boston Globe (dem.). This sectionalism is not as proscriptive in its spirit as it might seem. There is undoubtedly and unhappily some active prejudice against the east among western republicans. But to point to that as the animating cause of their preference for the Lincoln project would not be entirely fair. The choice of a national convention goes by favor, and it is only everyday human nature for the dominant westerners to pass the honor around among themselves. They are a great family out there and Ohio is the mother of our presidents.

With about the historic loss of \$3.50, which was drawn in the Missouri compromise. That part of the country is the youngest and therefore very self-conscious and eagerly ambitious. When the west shall have grown old and gouty and had a satiety of power and preferment its progress and influence among the east will be even to the long famed south.

Foraker's Candidacy. Portland Oregonian (rep.). A tub to the whale Mr. Foraker does know in the remark that "there must be supervision of railroads and of interstate commerce, of course," but "it must be sane and conservative." This means that the regulation must take such form as the railroad managers and rebaters would approve. We have had their "sane and conservative" management all these years. Both sides are continuous plunder and oppression on one hand and favoritism, rebating and creations of combinations of vast wealth on the other. We shall hear now for a while, through voices like those of Foraker, that the interruption of this system of organized plunder will be the ruin of the country. It is on this assumption that he goes before the country as a candidate for the presidency.

Possibly his effort, backed by the plutocrats and predatory classes, may beat Taft. We may rather look for that result. It might bring a bitter attack upon the would-be reformer, though an unintended consequence. It might, however, be a chief factor in forcing the offer of the nomination upon Roosevelt again. For if the plutocratic backers of Foraker shall be able to put up a strong fight for him, based as it will be on a bitter attack upon Roosevelt and his efforts to curb predatory wealth, they will bring it about that the people will have nobody but Roosevelt. Foraker himself is an impossibility.

The Ohio Contest. Cincinnati Enquirer (ind.). Hall General William Howard Taft! He is in Russia, stabbing down the greasy food and hot drinks of that cold country, though his stomach and disposition yearn for gore. He is further away from the Ohio battle ground than General Sheridan was from Cedar Creek at a moment that lives in history and rhyme to this blessed day; but he rides like the wind, and he will have a change of horse at New York. He will enter the state somewhere along the Pennsylvania boundary, which Foraker cannot effectively picket in time. Taft's friends and advisers are warriors will be on the ground, not let us hope, merely with engrossed resolutions of county committees, but with men and munitions and a formidable commissary outfit. Foraker may as well leave his indorsements at home, too. This is not to be a windmill or a shower of bouquets. The people will be delighted to see two such giants in a real fight. It will be worth all the distress of mind, all the blood that may be spilled and all the bad language that will be used, to see Foraker and Taft on horseback.

Apollon lost the battle of Waterloo because the storm had made the ground so muddy that he could not move his artillery with facility. The dashing demands of the impending occasion require a cavalry battle. Let Vorys and Dick be on hand with plenty of horses. How many may be shot under Taft and Foraker is terrible to think of.

Mr. Bryan as a Bird. New York Times (ind.). After eleven years and more of baking in the light of publicity and grilling in the heat of the sun, Mr. Bryan confesses that he would rather be caricatured as a bird than as a serpent. The wonder is that he still carries how caricaturists treat him.

But the bird, eagle or lark, baryard goes or hawk the hawk or the pigeon, is a more suitable symbol of Mr. Bryan than the serpent. Bryan hovers and occasionally swoops; he roosts high, he loudly proclaims the advent of eggs, he sings frequently fills the air. He never glides silently through the underbrush; he is rarely silent, and when he is he is not dangerous. He has no sting, and the ancients would not have accepted him as a type of wisdom. Who has been picturing Mr. Bryan as a serpent?

Let Mr. Bryan be a bird, by all means. Let him take his place among the new or pre-historical specimens with the amply be-trodden fowl of the new gold coin, and the conversational songster on Nellie's hat. He has the gravity of the owl and the volubility of the sparrow, and recently he will be enjoying the historical remoteness of the dodo.

Promoting the World's Health. Boston Transcript. Speaking of Florence Nightingale and her efforts to keep the world healthy, it seems pertinent to make special mention of her mission in behalf of the open window at night. In the early years of her labors much unintelligent opposition to this method of ventilation, because of the supposed harmfulness of night air, was expressed, but Miss Nightingale had one stock argument in support of her position, it being the question, "What air shall we breathe at night but night air?" It was unanswerable from her opponents' point of view, even if it did not always convert them. But it did lead a considerable number into safer ways of living, and along the way to the present methods of treating tuberculosis.

Jolt for Circulant Army Officers. Chicago Record-Herald. Circulant army officers have been notified that they must exhibit gracefulness in their horsemanship or retire. A good many fat men are likely to be out of jobs in the near future.

Prophecy of a Feet. Chicago News. In enabling a cavalryman to use his horse in telegraphing or telephoning, science is not making great progress, to be sure, but it is certain that it is just as much advanced now as it has ever been—or ever will be, for that matter.

ON PRESIDENTIAL FIRING LINE.

Next Year's Electoral Vote and the Number Necessary to Elect. Herewith is a statement of the electoral vote to be cast in the presidential election of 1908, based on the apportionment act of 1901, with the addition of the new state of Oklahoma:

Table listing electoral votes for various states: Alabama 11, Arkansas 7, California 12, Colorado 7, Connecticut 5, Delaware 3, Florida 11, Georgia 12, Idaho 3, Illinois 12, Indiana 12, Iowa 7, Kansas 6, Kentucky 12, Louisiana 7, Maine 4, Maryland 12, Massachusetts 12, Michigan 12, Minnesota 12, Mississippi 7, Missouri 12, Montana 3, Nebraska 3, Nevada 3, New Hampshire 4, New Jersey 7, New York 33, North Carolina 12, North Dakota 3, Ohio 12, Oklahoma 7, Oregon 3, Pennsylvania 23, Rhode Island 4, South Carolina 7, South Dakota 3, Tennessee 7, Texas 12, Utah 3, Vermont 3, Virginia 12, Washington 5, West Virginia 6, Wisconsin 12, Wyoming 3.

The total in the electoral college is 483. The number of votes necessary to elect a president is 242. Arizona and New Mexico are admitted as the state of Arizona prior to 1908 the new state will have four electoral votes, thus making the total 487 and the number necessary to a choice 244.

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SHOTS AT OMAHA.

Norfolk Press: Grand Island will probably not on a few frills because Judge Munger decided they had a better jail there than in Omaha. That doesn't look right, because Omaha needs a good jail worse than Grand Island does.

Beatrice Express: The petty sagging of one another among Omaha papers in jealous rivalry weakens rather than strengthens them as influential publications and gains nothing for them as successful business institutions. Powerful as they are, they would be more so if they would broaden to complementarily tolerance instead of bitterly hate inevitable competition. It is well known that journals which do not trifle with one another build faster and larger, and become greater in the eyes of the public.

Grand Island Independent: The Omaha Real Estate exchange has adopted a resolution endorsing the general plan of a postal savings bank and expressing the hope that such a measure should be passed. It would be well if notice of such action be sent to every Nebraska senator and representative at Washington. The individual voter, too, can make his influence felt in however humble a walk of life he may be, if he will address a postal card to his congressman and separately expressing his hope that they may vote for such a measure.

Lincoln News: It certainly does have a strange sound to hear that steps are being taken at Omaha for the organization of an Anti-Saloon league branch, which will insist on the enforcement of state laws in the Missouri river metropolis. The direct occasion of this is the method taken by Omaha brewers to side-step the provisions of the Gibson law, which forbids them to own saloon buildings, fixtures or licenses. If the Anti-Saloon league gets into the game at Omaha, the fray will be worth watching. It begins to look as though the liquor trust in Nebraska had been cornered in its stronghold and was about to have the finishing touches put upon it there, so far as its political predominance is concerned.

PERSONAL NOTES. Emperor Francis Joseph has now lived to complete the sixtieth year of his reign. Even at 72 Mark Twain is young compared with the jokes that have brought him fame.

Victorien Sardou, at the age of 75, will shortly witness the production of his latest drama, "L'Affaire des Poisons." Sardou is still alert and vigorous, mentally and physically, but he thinks his latest effort will be his last at play writing.

When in the lottery for seats in the house of representatives at the opening session, J. Adam Bede of Minnesota, known as the wit of the house, drew No. 23, there was a storm of applause that indicated the members as well as the galleries liked the joke.

John D. Bristol, the veteran American landscape painter, and one of the oldest members of the National Academy of Design, who is poor and recently suffered a stroke of paralysis, has been removed to the Home for Incurables at Fordham, N. Y., where he will be cared for by the Artists' Aid society.

While General Grosvener passed out of the congressional limelight, Ohio still has in its delegation two veteran white-haired statesmen, who have passed 70 years of age—General J. Warren Keifer, ex-speaker of the house of representatives, and General James H. Etheridge, who represented Ohio thirty-four years ago.

The seed which ultimately blossomed into his longest poem, "Hiawatha," was sown into Longfellow's soul by a humble German missionary, said Dr. Julius Goebel, professor of German philology at Harvard university, in a lecture a few days ago in Chicago. A book written by Dr. Goebel, Heckerwelder, a German Moravian missionary to the Indians, says Dr. Goebel, furnished the inspiration and the greater part of the material for "Hiawatha."

A BOOSTER OF PROSPERITY. Mr. Harriman Fits Action to Optimistic Forecasts. Pittsburgh Dispatch. Public attention is likely to center on the prosperity interview given out by Edward B. Harriman. In its way it is unique. If it were not for the fact that Mr. Harriman has been arranging for large extensions and betterments of his system of western railroads, his outburst might be construed as sarcasm. His works, however, prove to the contrary, and his logic concerning the soundness of the country is absolutely irrefutable. Because he believes what he says, he is already busy building more railroads to care for the greater business he sees growing in the territory touched by the lines he has controlled.

There is one humorous feature that may or may not have been intended. He declares the public, having learned there is "only a rotten spot here and there," is again of good heart and ready to go forward. Mr. Harriman's intimate connection with the "rotten spots" disclosed by various official investigations is quite generally understood. In this instance the public is permitted to make its own guess whether Mr. Harriman means to ignore those particular "rotten spots," or whether it is his purpose to assure the public that having been found out he is going to mend his ways.

There is one thing not to be questioned. Mr. Harriman is a master of finance and of affairs. He is an optimist. He not only talks as one, but he acts like one, and there are few men in the country whose judgment of present conditions or whose future prospects is better than his. In this aspect there is no more encouraging news possible than the Harriman outburst.

Two Grades of Culpeps. Philadelphia Press. The millionaire caught in a trap is no different from the ordinary culprit when nabbed by a policeman. He evades, he lies, he shifts his position, he will commit perjury to escape. And the rich scoundrel, like the poor one, will try to cast discredit upon those responsible for his downfall.

No thief e'er felt the halter draw With good opinion of the law. We sincerely believe that 95 per cent of all the bank and business robberies are managed with the utmost fidelity. The grand majority know exactly where to put the blame for every rascally act on the part of the slim villainy. And it will avail the few crooked high financiers nothing to go on preaching that most idiotic doctrine about the White House being responsible for their own misdemeanors.

The West Has the Goods. St. Louis Republic. The kind of judgment with which we challenge attention in our western attitude toward everybody east of us means that they shall not go hungry if we can have our way, as we think we can. For we've got the corn, we've got the wheat, we've got the bacon, too.

Shooting Without Cause. Brooklyn Eagle. Several papers that are always too quick assumed that Senator Daniels was a gold digger and Mr. Bryan a silver convert. But it did lead a considerable number into safer ways of living, and along the way to the present methods of treating tuberculosis.

THE SMOOTH-SHAVEN AGE. The aspect of the house of representatives, or of the new members elected, regarded from the gallery at the capitol affords to the physiognomist suggestion of the opportunity which awaits some new Teufelsdröckh to write a Tonsor Retrospect, which would disclose to the world a new philosophy of whiskers. This might a system of chronology be suggested in which the various ages of the world should be distinguished by the then prevalent pattern of hirsute adornment of the manly face.

It will be—any, it was yesterday—observed by those who looked at the congressional portrait gallery presented in reticent halcyon days, that the present is primarily the smooth-shaven age. Of the 103 representatives portrayed, a strong majority of fifty-eight, evinced acquaintance with the razor, and with the most extensive application of that invaluable instrument. There were fifty-eight portraits of men who had shaved all parts of the land, entirely devoid of whiskers in any form; so that each of these statesmen might well say to the delineator of his countenance what Cromwell said to the painter, that he should depict him just as he was, concealing no blemish, and omitting no wrinkles.

Of the minority, by far the major part—no fewer than thirty-five—were seen to approximate as closely as possible to the majority by displaying nothing but mustaches, which were with few exceptions closely cropped. There were scarcely one who ventured to grow a full beard, the kind variously described in Helvigra as the cavalry colonel's mustache and in Oshkazoos as "soup strainers." After these there were only a few "also rans." Four displayed the combination of mustache and imperial which was once so much admired, and an equal number of "innocent of razor's touch but familiar with deftly wielded scissors. And finally one made bold with the same full display unceremonied, and one with the combination of mustache and side whiskers but shaven chin.

What a contrast to a congressional gallery of years ago, when the whiskers were as thick as the hair on a man's chest, and when only the most daring would have ventured to display merely a mustache, but when the average chin wore a flowing growth below a clean shaved upper lip. At other times probably a preponderance of faces were free from whiskers, and the kind variously described in Helvigra as the cavalry colonel's mustache and in Oshkazoos as "soup strainers." After these there were only a few "also rans." Four displayed the combination of mustache and imperial which was once so much admired, and an equal number of "innocent of razor's touch but familiar with deftly wielded scissors. And finally one made bold with the same full display unceremonied, and one with the combination of mustache and side whiskers but shaven chin.

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