

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROBEWATER.

VICTOR ROBEWATER, EDITOR.

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THE WORK TEST.

Municipal authorities in New York have adopted a plan for differentiating the unemployed, in order to protect the city and the charitable individuals from imposition by that earnest class of persons who are out of employment by choice, rather than from necessity.

The city is the natural refuge of men out of work. The ebb and flow of the demand for labor periodically leaves a large number of men without employment and these drift naturally to the nearest large city for the winter months.

Many men out of work and with little money seek modest accommodations in the cheaper lodging houses and wait with more or less patience for something in the shape of a job to turn up. Others, without resources, take advantage of the opportunities offered by the municipal lodging houses, the Salvation Army rooms and various places similarly provided for the unemployed.

The majority of these men are not tramps, but are out of employment because of the temporary reduction or stoppage of mills, mines, railroad construction or seasonal industries which furnished their employment during the summer.

If unable to obtain temporary employment for the winter, they should be looked after in every way possible by the missions and charitable institutions. The difficulty in bestowing this kind of assistance is complicated and increased by the shrewdness of the professional hobo, who loses no time in mingling with the enforced unemployed and sharing the benefits of charity bestowed upon genuine cases.

To meet this condition the New York authorities have decided to apply the labor test. The more announcement of the plan has served to clear out the municipal lodging houses of a horde of tramps who have started for other cities where the municipal authorities are not so hard-headed.

It is always difficult to distinguish by surface indications the tramp from the man deserving of assistance, but the work test has proved the best separator.

THE CENSUS COMPETITION. The Real Estate exchange is on the right track in its effort to set in motion all the machinery at our command to bring about the most creditable showing for Omaha in the coming census of 1910.

While this is no more the particular duty of the Real Estate exchange than it is of each of the other business organizations devoted to Omaha's growth and prosperity, some of them must take the initiative and all of them must be enlisted in the work.

Irrespective of its other aspects, the decennial census is from one point of view a competitive race of all large enterprising American cities for relative rank in the population line-up.

The decennial census fixes the order of our population centers in the official list according to size, which is consulted for reference throughout the civilized world. Whether Omaha is larger or smaller, and consequently more or less important, than St. Joseph, or Kansas City, or St. Paul, or Minneapolis, or Denver, and how much, is decided for most people by the figures of the federal census enumerators.

THE OMAHA COMMERCIAL CRUSADE.

Transportation circles here have given something of a shock by two reports made public recently concerning plans of the Canadian railways for a commercial invasion of the United States.

The first of these reports was to the effect that the Canadian Pacific was delecting for a control of the Boston & Maine railway, with which it has had a traffic agreement for years.

The second report is that the same Canadian road is negotiating for control of the Chicago Great Western, thus giving the Canadian road new arms reaching to Chicago, Omaha and Kansas City, tapping the very heart of the grain belt of the nation, with an unobstructed connection with both oceans commanded by an American railway system.

The Canadian road has been practically controlled by the Canadian government. The road and the government back of it have heretofore been content to run feeders into American territory and compete for local trade on a line parallel to the border.

This has not seriously interfered with the operation of American railroads, but the rumored plans would change our entire railroad map. Foreign control of a corporation operating in the United States would offer many opportunities for commercial, political and diplomatic quarreling, to say nothing as to whether it would be to our advantage or detriment.

In the meantime search fails to reveal any legal ground which the American government could interpose. Even if nothing tangible results from these rumors, they will perhaps serve to call attention of congress and our federal authorities that we have a very enterprising neighbor on the north whose commercial relations with the United States have never been properly cultivated or appreciated in this country.

Conservative democrats in Ohio will make an effort to send a delegation to the democratic convention instructed for Judson Harmon for the presidential nomination. They understand, of course, that Mr. Harmon has no ghost of a chance of the nomination, but they also understand that the instruction of a delegation for him would be a body blow to Tom Johnson, who thinks he owns the democratic party in Ohio.

The World-Herald gives a great reputation to the political sagacity of its Washington correspondent when he writes for the Sioux City Tribune. For its own readers, however, it depends for political pabulum upon the special commissioner of the Commoner, who is on the spot in Washington under instructions to paint dismal gloom for the republicans and rosetate hope for the democrats.

The big volume of the bank clearing house is very gratifying, but it must be remembered that the South Omaha banks have been clearing through Omaha only since the late financial crisis. This is all Omaha business, but people should understand the change made by the admission of the South Omaha banks to the Clearing House association.

Deputy Food Commissioner Johnson's next bid for applause is to be made by going after the "eye water" which has passed over drug store counters. The food commissioner's office must have consumed a lot of "eye water" to see all the buckram bogey men it has seen so valiantly fighting.

Colonel Bryan's appearance at the Dahlgren Democracy dinner will be matched by his attendance at the coming Jacksonian feast. It would be dangerous to the peace of the political family had Mr. Bryan favored one of these organizations of the unterrified and not the other.

Alabama and South Carolina each have laws prohibiting the carrying of pistols that are less than twenty-four inches long. The law is really unnecessary, as no fighting gentlemen of those states would be disgraced by carrying anything smaller than a three-foot gun.

WHERE JUSTICE FAILS.

Almost impossible to punish anybody for Railroad Slaughter. New York Times. What is the explanation of the difficulty about convicting anybody for misconduct in connection with railway accidents in the United States?

The other day the New York Central railway general manager escaped conviction, seemingly because he was general manager, that is, was too far removed from direct connection with the Woodlawn wreck and killing of twenty-four persons to be held criminally.

It is a reproach that persons should be killed by scores and hundreds, for causes so preventable as defective discipline. Yet this is the greatest single cause of railway disasters in the United States.

Of the 40 passengers killed last year 29 perished in the above ten cases, where act of God or mere misadventure cannot be pleaded. Yet so far as we know nobody has suffered anything more than inconvenience. They manage these things better even in Canada.

Where the Jolt Was Felt. Kansas City Star. The absolute strength and clarity of Secretary Taft's exposition of the rotten business methods contributing to the recent Wall street troubles are definitely indicated by the jolt which he caused.

Let It Go at This. Louisville Courier-Journal. Anyhow, for weal or woe, here is 1908. May it bring grit to every man's mill. At the end of it may each of us be able to repeat the prayer of the pious old dandy, who, whenever he got happy at camp-meeting, used to crack his heels in the air and flap his arms like rooster wings and crow: "Bless the Lord, I is gittin' fatter an' fatter."

Mighty Toll of Accidents. New York Tribune. The total number of killed and injured in the principal accidents during the calendar year 1907 reached enormous proportions. The death list for the year in the accidents chronicled amounts to the amazing total of 35,412.

Land Cases Appealed. Pittsburg Dispatch. Judge Lewis in Denver ruled that the use of stool pigeons in the filing of land claims is not illegal, thereby releasing all of the persons indicted by the government for timber, coal and land grabbing.

Political Drift. There are some drawbacks to being governor of New York. The legislature meets every year and sits as long as it feels like. Former Governor Benjamin B. Odell, Jr., of New York has during his illness several months fallen in weight from 215 pounds to 130 pounds.

Forefetal Presentation of Tragic Side of Transportation. W. J. Wood, railway commissioner of Indiana, in Leslie. If I were to tell you that an earthquake had shaken down San Francisco and killed 300 persons, if I were to read a telegram that yellow fever has become epidemic in all southern cities, if I should announce that war had been declared between Spain and the United States, and 1,000 men killed in battle, your attention would be instantly attracted.

Equal to Any Task. Baltimore American. After all, Mr. Taft's utterance proved that he was just the man Mr. Roosevelt supposed him to be.

Marking a Discoverer. Louisville Courier-Journal. Andrew Carnegie has discovered Fairbury, Neb., and commemorated the discovery by planting a \$20,000 library there.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The attempt to wrest the honor and emoluments of a British dukedom from its rightful owner proved as great a hoax as the testimony on which it was based.

The Japanese are showing the world that they are as quick, energetic and thorough in naval building as in other warlike enterprises. This was forcibly exhibited recently in the launching of the first-class armored cruiser Ibulki from the government shipbuilding yards at Kure within six months after the laying down of the keel.

Of the 40 passengers killed last year 29 perished in the above ten cases, where act of God or mere misadventure cannot be pleaded. Yet so far as we know nobody has suffered anything more than inconvenience.

English newspapers are taking notice of the disposition of the new cruiser Ibulki in a recent speech by Count Okuma, before the Kobe Chamber of Commerce. He said: "Oppressed by Europeans, the 300,000,000 people of India are looking for Japanese protection. Why should the Japanese not stretch out their hands toward that country now that its people are so oppressed?"

Another Passless State. Kansas Officials Give Up the Treasures of Former Years. Let not the past tempt your eyes. The last obstacle to the growth of angelic wings has been removed, and the populace will begin the ascension as soon as Missouri and Oklahoma are surgically severed from the former "bleeding commonwealth."

Secretary of State Denton was delegated to gather in the carboards. He promptly pulled a bunch from his own pocket of all sorts and denominations. He threw down a book of telephone franks in the middle of the table. The rest of the cards he spread out fan-like.

When New Year's day the meeting adopted another resolution to the effect that Nation must write a letter to one railroad, returning a pass and telling that road how he no longer will be "controlled." Nation wrote this to W. R. Smith, general solicitor of the Santa Fe.

The fight against the sleeping sickness in the Lake Victoria region in Uganda promises to be long and costly. One of the medical experts who has recently returned to England from South Africa estimates that an expenditure of \$50,000 a year will be necessary. The population of the affected area is now 100,000. It used to be 300,000, but 200,000 have actually died of the disease.

There are about 20,000 people suffering from the disease today, and it is proposed that the state should be taken into segregation camps to undergo the Atoxyl treatment, which consists of the administration of a compound of arsenic and one of benzene dyes. It has the power of driving the parasites from the circulation; it is hoped also to kill them by this means, but this, in a proportion of instances, has failed to do so.

Forefetal Presentation of Tragic Side of Transportation. W. J. Wood, railway commissioner of Indiana, in Leslie. If I were to tell you that an earthquake had shaken down San Francisco and killed 300 persons, if I were to read a telegram that yellow fever has become epidemic in all southern cities, if I should announce that war had been declared between Spain and the United States, and 1,000 men killed in battle, your attention would be instantly attracted.

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WHEN OUT OF TOWN.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have the Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested.

It is predicted that the ice crop will be short this year. Hoard your ice.

Some unknown man threw a bomb at the Stock exchange in Rome. Tom Lawson can prove an alibi.

The name of North Park in Boston has been changed to Scigliano, which, it is to be presumed, is Bostonese for North.

If the vote in Ohio places the same ratio as the vote in the republican state committee it will be two to one for Taft.

"They are a-pravin' for Jeff Davis in Arkansas," says a Little Rock paper. And they are a-layin' for him in Washington.

Mr. Cleveland now favors pensions for ex-presidents. He made a record as an anti-pension man while in the White House.

Paderewski is going to quit traveling and will settle down to a stationary job. It is hoped he will then find time to get his hair cut.

"Kid" Broad, the pugilist, says that he has a fight scheduled for every month of 1908. In other words, he is expecting a scrappy new year.

A recent story is to the effect that New York City stands on a bed of garnets. Surface indications point more nearly to a bed of graft.

Among the novelties scheduled for 1908 are five Saturdays in February, two new moons in April and a speech by Colonel Bryan in July.

"There will be no cabinets, no kings and no deacons in the next world," says Dr. Parkhurst. Likewise no sects and no sensational preachers.

GERMANY'S NATIONAL SCANDAL.

Back of the Harden-von Moltke libel case, just brought to a close in Berlin, is the story of official putridity that threatens to shake Germany to its official center.

Originally the editor of Die Zukunft made charges involving the morale of the German army and the loyalty and decency of the German court. When von Moltke failed to secure a verdict against Harden in the first trial, Emperor William ordered a rehearing and a searching investigation into the entire case.

This inquiry has developed the startling fact that Princess Charlotte, a sister of the emperor, had supplied Harden with the information on which were based the published charges of gross immorality against the clique posing as the emperor's advisers and closest friends.

Question has been raised, naturally, of the motives of the princess who has made these charges against the court circle, frankly admitting that she personally detests the men against whom her complaints and the vitriolic pen of Harden have been directed. With equal vehemence she insists that the charges are susceptible of convincing proof.

Her position has the effect of conceding her motives and making imperative a verification or disproval. The emperor's position is the one bright and redeeming feature in this exhibition of bitter court intrigue. He has demanded and is enforcing a vigorous and complete inquiry of all the charges. Clean-minded himself, he has been slow to believe the charges of taint and deception among those who have been his advisers and friends.

Alabama and South Carolina each have laws prohibiting the carrying of pistols that are less than twenty-four inches long. The law is really unnecessary, as no fighting gentlemen of those states would be disgraced by carrying anything smaller than a three-foot gun.

Governor Sheldon indicates that he will try to officiate in person, accompanied by his staff, at the presentation of the silver service to the battleship Nebraska. This is notice to a lot of colonels to polish up the buttons on their new uniforms and get in practice to wear them for the first time.

South Omaha comes in for a pretty poor rating in the report of the National Board of Underwriters on the fire hazard in that city, emphasis being laid on the weakness of the fire department. Of course, South Omaha will always be able to appeal to Omaha for assistance in case of conflagration, but it would have had a right to the benefits of a metropolitan fire department had the two cities been consolidated.

Clearing house certificates will soon become curious worth preserving," says the Philadelphia Inquirer. Mighty few of us care to remember the clearing house certificate or the conditions that gave it birth.

The 30,000 families on the East Side in New York who are objecting to paying the rents demanded have a long list of reasons for their position. The first of these is that they haven't got the money.

Southerners will entertain a mighty poor opinion of Governor Sparks of Nevada, who had to be prodded up by the president before he realized the existence of such a thing as state's rights.

Equal to Any Task. Baltimore American. After all, Mr. Taft's utterance proved that he was just the man Mr. Roosevelt supposed him to be.

LOWNEY'S Chocolate Bonbons. Always Delicious—Pure—Wholesome—Digestible. One Box will make a Happy Home! Every Sealed Package guaranteed Fresh and Full Weight.

MERRY JINGLES.

"Senator," said the correspondent, "you are quoted as advocating the abolition of capital punishment. How about that?" "Well," asked Senator Latham, "with a grin, 'don't you think capital has been punished about enough?'—Chicago Tribune.

"Captain Medico—What was that manever just now, Master Navigator?" "Navigator—Please, sir, they broke out her spinnaker." "Captain Medico—How careless of them! Let the spinnaker be put in splints immediately."—Baltimore American.

"Juggles—He's very proud of that youngster of his, Waddles—Yes. He thinks he's a mechanical genius because the other day the boy took his watch to pieces."—St. Louis Times.

"Say, Barroughs," said Markley, "how about that \$10 you owe me since last year?" "Of course, old man," said Barroughs, "why can't you let bygones be bygones?"—Philadelphia Press.

"Debonair is one of those genial philanthropers whom nothing seems able to disturb. He takes even trouble with civility." "Yes, to see his manners when he is laid up with a cold."—Indianapolis News.

"Have you made any good resolutions yet?" "Yes, one." "What is it?" "Not to make any."—Baltimore American.

Pope Gregory was reconstructing the calendar. "Some of my predecessors," he said, "have taken so many days off that I've got to make up the time somehow." Thereupon he made arrangements by which every fourth year became a leap year, being secure by reason of his office from the operation of the prerogative that goes with it.—Chicago Tribune.

The agitator appeared at the meeting of employees and requested a hearing. "Don't you men know that you have a grievance?" he asked, having taken the floor. "We do," responded the chairman. "We have a number, and you are the worst in the lot." After a hunky committee had tossed the agitator down stairs business proceeded.—Philadelphia Ledger.

THE PESSIMIST. Ben King. Nothing to do but work. Nothing to eat but food. Nothing to wear but clothes. To keep one from going nude. Nothing to breathe but air. Quick as a flash 'tis gone. Nowhere to fall but off. Nowhere to stand but on. Nothing to cough but phlegm. Nowhere to sleep but in bed. Nothing to weep but tears. Nothing to bury but dead. Nothing to sing but songs. All well, alas! alas! No money to go but out. Nowhere to come but back. Nothing to see but sights. Nothing to crush but thirst. Nothing to have but what we get. Thus thro' life we are cursed. Nothing to strike but a gall. Everything moves that goes. Nothing at all but common sense. Can ever withstand these woes.

SPECIAL For Saturday, \$1.00 and \$1.50 Shirts—85c \$1.00 Neckwear—65c Browning King & Co. R. S. WILCOX, Mgr. HAND SAPOLIO FOR TOILET AND BATH. Fingers touched by needwork cut every grain and look hopelessly dirty. Hand Sapolio removes not only the dirt, but also the ingrained, indurated scale, and restores the fingers to their natural beauty.