

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROBEWATER.

VICTOR ROBEWATER, EDITOR.

Entered at Omaha Postoffice as second class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

Daily (without Sunday), one year, \$4.00

Daily (with Sunday), one year, \$5.00

DELIVERED BY CARRIER:

Daily (with Sunday), per week, 10c

Address all complaints of irregularities

to delivery to City Circulation Department.

Omaha—The Bee Building.

South Omaha—City Hall Building.

Chicago—100-100 Home Life Insurance

Washington—25 Fourteenth Street N. W.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Communications relating to news and editorial

matter should be addressed, Omaha

Office, Editorial Department.

ADVERTISEMENTS:

Read by draft, express or postal order

payable to The Bee Publishing Company.

Only 1-cent stamps received in payment

of advertising. Personal checks, except on

Omaha or eastern exchange, not accepted.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION:

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.

George H. Tschuck, treasurer of The

Daily Publishing Company, being duly

sworn, says that the actual number of

copies of the Omaha Daily Bee printed

during the month of December, 1907, was

as follows:

1. Total number of copies printed, 138,000

2. Total number of copies distributed, 138,000

3. Total number of copies not distributed, 0

4. Total number of copies on hand, 0

5. Total number of copies destroyed, 0

6. Total number of copies sold, 138,000

7. Total number of copies not sold, 0

8. Total number of copies returned, 0

9. Total number of copies on hand, 0

10. Total number of copies destroyed, 0

11. Total number of copies sold, 138,000

12. Total number of copies not sold, 0

13. Total number of copies returned, 0

14. Total number of copies on hand, 0

15. Total number of copies destroyed, 0

16. Total number of copies sold, 138,000

17. Total number of copies not sold, 0

18. Total number of copies returned, 0

19. Total number of copies on hand, 0

20. Total number of copies destroyed, 0

21. Total number of copies sold, 138,000

22. Total number of copies not sold, 0

23. Total number of copies returned, 0

24. Total number of copies on hand, 0

25. Total number of copies destroyed, 0

26. Total number of copies sold, 138,000

27. Total number of copies not sold, 0

28. Total number of copies returned, 0

29. Total number of copies on hand, 0

30. Total number of copies destroyed, 0

31. Total number of copies sold, 138,000

32. Total number of copies not sold, 0

33. Total number of copies returned, 0

34. Total number of copies on hand, 0

35. Total number of copies destroyed, 0

36. Total number of copies sold, 138,000

37. Total number of copies not sold, 0

38. Total number of copies returned, 0

39. Total number of copies on hand, 0

40. Total number of copies destroyed, 0

41. Total number of copies sold, 138,000

42. Total number of copies not sold, 0

43. Total number of copies returned, 0

44. Total number of copies on hand, 0

45. Total number of copies destroyed, 0

46. Total number of copies sold, 138,000

47. Total number of copies not sold, 0

48. Total number of copies returned, 0

49. Total number of copies on hand, 0

50. Total number of copies destroyed, 0

51. Total number of copies sold, 138,000

52. Total number of copies not sold, 0

53. Total number of copies returned, 0

54. Total number of copies on hand, 0

55. Total number of copies destroyed, 0

56. Total number of copies sold, 138,000

57. Total number of copies not sold, 0

58. Total number of copies returned, 0

59. Total number of copies on hand, 0

60. Total number of copies destroyed, 0

61. Total number of copies sold, 138,000

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 seek out 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.

His position, however, may be taken as guaranty that complete justice will mark his judgment when all the facts are known and that all the guilty in the affair, even if some of them get a Scotch verdict of "not proven," will finally reap their deserts.

Clearing house certificates will soon become a curio 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 a 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.

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

Favorable Sons Outclassed. New York World. With a Vermont father, a Boston mother, two Worcester grandmothers, an Ohio boyhood, a Yale collegiate course and a round-the-world record seldom surpassed, Mr. Taft has all the other "favorite sons" beaten to a palpitating pulp.

Jeopardy for Position. Cincinnati Enquirer. Presidential election this year. Seemed a long way off yesterday, but now it's here. Step up, gentlemen, and make your choice. Nice list. Sounds almost like a sentence. Listen! Cannon Hughes Forker, Taft Knox Fairbanks. Change them around to suit your fancy.

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 has been felt in his Boston address has drawn forth from the plunger and grafter who really caused the panic.

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 dorky, 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. The columns of the seriously injured foot up to 23,307.

Land Cases Appealed. Holdings of the Denver Judge Taken to Higher Court. Pittsburgh 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. But Judge Lewis has not the final word. It is announced by the Department of Justice at Washington that immediate appeal will be taken from the Denver decision in every case before that court.

Other courts have decided differently on the same question and convictions have been given under the same testimony. The Denver ruling, therefore, comes as a surprise. Even to the layman it appears ridiculous that an act prohibited by general land laws of the United States should be held to be legal. If such a decision should be allowed to stand it would become a serious problem to decide in what instances the law should be obeyed and in what others it might be ignored with impunity.

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. The recently published report of the Interstate Commerce commission groups the ten worst accidents for the last year, and not one of them is due to mechanical failure of apparatus. Only in one was apparatus even indirectly responsible. Three cases remain unexplained and in the rest there was preventable blame on some part of the railway staff.

Of the 40 passengers killed last year 291 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. They make accidents fewer in the Dominion, for no other reason apparently than that they make it more disagreeable for those who, with or without excuse, are connected with such regrettable incidents.

When the Michigan Central train exploded dynamite in Canada the judge declared that the negligence of the railway in not specially instructing the employes regarding such freight made his blood run cold. Under such a charge the jury saw its way to a conviction, under which a fine of \$2000 was imposed. The same judge in another case refused even to consider the employe's plea that he was overworked. He said he would take measures to punish the company for overworking its staff, but he would punish the staff for allowing itself to be overworked, at the cost of human life. In a third case the same judge took similar exemplary measures. These cases raise the question whether the judges cannot discipline railway staffs, if general managers cannot, and whether the riding public at large cannot promote such a result by less humbly acquiescing in miscarriages of justice.

Another Passless State. Kansas Officials Give Up the Treasures of Former Years. Let not the former states of their whitened locks sob for Kansas now. 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." The reason for the change, written in fateful levity, are thus explained: At a special session of the Kansas state executive council Tuesday afternoon, a resolution was adopted upon motion of Auditor Nation, that the annual railroad passes of each state officer be collected and placed in the State Historical society as relics of the glorious past.

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. Auditor Nation also took a handful from his pocket. Denton offered to let his telephone book against Nation's Young Men's Christian association card. At midnight the "pass passed." They all pay fare.

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.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of January 1, 1907, enclosing annual pass No. B-2862 over your road. I am returning the pass herewith for the reason that I cannot conscientiously keep it. I have taken considerable time to think over this step, during which time I carefully considered the possibility of the pass being used for the purpose of obtaining me in to but a few people, most of them trusted employes of your road.

I might have come to this conclusion at a much earlier date, but most of my time during the past summer has been consumed in a search for facts to warrant me in taking further light on this perplexing problem.

Forefatal 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 was had been declared between Spain and the United States, and 1,000 men killed in battle, your attention would be instantly attracted. But I am not so sure of persuading your practical interest when I present to you the solemn, disgraceful fact of the railway death toll. During the eight years from 1897 to 1904, inclusive, there was a steady increase in the number of casualties. The total number of killed during that period was 62,225—as if a community as large as Salt Lake City had been wiped out by a sudden and terrible catastrophe—while 61,227 were injured—so if every man, woman and child in Buffalo had been exterminated or otherwise hurt, if casualties continue to increase at the same rate for eight succeeding years, from 1905 to 1912, there will be 215,399 killed and 1,429,300 injured. That is, at this rate there are upwards of 100,000 people in the United States under sentence of death. It is executed on the railway before the close of 1912, and a larger number are doomed to be maimed or otherwise injured than the entire population of the District of Columbia, Delaware, Alaska, Idaho and the Hawaiian Islands.

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. For weeks past American newspapers have had letters and cablegrams explaining and detailing the "Druse Mystery" through the courts. Legal proceedings have been in progress for ten years by George Hallamby Druse to prove that Herbert Druse, the dead duke's son, committed perjury in swearing that his father died in 1861, and further that Thomas G. Druse was in reality the fifth duke of Portland. Were that established George Hallamby Druse, a nephew and senior descendant, would inherit the dukedom. American interest was aroused in the case by the testimony of Robert C. Caldwell of New York, who swore that the Druse funeral in 1861 contained lead instead of human remains. Remains of legal red tape had to be unrolled before the duke's grave could be opened, and when it was opened the usual assortment of human bones were found, thus completely demolishing the alleged "hoax" of Caldwell's lies for America, soon after giving his testimony and was arrested on reaching New York on a warrant charging him with perjury. Besides the dukedom an estate yielding \$2,000,000 a year passes beyond the reach of the conspirators.

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. Not only do the Japanese believe that they have beaten all previous records for speed in the construction of war vessels of this class, but the Ibulki also is unique because of the fact that from keel to fighting top it was built entirely of materials forged and put together in Japanese government yards. The cruiser Ibulki, which was launched by Prince Higashi-Fushimi on November 21, is a sister ship to the Kurama, recently launched at the Yokosuka yards. Its length is 460 feet, beam 55 feet and displacement 14,000 tons. Fitted with the Miyabara boiler, the invention of a Japanese naval officer, and the Curtis turbine, the Ibulki is expected to develop 25,000 horsepower. Both the Ibulki and its sister ship, the Kurama, were designed by Japanese naval engineers, as all of the battleships recently built in Japan have been. The keel was laid at Kure in May, 1907, and immediately a double force of men was put at work. The Naval office denies that any special machinery was made to rush the cruiser through to completion, but the Japanese papers say that the bureau was not averse to a demonstration of just how quickly a fighting machine could be turned out by its artificers. Every ounce of steel used in the construction of the new cruiser was manufactured either the Kure steel yard, which is a part of the great naval plant at that port, or the Wakamatsu iron works, an independent concern subsidized by the government.

English newspapers are taking notice of the disposition of the new cruiser made manifest 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? Any place where the Japanese flag flies may be regarded as Japan. The Japanese dominion extends to the Pacific, the Chinese waters, the Indian ocean." This would indeed seem to be enough to make English newspapers take notice of Okuma's London Chronicle says: "He is one of the most famous, as he is the most eloquent of living Japanese statesmen. He was long the popular leader of the progressive party. When such a man speaks of the disposition of the people in India by the shield of his own country, his words bear a sinister omen." Clearly so. It is asserted, moreover, that India is being stirred by the firebrand cry of "Asia for the Asiaties!" to which may be added this comment from the New York World: "Meredith Townsend, editor and serialized, lived in India for a forty-two year period, which included the time of the Sepoy rising. In papers published before the outbreak of the war over Manchuria Mr. Townsend proclaimed his inability to believe in the present effort of Europe to dominate Asia, the fourth within the historic period, will be permanently successful. "After nearly a century of element government," he writes, "there are not 10,000 natives in India who, unpaid and unrecruited, would die in defence of British sovereignty."

The flight 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 \$5,000,000 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 area should be taken under quarantine 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. The cure of the 20,000 afflicted natives is, therefore an open question. The problem of dealing with the remaining 80,000 healthy natives, who are to be moved inland from the shores of the lake, is not so formidable a task as it may appear at first sight. It is only necessary, it appears, to move the people two miles inland. The tsetse fly breeds within fifteen or twenty yards of the edge of the water, and will only follow victims for some hundreds of yards up to a mile or so, beyond which limit the fly-breeding areas will be cleared of the insect by a complete clearance of vegetation from all the landing stages along the Victoria Nyansa, and ferries and water holes are to be similarly treated, because the flies can only live where there is thick brush. Shade is essential in their existence. The landing stages will be cleared of brush to the extreme limit necessary to insure immunity from the flies, and the area so treated will be planted with some low-growing plant that will not supply shade, but will insure the cultivation necessary to keep down the jungle."

To commemorate the sixtieth year of the reign of Francis Joseph the postal authorities of Austria issued on January 1 a new set of postage stamps, eighteen in number, and only three will be sold by the government in the year 1908. The stamps were designed by Prof. Kain Moser and executed in steel plates by E. Stimpka. The lower denominations bear the portraits of the six rulers who preceded the venerable emperor named Karl VI, Maria Theresa, Joseph II, Leopold II, Franz I and Ferdinand. All the others show Francis Joseph at various stages of his life. The 30-heller stamp has a portrait of the emperor as he appeared in 1868, when, at a youth of eight, he ascended the throne, the 50-heller stamp shows him as he was in 1878, after thirty years of manhood. The real postage stamp is the one of 30-koronen in value.

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, Wiggles—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, you can say of him as naturally that he is perfectly natural and in ease at the same time."—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 employes 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.

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 comb but hair. 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 after every meal and look hopelessly dirty. Hand Sapolio removes not only the dirt, but also the germs, infused with it, and restores the fingers to their natural beauty. ALL GROCERS AND DRUGGISTS.

LOWNEY'S Chocolate Bonbons. Always Delicious—Pure—Wholesome—Digestible. One Box will make a Happy Home! Every Sealed Package guaranteed Fresh and Full Weight. Fancy Boxes and Baskets in exclusive designs—for Gifts. THE WALTER M. LOWNEY CO. Makers of Cakes and Chocolates BOSTON, MASS.

LOWNEY'S Chocolate Bonbons. Always Delicious—Pure—Wholesome—Digestible. One Box will make a Happy Home! Every Sealed Package guaranteed Fresh and Full Weight. Fancy Boxes and Baskets in exclusive designs—for Gifts. THE WALTER M. LOWNEY CO. Makers of Cakes and Chocolates BOSTON, MASS.

LOWNEY'S Chocolate Bonbons. Always Delicious—Pure—Wholesome—Digestible. One Box will make a Happy Home! Every Sealed Package guaranteed Fresh and Full Weight. Fancy Boxes and Baskets in exclusive designs—for Gifts. THE WALTER M. LOWNEY CO. Makers of Cakes and Chocolates BOSTON, MASS.

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 after every meal and look hopelessly dirty. Hand Sapolio removes not only the dirt, but also the germs, infused with it, and restores the fingers to their natural beauty. ALL GROCERS AND DRUGGISTS.