

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: George B. Tschuck, treasurer of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual circulation of full and complete copies of The Daily Morning Bee and Sunday Bee printed during the month of February, 1908, was as follows:

1. Total number of copies printed 100,000

2. Total number of copies distributed 85,000

3. Total number of copies not distributed 15,000

4. Total number of copies sold 80,000

5. Total number of copies not sold 20,000

6. Total number of copies returned 2,000

7. Total number of copies not returned 18,000

8. Total number of copies not returned and not sold 2,000

9. Total number of copies not returned and not sold and not distributed 13,000

10. Total number of copies not returned and not sold and not distributed and not returned 15,000

11. Total number of copies not returned and not sold and not distributed and not returned and not returned 17,000

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STOPPERS FOR OMAHA.

The railroads are already making arrangements for excursion rates on convention travel to Chicago and Denver. Much of this travel both east and west will use the Omaha gateway and with favorable conditions permitting stopovers the excursionists will be glad to break their journey at Omaha between trains, if not from one day to the next. Our people ought to urge upon the railroad passenger associations that stop-over privileges at this point be granted on all reduced rate tickets either east or west over lines that converge here.

To put in these stop-overs will require the reopening of the validating office at Omaha, formerly maintained in this city, but closed last year. The railroads are entitled to insist upon the necessary safeguards to prevent ticket scalping at stop-over points; but by means of the system of deposit and validating which they have put into effect for this purpose they are reasonably protected. They are not likely, however, to restore the validating office at Omaha of their own accord, but proper pressure from this end might, and ought to, make them see it to their advantage to make Omaha a stop-over station for all transcontinental excursion business.

SOME ANXIOUS SENATORS. The desire of some of the leaders on both sides for an early adjournment of congress is not based wholly on eagerness to participate in the presidential campaign. The crossed wires of politics are making a good many of the United States senators uneasy and most of them want to get back home to take active charge of their campaigns for re-election. The senators who will come up for re-election in the legislatures next January, are: Allison of Iowa.

Alben Barkley of Kentucky. Brundage of Connecticut. Clarke of Arkansas. Clay of Georgia. Dillingham of Vermont. Stewart of Vermont. Foraker of Ohio. Fulton of Oregon. Gallinger of New Hampshire. Gore of Oklahoma. Hansbrough of North Dakota. Hemmenway of Indiana. Heyburn of Idaho. Hopkins of Illinois. Johnston of Alabama. Kittredge of South Dakota. McNeery of Louisiana. Long of Kansas. Newlands of Nevada. Overton of North Carolina. Penrose of Pennsylvania. Perkins of California. Platt of New York. Smoot of Utah. Stephenson of Wisconsin. Stone of Missouri. Teller of Colorado.

Senator Allison has just been endorsed by a convention in his state, but Governor Cummins shows no hint of yielding to the expression of preference and will carry the fight to the next primary. Senator Kittredge has been defeated in the preliminaries by Governor Coe I. Crawford of South Dakota, but will not yield without another contest. Senator Hansbrough has a hot fight on his hands in North Dakota and has been home several weeks shaping his campaign for re-election. Senator Long of Kansas has a rival in Joseph L. Bristow of post-office fame.

However, the fall elections go, Senator Teller will hardly be returned. He has not affiliated with the democrats and has been out of republican councils since 1894. He appreciates the conditions and has announced that he will not make any canvass for re-election. Senator Smoot will have a contest for re-election, even if the Mormons control the Utah legislature. A bitter fight is being made against Senator Fulton of Oregon, with the chances against his re-election. Senator Platt of New York would like another term in the senate, but with small prospect. Senator Foraker's seat is in doubt. His friends insist that he will be sent back to the senate, but the prediction does not rest on present political indications in Ohio.

While many republican senators will have to fight for re-election, the contests are with other republicans and the senate will remain republican, irrespective of the November election.

A PLETHORA OF PARTIES. According to promise of the different political lineups for the coming campaign, the voter who cannot find some candidate with a platform that suits him will be difficult to please, indeed. While the old-line parties are going ahead as usual with the preliminary work of selecting candidates, framing platforms and preparing to solicit the suffrages of the voters, new organizations are being formed nearly every day to appeal for national support.

The latest addition to the new organizations is proposed by the railroad men of Chicago, who have taken steps looking to the formation of a railway party. The promoters say it should be easy to enlist 1,500,000 railway employees and others directly interested in railway operation and all they are looking for now is a competent leader to run for president on their ticket. The advocates of the new party contend that while they could not hope to elect their candidate they would exert an influence that would put a stop to hostile railway regulation by the old parties.

It is doubtful if the new organization will be given attention enough to warrant its existence through the preliminary stages of a campaign. The fact is that the people already have about as many parties as they will support. The populists will meet at St. Louis on April 2 to nominate a national ticket. The Christian party will name a ticket at Rock Island, Ill., on May 1, and will adopt a platform for the exclusion of all but Protestants from public offices. The republicans will meet in Chicago on June 16 and the democrats at Denver on July 7. The prohibitionists will name their national ticket at Columbus, O., on July 17, and Mr. Hearst will assemble his followers in national convention about July 20 and name the candidates for his newly launched national independence party. The socialists have not fixed the dates for their national convention, but they will probably be in the field, as usual, with two or more tickets.

Under the circumstances, the promoters of another national party are apt to get lost in the crowd before the summer is over.

INTEREST ON FEDERAL DEPOSITS. The Aldrich bill, as it has passed the senate, contains one meritorious provision, at least, in requiring national banks to pay interest at the rate of 1 per cent per annum upon deposits placed by the secretary of the treasury. The lack of a legal requirement for the payment of interest by the national depository banks has been the source of much criticism in and out of congress for years, but efforts to enact a law compelling interest payment have always failed.

Perhaps the only complaint against the provision as adopted by the senate will be found in the fact that the rate of interest is too low. In nearly all the states in the union the banks are required by law to pay not less than 2 per cent upon funds deposited by state treasurers, including state school funds, and most cities receive a like interest on their deposits. No reasonable argument has ever been offered to justify the placing of federal funds in the banks without any interest whatever. The deposits are increased largely in times of financial stress, when the banks feel a currency shortage and have no difficulty at any time in reloading at profitable rates. The amount of money on deposit by the government in national banks is now more than \$250,000,000. The banks should pay a decent rate of interest upon this amount—more even than demanded by the Aldrich bill.

REJECTION OF DR. HILL. In spite of all the explanations sent out from Berlin about the refusal of the German emperor to accept Dr. David Jaynes Hill as American ambassador at Berlin, it must appear that the American government and Dr. Hill have been placed in an embarrassing, if not humiliating position, that could easily have been avoided.

None questions the right of a ruler to decline to receive an accredited ambassador or minister from a foreign country. The recognition of this right has led to a custom among the diplomatic representatives of "feeling out" the ground before such an appointment is announced. This custom was followed by our State department authorities at Washington and the record shows that the German emperor expressed satisfaction, if not positive pleasure, at the prospect of having Dr. Hill assigned to Berlin. If the kaiser has changed front without warning against the formal appointment of Dr. Hill it is difficult to see how he is going to justify his action, by which Dr. Hill's diplomatic career receives such a setback.

The only plausible explanation offered for the rejection of Dr. Hill is that he has served as a diplomatic representative only in Switzerland and The Netherlands, and is therefore not regarded as having had sufficient experience in practical diplomacy to entitle him to be accredited to one of the first powers of Europe. If this is the real objection it will be generally regretted that the emperor did not think of it before he led our authorities to believe that the appointment of Dr. Hill would be acceptable to him.

Still another theory rests on the assumption that the position of the emperor has been misrepresented, either in the first instance or later in his alleged objection to Dr. Hill. In that event it will devolve on the two governments to place the responsibility for the mistake and to hold the blameworthy parties to account.

One of the "prime movers" of the proposed new bridge between Omaha and Council Bluffs discusses the purpose of the project, but "declines to permit the use of his name." If this bridge is a good thing, why should not those behind it come out in the open and tell us all about it? Pushing a big enterprise like that "incognito" is apt to bring down suspicion upon it.

CLINATION AS AN OFFSET FOR A LACK OF CASH.

If the bill should become a law making municipal bonds available for securing emergency bank note currency, the broker who picked up the last batch of Omaha's 4 1/2 per cent bonds at a shade premium will make a nice stake. Moral: Don't sell any more city bonds until it is definitely known what congress is going to do.

Seen through democratic spectacles, the recent Iowa democratic state convention is said to have been the most enthusiastic democratic gathering held in that state in years. The Iowa democrats certainly have not had anything to get enthusiastic over in a long time and need the lung exercise.

The local democratic organ can always see huge gobs of discord in the republican camp, but never a ripple among the democratic faithful, yet it has the nerve to fly at the top of its flagstaff the motto, "An Independent Newspaper."

Nebraska's two United States senators divided on the final roll call on the Aldrich bill. It has been a long time since Nebraska has had two senators at Washington who stayed on the same side of the fence.

Governor Johnson says he does not believe any man should be an active candidate for a presidential nomination. Here are three more reasons for estrangement between Minnesota and Nebraska democracy.

Robbers. Philadelphia Press. After accepting \$100,000 from Denver as the price of the national convention, the democratic national committee finds out it could have had \$250,000 just as easily. And it needed the money so much, too.

A Slight Reduction. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. It is stated that the April dividends to be paid by railroad, industrial and traction corporations will be \$18,000,000, compared with \$14,000,000 a year ago. The recent flurry falls a long way short of an old-fashioned panic.

Fathers Given a Show. Washington Post. While this country has had a congress of mothers and a congress on the well-being of the child, Belgium now announces a congress on the education of the family. That country is apparently determined to give the father a chance to be heard.

Romance of the Dollar Mark. Baltimore American. The stage and real life seem to be exchanging places just now. While the stage is rejecting romance and devoting itself to studies of commonplace life, princes of the blue are in actual life giving up titles, prospects and ambitions to marry for love's sweet sake, just as is usually done only in romances and fairy tales. It simply goes to show that romance dies hard in the human breast, and when refused one outlet promptly seeks another.

Close Watch on Anarchists. Baltimore American. There must be a closer watch on anarchists in this country. They have been given too much liberty, which they have abused and have led the weak-minded to murder and assassination. It is never easy to convict their leaders, for these are wise enough to keep out of direct participation in open crime; but in truth they are more responsible than the men who become their tools. They are careful to conceal in every city can they be convinced that the law is stronger than they.

Effective Way of Giving Public Sentiment a Boost. Leslie's Weekly. The city of St. Louis has a Civic league that does things. It has succeeded in getting the leading merchants of that city to agree to stop advertising on billboards when their contracts expire. This agreement was secured by showing the merchants that billboards were spoiling the beauty of the city and by proving that such advertising did not pay because citizens were opposed to the boards and to the advertising displayed thereon. If there is one city in the United States that needs a boost in billboards it is New York. Whether one rides in the surface of the elevated or the subway cars he must see unsightly boards. There is no reason why the present state of affairs should continue. One ounce of public sentiment is worth a pound of legislation—strange as it may seem. The advertiser who cares more about money than he does about the appearance of a city is a good one to let alone.

OUR NOISY CONVENTIONS. They Differ Greatly from Those of Sixty Years Ago. Boston Globe. For many years national conventions were comparatively quiet and business-like affairs. The delegates journeyed from their homes singly to the place of meeting, where they convened in an ordinary hall. No nominating speeches were made and there were no cheering crowds. Balloting proceeded with as much decorum as in a parish meeting.

Now cities clamor for the "concession" of a national convention and subscribe a \$20,000 guarantee in order to obtain the privilege. Delegates go in special trains, attended off by bands and banner bearers, and each delegation takes up a section of a hotel for its exclusive accommodation.

The convention hall is a vast auditorium and the delegates are seated in the aisles at prices which are the envy of an opera-goer. Into the large structure 15,000, 12,000 and even 20,000 people swarm, completely surrounding and hanging over the few hundred delegates.

In the shouting and tumult, there is no opportunity for deliberation, while debate is a physical impossibility except to the few who nature has endowed with throats like organ pipes.

A national convention voice is a rare gift. Some of the speakers in the country are flat failures in this extravagant and roaring arena. Of speaking-making there is no end, but argument would be ill-timed and misplaced. The true and only aim of convention oratory is to rip the blue swamp and split the ears of the clucking boomers.

Well may Mr. Bryce have said in his American Commonwealth: "A European is astonished to see 800 men prepare to transact the two most difficult pieces of business an assembly can undertake, the solemn consideration of their principles, and the selection of the person they wish to place at the head of the nation, in the sight and hearing of 12,000 other men and women."

ON PRESIDENTIAL FIRING LINE.

Relative Standing of Candidates for Republican Nomination. Chicago Record-Herald. Illinois and Tennessee held the center of the convention stage last week, with Rhode Island and several scattering districts on the side. The result is a further gain for Taft, an expected increase in the Cannon total, and several more uncommitted and contested delegates. The summarized lineup to date is as follows