

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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Net total, 1,138,000. Daily average, 3,147. GEORGE E. STREIBER, Treasurer.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 28th day of April, 1908. ROBERT BUNICK, Notary Public.

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

The supposed settlement of Omaha's vaccination controversy evidently won't take.

What is meant by 'emergency' currency? asks a subscriber. Ever have to pawn your overcoat?

Raisins begin to report that the details of his assassination were very much exaggerated.

The local branch of the Missouri River Navigation congress will now make a noise like a steamboat.

The house passed 1,000 private pension bills in one day. That's one way to add elasticity to the currency.

The recently organized new idea party wants President Roosevelt to run again. That's not a new idea.

Joseph Letter, the wheat king, is going to be married. He has at last got into one market that he cannot corner.

The term, "the idle rich," is a misnomer. Most of them are busy either in the divorce courts or before the grand juries.

While Mr. Taft is at Panama it might be a good plan to have him drop down to Venezuela to tell Castro what we think of him.

Russia has bought five new battleships. When Japan needs some new ones it may decide to go over and take them away from Russia.

"It looks like Brazil and defeat," says a democratic newspaper in Massachusetts. Just another way of remarking that it looks natural.

The New York legislature has made it a felony for any person to conduct a "bucket shop" in that state. Wall street's game must be protected.

Most of the aspirants for the republican presidential nomination appear to be worried because so many of their toned-for delegates are "at large."

Germany has decided to build four battleships of the largest type, instead of two, as was originally planned. The Kaiser has no congress on his hands.

The new comptroller of the currency at Washington is said to be a fine athlete. He may consider himself matched for a wrestle with the money question.

Colorado is all for Taft and so is Arkansas. The transmississippi contingent in the Chicago convention promises to be an almost solid phalanx behind the big war secretary.

The king of Italy wants the duke of the Abruzzi to wait a year before marrying Miss Elkins. It is a safe guess that Senator Elkins sides with the king on that proposition.

The end of the fight for 3-cent fares in Cleveland was celebrated with one day of free rides for every one who boarded the street cars. That sort of a celebration could not happen in Omaha without colliding with the Nebraska anti-pass law.

The only way to make sure that the Missouri river is given due consideration in any scheme for national waterway improvement, is for the people along the Missouri river to show themselves equally wide-awake and alert with those along the other great navigable streams.

MR. HEARST ON MR. BRYAN

Although Mr. Bryan threw a beautiful verbal bouquet at Mr. Hearst in the St. Louis convention four years ago, Mr. Hearst is not throwing any bouquets in Mr. Bryan's direction right now. It is to be expected that Mr. Hearst would antagonize all the republican presidential aspirants, but he seems to go out of his way at the same time to hand Mr. Bryan a package.

Mr. Hearst's Chicago Examiner of two days ago editorially depreciates the claims of Mr. Bryan, asserting that he is "the beneficiary of the delay and timidity of his party and of his opponents," and adding that "if Governor Johnson had marched boldly and unhesitatingly into the arena when the anti-Bryan conference was held last autumn, the chances are that he might have had the nomination."

Mr. Bryan's handicap is sized up by Mr. Hearst's Examiner, as follows: "Mr. Bryan will have to fight the prestige of two successive defeats—the last incomparably greater than the first. He will have to fight the impression, which he does not seem able to remove, that he is an extremist, and the increasingly conservative age will not understand his all-too-sudden repudiation of his advocacy of government ownership and other reforms unaccomplishable at present."

Mr. Hearst's Examiner is plainly convinced that Mr. Hearst would have been the democratic nominee last time instead of Judge Parker had Mr. Bryan supported him as he should, and reasons from that that Mr. Bryan is more interested in his own personal triumph than in the triumph of principle.

According to Mr. Hearst, the nomination of Bryan at Denver will be brought about by the vote of Illinois, delivered through Roger Sullivan, whom Bryan denounced as "a highwayman and robber," and "there is no evidence that Sullivan has ever repented of the political crimes that called forth these denigrating epithets."

So long as Mr. Hearst is of this mind he will not support Mr. Bryan as Roger Sullivan's nominee.

FREE TRADE REJECTED

Statesmen, politicians and students of current events, both in England and the United States, have been offering various explanations for the surprising defeat of Winston Churchill, a member of the new British cabinet, for re-election in the Manchester district. One claim is that his rejection was due to Premier Asquith's refusal to bring in a home rule bill.

In a broader way the Churchill defeat is another indication that the country has had its confidence in the liberal government impaired and that the time for a dissolution of the Parliament and an appeal to the country can not be much longer deferred.

COTTON PRODUCTION AND PRICES

Cotton has fallen in price to below 10 cents a pound and southern planters are again raising the cry for limiting the acreage in order to hold prices of the great staple at the level they believe it should be.

of planting a little more than usual and the result has been the "night riders" raids, arson, murder and anarchy. The cotton growers and other producers of agricultural commodities will have to be content with allowing the old law of supply and demand to fix the prices of their wares subject only to a beneficent Providence.

HOW MUCH IS WATER?

Thomas Fortune Ryan, recognized as one of the leaders of the captains of industry in New York, with large interests in life insurance companies, traction companies, railroads and nearly all of the greater corporations, has started a heated discussion by testifying before a New York grand jury that the stock of the American railroads consist of 95 per cent of water.

Slason Thompson, regularly employed publicity agent for the railroads, rushes into print with a vigorous denial of Mr. Ryan's statement. He contends that most of the railroads, particularly those in the east, "were built and maintained from the legitimate proceeds of stock and bond sales," and asserts that most of the western roads have paid dollar for dollar on the stock issued.

As another evidence that our present court house facilities have been outgrown, we are about to have a grand jury with no place to put it unless it crowds some one else out of house and home.

Ten Years Ago and Now

Ten years ago today United States cruisers were prevailing on Spanish commerce. Today both countries are at peace, over the fact that the United States last year imported \$11,000,000 worth of goods from Spain.

Let It Go With This

Like many other Americans, Lincoln sometimes wore a beard and sometimes did not. Like others, his friends probably told him when he was wearing one that he would look better without and when he was not wearing one that he would look better with.

A Pitiabie Admission

Driven to the wall with his reckless charge of corruption, Mr. Bryan makes a pitiable admission. He knows of no corporation or individual who is engaged in corrupting delegates to vote against giving him a two-thirds vote in the democratic national convention.

Sailing Past Pleasure's Harms

It appears to have been definitely concluded that the war fleet on its return voyage from the waters of Asia shall not stop in any of the ports of Europe. What! Shall our gallant tars after their long cruise around the world be denied the opportunity of dancing by moonlight on the Bosporus or the Bosphorus?

THE CYCLONE SEASON

The "cyclone season" does not open at the same time for all parts of the Mississippi valley. What is peculiarly called the opening of the season this year shows in returns of loss of life during the last few weeks at points in the northwest, in Texas, in the Gulf states and in what were once the heavily timbered states of the middle Mississippi.

Atmospheric Disturbances Related to Forest Destruction

Probably the general causes of these conditions will be fully understood in the near future as an inevitable incident of atmospheric circulation, as in the vast area where two great mountain chains the sun "moves north" in spring and summer with hardly a hill high enough to be called a mountain between the mouth of the Mississippi river and the Arctic circle.

THE UNCERTAINTY AS TO THE OUTCOME

The uncertainty as to the outcome at Chicago is as profound as ever," says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. The uncertainty is whether the name of any other candidate than Mr. Taft will be presented at the convention.

OUR DEMOCRATIC CITY COUNCILMEN

Our democratic city councilmen are holding \$120,000 in an uninvested balance in the power fund drawing 3 per cent interest from the bank in

which it is deposited. This money represents the proceeds of bonds that are bearing approximately 5 per cent interest, so that the taxpayers are holding the sack for over \$3,000 a year by reason of this unbusinesslike transaction. This is only one sample of democratic economy.

To the anxious inquirer who takes exception to The Bee's statement that Nebraska is now exposing its first blackbird governor to the dangers of leap year, citing other governors who have been eligible for the matrimonial market, we answer that all the previous unattached occupants of the executive office were widowers and that there is a vast difference between widowers and bachelors.

The "only democratic congressman" from Nebraska has taken another fall out of the Beef trust, following his previous exploit of taking a fall out of the Paper trust. The only tangible result so far, however, is to swell the profits of the concerns that sell to the government the paper consumed by space fillers and Congressional Record.

The explanation is still forthcoming why, after complaining last year that its property was over-assessed, the only good railroad in Nebraska should this year return under oath the same property at from three to four times the valuation it placed on it last year.

"Does Michigan want Bryan?" asks the Detroit News. As soon as the answer is received, will the News please send a prepaid telegram to Fairview, Neb., and thus relieve the anxiety of a gentleman who is deeply interested.

Count Hosi is said to be on the trail of his princely cousin, De Sagan, determined to engage him in another duel. They might recoup their fallen fortunes by charging an admission fee to these farce fights.

The death gratuity came in the campaign for city officers last fall, when Mayor Johnson, nominated for the fourth time, put squarely to the voters the issue of 3-cent fares and the relief of the city company from business. The republicans, supporting the street railway side of the question, nominated Theodore Burton, the Cleveland congressman, and announced a platform promising peace and a satisfactory compromise of the war.

Defeated at every point, the old street railway company then opened negotiations with Mayor Johnson with a view to abandoning the field. The company appointed F. H. Goff, an attorney, as mediator, with full power to act. Negotiations progressed peacefully until the city council, the company's stock was reached. Mayor Johnson proposed \$50 a share. Mediator Goff insisted on \$65 a share. For two weeks settlement was up in the air.

The basis of settlement in brief is that the property of the Cleveland Electric Railway, 25 miles of track, with cars, power, equipment and a large amount of unused real estate shall be valued at \$21,000,000. The twenty-four miles of track owned by the Forest City line, that has always been a 3-cent fare road, shall be valued at \$1,000,000. The Municipal Traction company, as the Cleveland City Railway and leased to the Municipal Traction company which agrees to take care of the property, pay all taxes, insurance, maintenance and pay 8 per cent on the investment to the stockholders.

A striking feature of the settlement is that the transfer of the property of the old company to the new successions \$10,500,000 worth of water out of its capital stock was easily and quickly done and did not "rot the carpet." The directors of the company met and reduced the capital stock from \$25,000,000 to \$14,500,000. The elimination of \$10,500,000 of water permits the old company to go into the reorganized Cleveland Railway company at its real value. The new shares of stock that will be issued will have a par value of \$100 each, but a man who had 100 shares before will have only fifty-five shares now. There are 794 stockholders, but six of them have a controlling interest.

The Municipal Traction company now controls 34 miles of electric railways, consolidation of what was three lines. The Cleveland Electric collected 121,000,000 fares last year. At 5-cent fare it would have been \$60,500,000. The Municipal Traction receipts have averaged \$1,500 a day at 3 cents a ride, which means an average of 50,000 passengers daily. That would mean \$25,250 per year at 3 cents a ride. If no charge is made for transfers and not counting the extra fare to points outside the city, the receipts of the company will still exceed \$1,000,000 a year.

The Hudson's Co.

Philadelphia Press. Somebody has made the rather blood-curdling discovery that the silver quarter is an unalloyed coin. It has thirteen stars, thirteen letters on the scroll held in the eagle's beak, thirteen marginal feathers on each wing, thirteen lines in the shield, thirteen horizontal bars, thirteen arrows, and thirteen letters in its name. All heads, and thirteen letters in its name. All heads, and thirteen letters in its name. All heads, and thirteen letters in its name.

THREE-CENT FARES IN CLEVELAND

Close of Mayor Tom Johnson's Seven Years' War.

Three years ago in Cleveland, 3-cent fares triumph, the opposing traction companies have turned their property over at the fixed price and retired from the field. Thus ended a remarkable seven years' warfare by Mayor Tom L. Johnson for 3-cent fares and universal transfers on the street railways of Cleveland. The campaign was marked by fierce battles, infantry skirmishes and cavalry raids in the domain of politics and in the forums of the courts. Occasionally the controlling company won a victory, only to have the fruits of it snatched from its grasp by the widespread and aggressive strategists of Johnson's war.

Mayor Johnson fought the opposition with remarkable vigor and persistence and won his triumph because of the formidable support of the people. At the outset of the campaign, the entrenched traction companies flouted the mayor's demands for a reduction from 5 cents. The franchise of the consolidated companies was found vulnerable. There were numerous blow holes in it, some streets were unoccupied which the franchise blanketed and the company's rights on important streets were limited. Mayor Johnson brought about the organization of the Forest City company and assisted in financing it. The city was asked to grant this company a franchise to operate a street railway on the unused streets, conditioned on carrying passengers for 3 cents each. Two years' hot fighting, resulting in the re-election of Johnson and a friendly court ruling that the franchise was in the entrenchments of the street railway crowd.

The fact that Mayor Johnson was financially interested in the new company gave the opposition a club with which to attack the mayor in the campaign. The fact was claimed that the franchise of the Forest City company was void on the ground that the law expressly prohibited city officers having an interest in city contracts. This contention was sustained in the lower courts, but reversed in the court of last resort, the court ruling that the fact of the mayor's financial interest in the company did not constitute a violation of the law. Freed by the courts to go ahead, the new company invaded the territory defined in its grant, put tracks on streets on which the rights of the old company had expired and, every advantage which the city authorities, led by Mayor Johnson, could grant.

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Wesley Markwood, who began to serve the government as a messenger boy in the War department in 1855, is now, after fifty-five years of continuous service, at the age of 81 1/2 years, still serving the government as "messenger boy" in the Department of Agriculture.

Prof. Wallace Atwood of the geology and physiography department at the University of Chicago has been appointed by the United States geological survey department to survey the coal fields of Alaska with a view to ascertain their value and to determine the best place to establish a coaling station for the Navy department.

The Royal College of Surgeons of England has presented to the Harvard Medical school, through Dr. Walter G. Chase, about seventy engravings and mezzos of celebrated medical men. These, together with loan collections of Dr. Chase and Dr. E. B. Young, numbering about 80, have been arranged for exhibition in the Warren Anatomical museum in the administration building of the Harvard Medical school, Cambridge.

In honor of its silver anniversary, April 11, the Milwaukee Journal issued an elaborate number of sixty-four pages, the title page garbed in a riot of color as gorgeous as the sun glimmers of Milwaukee harbor on a summer morning. Filled with copious notes of jubilation, the volume was the strength of success and filled to overflowing with illustrations, descriptive writings, historical reviews and artistic business announcements, the issue fittingly commemorates the silver jubilee of the Journal and applauds the skill, enterprise and business sagacity of the publishers.

SURPRISES OF THE FAR WEST

The country traversed by our great transcontinental railroads has been a land of surprises from the beginning. There was a time when the so-called "Great American Desert" was looked upon as forbidden territory or no possible use to the country. There was also the so-called "Staked Plains" of the southwest, for which was looked upon as unsafe for man or beast to traverse alone because of the quagmire and logs that tradition said abounded there. Further north were the forbidden mountains which, to the explorers and to the travelers of early days, held out no inducement as habitations for man.

Gradually, however, settlers worked their way westward, first with pasturing flocks, then with their habitations and their farm implements, their mastery of intense methods of cultivation, and their capacity for control of the streams for irrigation. Following this came the search for minerals all over the vast territories which comprised fully a third of the United States. With this the timber became more and more valuable for building and mining uses. Now the greatest field for railway extension seems to lie among these very mountainous regions and other forsaken plains.

The Southern Pacific, for instance, has become a great money earner. The Great Northern has outlived the decades when people laughed at the hardihood of James J. Hill for venturing to lay a railroad across the Rockies to the Puget Sound region. Lastly the St. Paul management is forging its way across the continent because of its belief in still greater surprises in the territories have hardly begun to touch.

Just as the far west has surprised the rest of the country in the past, so it undoubtedly will continue to surprise it in the future, as the main lines of exploitation are laid out and the process of man and nature are organized to reveal the wealth that is still latent in these regions whose mountainous commonwealths form the backbone of the continent.

Advertisement for 'Pure Grape Cream of Tartar' baking powder. Features a large illustration of a tin of baking powder and the text: 'Made from Pure Grape Cream of Tartar', 'Safest and Best', 'Shields the Food from Alum'.

PERSONAL NOTES

New York has a visiting Spaniard who kills bulls for fun. There ought to be a place for him at the abattoir. Frank Gould says his wealth has been a curse to him, but a divorce action seems no more welcome because calculated to lessen the wealth.

William Dudley Foulke of Indiana, the civil service reformer, has the reputation of using more adjectives in his speeches than any other orator. A Chicago man beat a fellow who had stolen the daughter of the first, destroying her eye. For this the father was arrested and, after remaining in jail two weeks awaiting trial, killed himself in a not unnatural disgust at justice.

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PRETTY APPROPRIATE GUESSES

Considerable speculation is being indulged in as to what Thomas Jefferson would do if he were back here. He would doubtless listen to the discussion for a while and then yearn for the quiet of his tomb again.

No other Extract

of Beef has the quality and the purity; no other goes so far as

A QUESTION OF MAJORITY

Democratic Authority Concedes Election of Republican President. New York World (dem.) "William H. Taft will be nominated for president by the republican national convention."

If William H. Bryan is to be the democratic candidate, Judge Taft's election is certain. There need be no anxiety as to the outcome of another Bryan campaign; no increased industrial suspense; no further shutting down of factories; no new recruits to the army of unemployed. The opposition to Judge Taft's nomination has practically collapsed. He has a majority of the delegates already elected. He has back of him all the power, prestige and popularity of the Roosevelt administration. None of the other candidates has any considerable support outside his own state. Most of them can count on only a complimentary vote. None of them could deliver his delegates to Hughes or Cannon or Knox or Fairbanks.

All four of these opposing candidates are personally friendly to Taft. In the end they will prefer his nomination to the alternative of Roosevelt's renomination, knowing that they must take one or the other. The sooner they make this position plain the better it will be for the country. All of them know that Taft is sure to be nominated. All of them should realize that public assurance of his nomination would be a great stimulus to prosperity. By removing popular uncertainty as to the action of the republican convention they would add greatly to the restoration of confidence. For if Mr. Bryan is as sure of the democratic nomination as he pretends nothing remains in doubt but the size of Judge Taft's majority.

LAUGHING LINES

"Has Jenks been playing any more monkey tricks?" "I am afraid so. He has started, on he says, an aptery."—Baltimore American.

"Your speech was a splendid thing, in the galleries," said the colleague. "Yes," answered the statesman. "But when you get applause you can never be sure whether it is due to admiration for your sentiments or the way you handle your voice."—Washington Star.

"Some people say," remarked the talkative man, "that the making of good whiskey is a great art." "Yes," answered the candidate, "it is a very easy one to make good whiskey, but to make bad whiskey and then get people to drink it—that's where the fine art comes in."—Philadelphia Press.

"Cassius—truly, what would you say if I were to tell you that Julius declares himself the greatest man in Rome and worthy of a crown?" "Brutus—Great Caesar!"

"Pooh," said Miss Oldrig, "I was engaged when I was thirteen." "You've found that was a very unkind age to begin with, haven't you?" said Miss Oldy.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"You mean to say you voted for a man whom you do not know?" "Yes," answered Father Corbissal, "I never even heard his name. I voted for him because I was much obliged to him for not coming around and interrupting me at my work."—Washington Star.

APRIL'S MINSTRELS

"Oklah!" the black bird sings High in budding trees; His and sings and swings and sings. Gaily melody.

Silver lines the marsh below, Green the rushes by, Scarlet gleam his comrade's wings, Flying, flying free.

Just the sweetest touch of spring To my red wings in name. On a flood of memory, Dreaming, I'm afraid.

All the April paths I've trod, In my company, Are remembered, I hear, Red wings "Oklah!" Omaha. —EMILY WOOD.

Advertisement for Liebig's Extract of Beef. Text: 'No other Extract of Beef has the quality and the purity; no other goes so far as Liebig's Extract of Beef'. Includes an illustration of a tin of Liebig's Extract of Beef.

Advertisement for Huteon Optical Co. Text: 'HUTEON OPTICAL CO. 221 S. 10th St. OMAHA, NEB. INVISIBLE BIFOCALS TURQUYS'. Includes an illustration of a pair of glasses.