

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), one year, \$1.00
Daily Bee and Sunday, one year, \$1.50
Sunday Bee, one year, \$1.25
Saturday Bee, one year, \$1.00

DELIVERED BY CARRIER:

Daily Bee (including Sunday), per week, \$1.00
Daily Bee (without Sunday), per week, 50 cents
Evening Bee, per week, 25 cents
Evening Bee (with Sunday), per week, 50 cents
Saturday Bee, one year, \$1.00

Address all complaints of irregularities in delivery to City Circulation Department.

OFFICES:

Omaha—The Bee Building.
South Omaha—City Hall Building.
Council Bluffs—5th Street
Chicago—15th Street
New York—Rooms 110-112, No. 34 West
Thirty-third Street.

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 remittances in full payment of mail accounts. Personal checks, except on Omaha or eastern exchanges, not accepted.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION:

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, April 1, 1908. The Daily Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily Morning, Evening and Saturday Bee for the month of April, 1908, was as follows:

1.....\$6,945 18.....\$6,950
2.....\$6,900 19.....\$6,600
3.....\$6,750 20.....\$7,140
4.....\$7,010 21.....\$6,950
5.....\$6,800 22.....\$6,600
6.....\$7,800 23.....\$6,600
7.....\$7,940 24.....\$6,600
8.....\$7,700 25.....\$6,600
9.....\$7,140 26.....\$6,600
10.....\$7,000 27.....\$6,650
11.....\$7,080 28.....\$6,600
12.....\$7,050 29.....\$6,760
13.....\$7,340 30.....\$6,960
14.....\$7,320 31.....\$6,960
15.....\$7,180 32.....\$6,970Totals\$106,520
Less unsold and returned copies, 11,241

Net total,\$95,279

Daily average,\$3,176

GEORGE B. TUCKHUCK,
Treasurer.Subscribed in my presence and sworn
to before me this 1st day of May, 1908.(Seal) ROBERT HUNTER,
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 country will rest easier if it can be shown that Mrs. Guinness was burned to death in her home.

The United States received 50,000,000 pounds of coffee and several kinds of insults from Venezuela during the last year.

The house physicians at Washington operated on the Aldrich bill with complete success, although the bill was killed.

"Bryan's nomination means Taft's election," says the New York World. No chance for an argument on that proposition.

The National Prosperity association of St. Louis seems to be under the impression that good times may be restored by decree.

Mr. Bryan admits that he has no ear for music. Perhaps that's the reason he never strikes the right chord with his keynotes.

The revolt in the Congo Free States appears to have been aimed at the tax collector. The Congo natives are learning, all right.

When the National Live Stock exchange meets in Omaha the members will find a warm welcome all the way from Albright to Florence.

A Krupp gun factory is to be located in Mexico. Central America will naturally be pleased to find a gun supply house nearer home.

Live stock shippers in Missouri will hereafter be denied return transportation, which means that the railroads are doing their business on a business basis.

The storm which did so much damage in the vicinity of Omaha did much good in other parts of the state and thereby vindicated the law of compensation.

Mr. Bryan will have the support of Massachusetts at Denver, but the trouble is that he always fails to get the support of Massachusetts in Massachusetts.

It remained for the sedate Baltimore American to account for Mrs. Guinness' success in securing husbands by the statement that "she had such killing ways."

The Bellevue woman who found the water pitcher in which she had stored her money uninjured but empty probably wishes she had blown it instead of leaving it for the tornado to blow out.

David R. Francis of Missouri is being urged as a compromise candidate for the nomination at Denver. Francis is all right, in most respects, but this is an off year for compromise candidates.

The bill prohibiting betting on the races at Bennington has been passed by congress. Congressional followers of the ponies will have to go across the Maryland line hereafter, thus adding additional car fare to their regular hearings.

"I will support Mr. Bryan if he is nominated," says Governor Johnson. "Just as loyally as Mr. Bryan would support me if I were nominated." Even at that the Minnesota man is not promising very much, as Judge Parker can testify.

THE INDEPENDENCE LEAGUE.

With the certainty that Mr. Taft will be the republican nominee at Chicago and Mr. Bryan the choice of his party at Denver, some share of the political attention will be directed to William Randolph Hearst and the part he is to play in the national campaign. His personally conducted Independence League, which recently decided to change its name to the National Independence party, has a national convention scheduled to be held at Chicago on July 27, and political forecasters are aware that they will be compelled to reckon with the Hearst forces as a factor in the campaign, particularly in some of the eastern states. The extent and potency of the Hearst influence can not be gauged with any degree of accuracy until his plans for his convention are more fully revealed.

To date Mr. Hearst has been somewhat reticent concerning the independence party plans, although he has made a few things plain. He has announced that the party will not support Mr. Taft or Mr. Bryan and will not fuse with any other political organization, but will have a candidate of its own and make its own fight in its own way. The question appears to be whether the Independence League, which has had branches in a number of states and made fights on issues that were purely local, can be welded into a national organization with national control in view. Some dominating issue would naturally be required to form the basis for such action. Mr. Hearst has not, as yet, announced such an issue, although he has shown some disposition to make inland waterways improvement a paramount plank in his national platform. This would hardly serve to disrupt either of the older organizations, as both the republican and democratic conventions doubtless will declare in favor of this policy.

A recent issue of his New York American Mr. Hearst described the national independence party as "a mountain rising out of the sea of political uncertainty. Its aim is just government, not more government. Individual liberty and business prosperity are alike jeopardized by unnecessary interference." All of which sounds well enough, without meaning anything in particular. Mr. Hearst, both as a member of congress and in his editorial capacity, has been one of the most persistent advocates of more government and has offered bills and plans for laws regulating almost everything under the sun. His recent conversion to extreme conservatism is unexplained.

Whatever the Hearst plans may be, the result of his participation in the national campaign with an independent ticket should not be underestimated. While he doubtless will be disappointed in his apparent hope that his candidacy will cause great defections from the ranks of both the old parties, it must be remembered that he has a following in New York, in Massachusetts and in California that is sufficient to cause extreme worry to other politicians. If he accepts the nomination of his party for the presidency, which is quite probable, he has a good chance of polling more votes than Mr. Bryan in New York and Massachusetts and perhaps in New Jersey. The first net result of his candidacy would be the final and absolute elimination of any, hope Mr. Bryan may now entertain of making any better showing in "the enemy's country" than he did in 1896 or 1900.

OLD AGE PENSIONS.

Premier Asquith of Great Britain has made a strong bid for political support for the liberal party, which has been showing strong signs of losing its hold on the British voters, by proposing for the consideration of Parliament a scheme and plan for the payment of old age pensions. Controversy has raged for years in England and elsewhere as to the advisability of the old age pension plan, and the question is still debatable from economic, social and moral viewpoints, but it must be admitted that the premier has played a strong political card in his proposition to make the system a part of his party's government policy.

The Asquith plan provides that all persons who shall have reached the age of 70 years without becoming criminals, lunatics or paupers and without having accumulated sufficient property to produce an income of \$2.50 a week, shall be entitled to receive out of the national treasury a weekly payment of \$1.25, which is to be increased to \$1.50 in case of married couples. No conditions, other than those named, are to be attached to this payment. The bounty is to be paid alike to all, without regard to race, color, creed or previous condition. The applicant does not even have to prove that he is a deserving person, but only to show that he is 70 years of age and does not possess property sufficient to produce a weekly income of \$2.50.

The proposed Asquith plan is in striking contrast with the old age pension system in Germany, where the plan has reached its best development, after long years of experience. The old age pension plan in Germany is, in effect, an insurance system. The fund from which the pensions are supplied is derived from three sources. One-third is contributed by the government, one-third by the employer and one-third by the employee. If the old age pensions are to be paid at all, the German system appears to be the most sensible that has yet been devised. It distributes the burden and encourages thrift among the employed. The Asquith plan omitted this feature on account of direct advice by

the laborites, whom the liberals are attempting to win over, that they would reject any plan which included contribution from the prospective pensioner.

The fiscal feature of the pension plan is certain to attract much attention. Premier Asquith estimates that it will cost the British government about \$30,000,000 a year to carry the scheme into effect. The history of pension legislation throughout the world, however, makes it safe to predict that Mr. Asquith's estimate is too low by 50 per cent at least. This pension fund, whether it be \$30,000,000 or \$50,000,000, must be raised by taxation, and the tax burden in Great Britain is already so heavy that the people are groaning under it. The radicals and laborites, however, insistently announce that the finding of the money for these pensions is the government's concern and that their votes will be against any party that does not favor the scheme. Under the circumstances, Premier Asquith has probably gained a new lease of life for his party by advocating his pension plan, and time alone will reveal the price that will have to be paid for it.

OMAHA THE MARKET TOWN.

Certain signs point most positively to the growth of Omaha in importance as a primary market for all manner of farm products. It is not so very long since the stock yards at South Omaha were fighting for the right to exist. Rival markets, long established, resisted the intrusion of the new market and used all their power to crush it out. The natural advantages of its location, however, were sufficiently great to insure its permanency and now the Omaha stock market takes front rank in the world.

The Omaha grain market is going through much the same experience, but is surely being established on a firm footing. As the packing industry developed with the growth of the live stock market, so will the milling industry grow with the development of the grain market. Nebraska grain is sure to be ground into flour by Nebraska mills, just as Nebraska cattle, hogs and sheep are reduced to dressed meats on Nebraska soil.

During the last decade the development of the dairy industry of the state has been marvelous. Farmers have been interested to their advantage by the butter-makers, until now Nebraska butter is one of the most valuable of the state's productions. The Omaha, Lincoln and other creameries are turning out annually many millions of pounds of the very highest grade of butter. At the present time the price of this butter is fixed by a market whose entire bulk of the commodity amounts to less than the output of a single Nebraska creamery. That this state of affairs, absurd on its face, cannot long exist is apparent to all and the Omaha butter market is just as sure to take its place among the markets of the world as was the live stock market and the grain market.

The latest addition to the Omaha markets is the wool. Western states have for many years produced the bulk of the wool of the United States and the sheep industry seems to be barely emerging from its infancy. More stock raisers each year are becoming interested in sheep and the annual clip of wool has increased regularly by many millions of pounds. This wool is at present marketed entirely on the Atlantic seaboard and the western flockmasters are left at the mercy of the buyers from Boston and Philadelphia. Under the proposed plan Omaha will offer storage facilities to these men at such rates as will permit them to hold their wool and will require that the eastern buyers come west to secure the material they need.

Right at the outset this will remedy one of the chief disadvantages the wool growers have suffered. It will no longer be possible for one man to come west and make a single offer for the clip and give the grower the option of taking it or leaving it. If the Omaha wool market means nothing else, it means competition for the western wool.

It is not unreasonable to expect that woolen mills will follow the wool market just as packing houses have followed the stock market, flouring mills the grain market and creameries have come before the butter market. Omaha's importance as a market town was never more definite than it is at present.

The movement to abolish pension bureaus in the states and transplant the business of these agencies at Washington has aroused determined opposition from the congressmen of the eighteen states in which pension bureaus are located. The necessity for the maintenance of this bureau system no longer exists, but each agency has a well paid head, a clerical force and a board of examiners, so it will be extremely difficult to convince congressmen that there is need for retrenchment in expenditures along that line.

All that the democrats of the United States need to do in order to carry the coming presidential election is to quit their scheming, to clean ranks, to move onward and look forward, not backward. They should break up and have about them both some confidence and some style.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

In other words, Colonel Watterson is confident the democrats can win by complying with impossible conditions.

When the State Board of Equalization finally gets together it will be asked to adjust a good many disparities in local assessments. The necessary for selecting men of sound judgment and ample experience as assessors

was never more emphatically shown than now. It was thought that the Nebraska laws had received sufficient interpretation to make their application clear, but the returns made by the local assessors show that many men have many minds.

American Minister Russell is said to be offended because no Venezuelan official thought it worth while to say goodbye to him when he started for the United States on a leave of absence. Most Americans would look upon this oversight of Castro's officials as a compliment.

It is well for the people of Omaha that they do not swear by the beard of anybody, for if they did in the case of Lincoln they would be compelled each time to accompany their asseveration with an explanation as to which epoch was referred to.

The New York World is being flooded with congratulations upon its celebration of its twenty-fifth anniversary under Mr. Pulitzer's management, but Mr. Bryan's name does not appear in the list of those sending congratulatory messages.

The energetic way in which the conference of governors has taken hold of the question presented for consideration promises a definite outcome. The men concerned know what is needed and will not hesitate to recommend it.

Having destroyed the visible supply of tobacco in Kentucky, the "Night Riders" are now operating in Indiana and Ohio. The federal government ought to get after them for interfering with interstate commerce.

The declaration of the Union Pacific dividend at the rate of 9 per cent is a fair indication that the great Overland road has not suffered to any alarming extent during the recent period of "depression."

Wait a While and Watch.

Topeka Capital. Will Taft be nominated? He has reached third, with none out, good batters up and ragged fielding by the allies.

Crumb Few and Far Between.

Chicago News. The allied opposition to Secretary Taft doesn't seem to be getting any particularly cheerful news as the presidential situation grows nearer to the climactic.

The First Duty.

St. Louis Republic. Even if Fighting Bob Evans is sure he is right in telling us that we will have more peace as a result of having fewer politicians and more battleships, the safe way to go ahead is to get rid of the worst of the politicians first.

Our Doubtless Eminence.

New York World. Only in America could the Guiness murder farm with its gruesome associations be transformed over-night into a Cone Island, with the picture postal vendor and the fair in full force and a crowd of 15,000 arriving by train and trolley car and automobile to search for ghastly souvenirs.

Missed the Usual Streak.

Cleveland Plain Dealer. According to Mr. Bryan there were three positions in life that at different times he aspired to—that of preacher, then farmer and lastly lawyer. At the same time there would seem to be something radically wrong with a country boy who never aspired to be a stage coach driver or a circusman.

Roosevelt Strength in California.

Kansas City Star. Although Secretary Taft led President Roosevelt by a few hundred votes in the California primaries, it is remarkable that Mr. Roosevelt's popularity was strong enough to make him a close second in spite of the fact that he is not a candidate and cannot be a candidate. And this was in California, too—where the president was supposed to have "played smash" with his popularity when he read the riot act to the state for its treatment of the Japanese.

Our Financial School.

Boston Herald. The school for the instruction of congressmen in the elementary principles of finance, which Schoolmasters Weeks and Vreeland are reported to be conducting in the basement of the Capitol at Washington, while the conferences and debates on the various currency bills are in progress upstairs, is needed bad enough, though up to date the results are not encouraging. The difficulty may be due to the density of the pupils or to the lack of harmony in the views of their instructors. We can almost hear the pupils reciting:

"Put down size and carry two. Good but hard to do. Too much work. I don't care. I can't do that sum."

BLAINE'S GREAT THOUGHT.

Steady Progress in Pan-American Unity.

St. Louis Times. When James G. Blaine sent his great delegations of South American delegates over the United States in 1889 he was not much applauded. The Blaine panamerican idea seemed a bit visionary, and the great joker that the delegates from the southern republics had been called expensive and hardly of real necessity.

Times have changed. We now know that the James G. Blaine idea was a good one, well worth all the time and attention that was given to its beginnings. Recently, in Washington, there was laid the cornerstone of a building that is to be the home of the Bureau of American Republics. The giver of the money needed to erect the building is Andrew Carnegie.

That the permanent home of the international bureau in Washington is no surprise, but the fact of its being so may be taken as obviously significant. It is the first step in the direction of an understanding that will not only mean closer trade relations on this side of the Atlantic, but a political entente that will establish the Monroe doctrine beyond question as something more than a mere doctrine.

With the falling away of the monarchial idea and the decay of governments that adhere to it, the bonds holding the nations of the west together will increase in sympathetic strength. While it may be too much to say that the hour will come when the stars and stripes shall wave over all the empire between Hudson bay and Terra del Fuego, it is not much to say that the time will come when the lion shall devolve to James Blaine and furthered by Eddie Reed, will be dominant in every foot of that vast expanse of mountain and plain.

REAR ADMIRAL SPERRY.

SOME FACTS ABOUT THE NEW COMMANDER OF THE BATTLESHIP.

Rear Admiral C. S. Sperry, the new commander under whose direction the American battle fleet will traverse the last half of its trip around the world, is the youngest of three rear admirals who started with the fleet, and has two years to serve before the age limit compels him to haul down his pennant.

Up in Newport, R. I., is an institution known as the Naval War College—a place where navy officers are sent to take a post-graduate course in strategy, tactics, and other subjects allied with their military profession. As a rule, says the New York Times, it is only the officers of the higher grade who are detailed for this course of instruction at the War college, those of the rank of commander or of the grades that are above that rank. Naturally the officer selected for president of the college must be one of superior attainments. For three years Sperry was president of the college. From that duty he was detached last summer and sent to The Hague as America's naval representative at the peace conference. When the conference ended he was ordered home and to the