

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of May, 1908. 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.

There is no emergency imminent demanding emergency currency, anyway.

What is the use of asking Senator Platt to resign? asks the Washington Post. There isn't much fun in gnawing a file.

The trouble with most of the politicians represented as "sawing wood" is that they produce nothing more valuable than sawdust.

A Kansas court has decided that women may wear overalls if they want to do so. They may also wear director gowns if they dare.

"Were Hamlet alive he would not object to my portrayal of him," says Eddie Foy. All right. Let's drop arguing about Hamlet's insanity.

"Even the pessimist must cheer up occasionally," says Leslie M. Shaw. Sure. The Washington baseball team won two games in succession last week.

According to the scale of assessments levied on the Nebraska delegates to Denver, Bryan democracy comes perilously close to Parker plutocracy.

A California judge has decided that it is illegal to hold auction sales at night. Most patrons of daylight auction sales do their buying in the dark.

This new director gown they are making so much fuss about apparently differs from the evening gown only by having its decollete effect at the bottom.

An Arkansas man died after taking a drink of whiskey and eating a banana. This will tend to make Arkansawyers more careful about eating fruit.

Governor Magoon has sent all the officials of a Cuban town to jail for abetting gambling. Governor Magoon would make a great mayor for New York City.

The New York World blames President Roosevelt for the heavy appropriations of congress. Congratulations to Mr. Loeb, who appears to have escaped for once.

WHEN THE WORM TURNS: The popularity of Mr. Taft, Mr. Bryan, Mr. Watson and other presidential candidates and aspirants is in imminent danger of being totally eclipsed, if the people become fully aroused to the importance of the bill introduced by Congressman J. Hampton Moore of Pennsylvania demanding relief from the sawtooth instrument of torture which laundrymen insist upon returning in lieu of the collars sent to their shops for sanitary reasons.

Mr. Moore would by law require manglers of innocent linen to take out a license and to pay heavy fines and penalties when caught using acids or "violent machinery" in their work. He strengthens his demand by a speech in which he declares that unless a long-suffering public can be protected from the nefarious practices of the laundry we may as well hand over our linen "to the tender mercies of the bulldog or the billygoat."

Men who boast that their fathers fought, bled and died that the country might be free have been going along for years submitting to an odious form of tyranny at the hands of the haughty laundrymen. They have committed their fine linen to the laundries and paid for its destruction. They have sent shirts and collars, a little soiled,

TOO MUCH RAILROAD CENTRALIZATION

One of the best known and most widely experienced railroad men of America does not hesitate to say that in his opinion the centralization in management of our American railroads has already gone too far. The process of railway extension and consolidation has been continuous from the first successful experiments with rail transportation and it is, doubtless, destined to continue in future years.

Under present conditions, however, the conclusion is forced upon this railway authority, who has been at the head of a great and prosperous railroad system of the middle west, that the limit of economical and profitable administration has been reached, if not already passed, and that the next swing of the pendulum will be toward a division of the authority that has been so highly centralized and its redistribution among officials responsible for smaller territorial divisions. The very centralization of railway management with one traffic manager, or one passenger director, or one operating head, for tens of thousands of miles of railroad, stretching almost across the continent and affording transportation facilities to millions upon millions of people, is productive of cumbersome methods, costly delays and unsatisfactory service.

Even the financial potentates in the top circle are beginning to realize that the successful conduct of a railroad depends largely upon responsive adjustment to local conditions, and that this can be had only by lodging authority in those immediately in touch with the people of the different localities. With the engineers who keep their hands on the financial throttle the danger signal that is most heeded is that which registers on the scale of profitable returns, and whenever they are convinced that further centralization will turn the balance on the ledger they will reverse the lever and back up from the direction in which they have been going.

In the judgment of far-sighted railway experts a different organization of management of our great railroad systems must be developed and may be looked for before long, and although it may not come suddenly or rapidly, it will be headed toward decentralization.

GOVERNORS AND SENATORS

Speaking of the recent assemblage of governors at the White House to confer on the conservation of the natural resources and the prospect growing out of it of further periodical meetings of governors, Collier's Weekly says: The effect of this development must be a great increase in the importance of the office of governor. Most of the present holders of that office are looking toward senatorships as a promotion, but the time may be near when the governor will be a greater man than a senator.

In the early days of the republic a governor was universally regarded as a greater man than a senator and this opinion continued to prevail until after the war of the rebellion. The commonly accepted theory of the senate in the early days was that it was a conclave of plenipotentiaries representing the sovereign states, and this theory found its support in the fact that each state, big or little, has the same voice and influence in the senate, and under the constitution cannot be deprived of its equal representation without its own consent. From that standpoint the senator occupied the position of an ambassador for a people whose chief executive was the governor, and was as much outranked by the governor as the president would outrank one of his ambassadors to a foreign country.

What did most to reverse the former order of precedence as between governors and senators was the absolute destruction of the old state sovereignty idea as a result of the war. The state governments became of comparatively less importance and the federal government more and more potential. If a governor is again to be greater than a senator, the governors will have to do something by co-operation that will bring them into national prominence and make the people look to them as their natural leaders for tackling big problems rather than to the senators. How soon, if at all, this will be brought about will depend a great deal on the kind of men we have for governors during the next few years.

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but possessing all their original merits, to the laundries and have had them returned looking like samples of total depravity. For years men have gone on finding the buttons ironed off their shirts, the buttons holes glued tight and new holes where none should be. Their collars have come back from a first offense jagged and frayed and cracked until their owners have been tempted to resume wearing the "Uncle Sam" paper collar which can be turned at least once or the celluloid affair which can be cleaned with a sponge and does not need ironing. The shirt of Nessus, lined with poison bars, would often be a welcome change to the victim of the modern laundry.

Of course, Mr. Moore's measure will not become a law without vexatious litigation and delay. The laundrymen, hardened by long immunity, will resist to the bitter end any attempt to deprive them of their privilege of breaking buttons and manufacturing sawtooth effects for collars and cuffs. Laundry reform may be a forlorn hope, but it calls for the encouragement of a brave, liberty-loving, collar-oppressed people.

PRESS FREEDOM IN GERMANY

The supreme court of appeals of Germany has taught the members of a certain clique of the royal court at Berlin a most wholesome lesson and, incidentally, given judicial endorsement of the growing sentiment for freedom of the press in Germany, by overruling the findings of the lower court which convicted Editor Harden of libeling Count von Moltke. The high court holds that the trial was unfair, was in violation of the law of the empire and was a travesty on justice.

The case in question was one of the most sensational in modern European affairs. Editor Harden, who appears to have had sources of information from members of the most exclusive court circles, in a series of articles charged Count von Moltke, Prince Eulenberg and other members of a secret clique, in close touch with the emperor, of the grossest immoralities and corruption. Sued for libel, he won out after a most sensational trial, in which he produced overwhelming proof of the truth of his charges. While all official Germany was waiting to see what the emperor would do in punishing the offenders, Editor Harden was forced to trial on a criminal libel charge, in which the jury returned a verdict of guilty, and he was sentenced to a heavy fine and a short term of imprisonment. On appeal the highest judicial tribunal in Germany has ordered the verdict of guilty set aside and remanded the case for a new trial. The court goes further and notifies the trial court that in the next hearing the case must be heard on its merits and that the finding must not be influenced by pressure from royal court circles.

AN ILL-TIMED OBJECT LESSON

Over 600 inhabitants of the town witnessed the execution of a convicted murderer at Pottsville, Pa., the other day by invitation of the sheriff, who had conceived the brilliant idea that such an object lesson would serve as a deterrent to crime. The murderer was a Slav and the sheriff thought the other Slav inhabitants of Pottsville would be impressed with the duties of American citizenship by witnessing this consummation of the administration of justice. Instead of being awed into respect for the law, the spectators created a regular riot in their efforts to secure pieces of the hangman's rope, being possessed of the superstition prevalent in Slav countries that such a rope is a cure for rheumatism.

It is a mistaken notion that the spectacle of a public execution has a deterrent effect upon the lawless elements. The Anglo-Saxon world has very generally suppressed public executions, because the experience of centuries has shown that such brutal exhibitions simply stimulate crime. In the earlier days, in the more barbaric countries, criminals were not only publicly executed, but were subjected to atrocious maltreatment for the purpose of instilling fear. Thieves were exhibited with their ears removed and the heads of murderers were displayed on pikes in the market places. It required centuries of advancing thought to accomplish abandonment of these inhuman practices and with the abandonment of cruel and unusual punishment the standard of civilization has been raised and violent crime reduced. France was the last of the enlightened nations to abandon the public guillotine, although only after public sentiment led the lawmakers to refuse to appropriate money to pay a public executioner.

ENCOURAGING THE MILITIA

Officials of the War department have been very successful in pushing the plan, which originated with Mr. Root when he was secretary of war, to make the organized militia of the country more effective and to place it on a basis corresponding with that of the regular army. The theory is that the standing army is remarkably small compared with the trained fighting forces of other nations, making it highly important to have a strong reserve force trained and prepared for service in case of a war. Congress has appropriated \$4,000,000, about twice the usual amount, for the maintenance and upbuilding of the militia of the various states for the coming year. Of the appropriation \$1,000,000 is to be used for arms and equipment, not only for the existing forces, but for recruiting the companies to full war strength. This appropriation will be used in supplying the militia with modern rifles, thus avoiding recurrence of the conditions at the outbreak of the war with Spain when most of the National Guard had rifles of discarded form and generally worthless, and many regiments were without arms of any kind. It is proposed to have the guard supplied with rifles, cartridges and other equipment the same as the regular army.

The effective strength of the organized militia of the country is now about 100,000 men, with an average company strength of forty-two men compared with the war quota of 131 for infantry and of varying numbers for other branches of the service. By the provisions of the bill just passed every state in the union may fill up its guard regiments to the full quota and have them supplied with the most improved arms and equipment, such as are used by the regular army. If the states take advantage of the opportunity offered by the bill the guard strength of the country will be recruited to something like 350,000 men, a force which, supplementing the regular army, should be adequate to almost any emergency.

The new bill also makes provision for paying the expenses of officers and men attending the encampments and schools where regulars are to be gathered for military practice and maneuvers. This, it is believed, will have a most stimulating effect upon the guardsmen and infuse new life and loyalty in the service, as attendance

upon these encampments will impose no burden except a sacrifice of time.

The War department authorities are wisely turning attention to the upbuilding of the National Guard. Public sentiment has always been hostile to the maintenance of a large standing army and experience has shown that it is difficult to maintain such an army in times of peace and prosperity even under the most favorable conditions. Our chief reliance for military strength, therefore, must continue to be placed upon the National Guard, the second line of defense.

THE TUBERCULOSIS CONGRESS

Conservation of the national health is quite as important as the conservation of the national resources. The conference on tuberculosis to be held in Washington from September 21 to October 12 promises to give a decided impetus to the movement now under way for ridding the race of the "white plague."

Reports already received indicate that several thousand delegates will attend the tuberculosis congress. All the European governments have taken great interest in the meeting and not less than 1,000 delegates are expected from abroad. Among the most eminent medical men from Europe who have signified their intention to participate in the congress are Drs. Panwitz, Calmette, Von Behring, Newsholme, Welchelbaum, Conl, Philipps, Williams, Turban, Frankle, Vargas, Spronk, Bang, Kitasato and Shiga—men who have devoted their lives to the study of the dread disease.

The concentrated efforts of enlightened nations will be represented in this meeting, out of which is expected to come a campaign for educating the masses in practical methods for preventing this terrible disease and for curing it in its incipient stages. The consensus of medical opinion is that the time will soon come when tuberculosis will be merely historical instead of being, as it is today, the greatest single cause of death among civilized people.

THE INTELLIGENT PLAN

The managers of the southwestern railroads have agreed not to raise freight rates, but to consider the advisability of making reductions. Their view of the remedy for the loss of freight traffic is to invite shipments rather than to discourage them. It is the intelligent view.

WISDOM OF GOING SLOW

The decision not to be in a hurry about withdrawing the protesting and steady hand of the United States from Cuba is wise. Withdrawn that hand will be in due time, but to do it too soon would entail danger that intervention would have to be repeated. Americans earnestly desire to see Cuba restored to Cuban control, but they want to see it done at a time and in a way which will give the greatest possible assurance of permanence.

A WONDERFUL DAY'S BUSINESS

As the most advanced colonies in the world, Australia and Canada report a world, which combined is slightly over \$100,000,000. This is an area more than double that of the United States. As advancing American states, Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana have more population now than the two greatest colonies in the world. Measured in millions of money and men, the best day's business ever done in history was done at Philadelphia in 1776.

HOME RULE FOR CITIES

One of the principal subjects assigned for discussion at the coming convention of the League of American Municipalities is on "Home Rule for Cities." Everywhere in the land this phase of the municipal problem is receiving attention and study, and nowhere is there greater need for the application of this doctrine than in our own city and state. The standing reproach against American institutions by foreign critics has been the inferiority of municipal management. Great progress toward betterment has, it is true, been made in recent years, but the fact remains that there is great room for improvement.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT

Baltimore American: Several general conferences of various denominational Christian churches are now in session at different points. It is a fact of significance that three of these conferences have under consideration the subject of renouncing under a common organization branches, which have hitherto been under separate systems of church government. There seems to be an unmistakable tendency on the part of various Christian denominations to drop minor differences and get together on the common, important general principles of faith.

American Hebrew: The truth seems to be that the near future must see a new lining up of the religious forces. The theistic religions will have to face the various faiths or confessions which are trying to do without God in the world. Under the name of agnosticism or ethical culture or modernism or whatever title be chosen an ever-increasing number of persons are trying the dangerous experiment of letting the natural man exercise his full powers without any check from any supernatural considerations. At the root of the new movement is an attack on the family as the center of civilization. As against this tendency it may well be that the great theistic religions—Judaism, Islam, Christianity—may find it necessary to ally themselves and Prof. Delistree's suggestion may cease to be an impracticable dream.

Minneapolis Journal: The difficulties the Presbyterian general assembly finds in the way of church union call attention anew to the minute divisions of many of the Protestant churches. Under the heading of "Baptists," the Christian Advocate prints this list of divisions: Regular North, Regular South, Regular Colored, Six Principle, Seventh-day, Free Will, Original Free Will, General, Separate, Unitarian, Baptist Church of Christ, Primitive, Old Two Seed in the South, Predestinarian and Church of God and Saints of Christ. The Methodists boast this fine list: Methodist Episcopal, Union, American Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal, African Union Methodist Protestant, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Methodist, Protestant, Wesleyan, Methodist Episcopal, South, Congregational, Methodist, Colored, New Congregational, Methodist, Zion Union Apostolic, Colored Methodist Episcopal Primitive, Free Methodist, Independent Methodist and Evangelical Missionary. All this represents not only a great waste of energy, but it verges on the ridiculous.

York state might stand a chance of catching a couple that would be of real service to the state and the nation.

The price of admission to Mr. Bryan's "Commoner Army," which includes a subscription to his paper to the end of the year, has been reduced 25 per cent. A premium may be offered with free admission for those who delay enlisting until about election day.

An Arkansas man has been fined \$1,500 for dynamiting fish. He should move over into Kentucky, where his zeal and experience would win him honors in the ranks of the "Night Riders" who spend their time dynamiting tobacco barns and farm houses.

In the matter of a campaign publicity bill it will be noticed that Mr. Bryan sent his telegrams favoring the measure to the newspapers, while Mr. Taft sent his letters urging its adoption to the chairman of the committee having the bill in charge.

A bill has been introduced in congress making it unlawful for a Wash.ington laundry to tear a customer's shirt. This, of course, is out of deference to members of congress who want to tear their own shirts.

It is now claimed that Mrs. Guinness is living in Colorado. She ought to go back to La Porte long enough to identify her teeth and a part of her jaw bone that were found in the ruins of her farm house.

CONGRESSIONAL "SOLDIERING"

Indianapolis News: Notwithstanding the fact that a number of senators and representatives quit congress before the session was over, it is understood that they will expect to draw their full \$7,000 for the year.

WORK FOR FIGURE SHARPS

Washington Post: If the government statisticians ever ran out of work they might be put on the job of finding out to what extent the sale of court plaster has increased since the introduction of the automobile.

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SERMONS BOILED DOWN

A deadhead is almost sure to be a block-head. Easy street is not a thoroughfare to heaven. Sighing for a lost Eden will not make a new earth. The double-faced man always is convincing to himself. There is no love in the charity that does not court secrecy. Many an alliance with sin is hidden by a defiance of the devil. No father ever lost any of the time he spent with his children. The man with many corns always wants to go barefoot in the crowd. People with putty heads usually like to think that they have brittle hearts. Talking moonshine about being sunshiny does not make this world any brighter. He who succeeds in dodging duty is surprised to find how success dodges him. It takes more than "Keep off the grass" signs to mark the path of righteousness. When a man steals the honey from sin he always tells himself that he will pay for it with the coin of repentance.—Chicago Tribune.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES

The elderly man gave his consent. "But my daughter always insisted that she wanted a husband with a title," he added. "Well, I showed her my two," replied the young man. "One was to a town house and the other to a place in the country."—Philadelphia Ledger. "Yes—He said he'd go through anything for her. Yes—And so she married him? Yes—Yes, and now he's going through her fortune."—Philadelphia Press. The young man had proposed and been accepted. "But what's this you're doing dear?" he asked a moment later. "I'm taking your Bertillon measurements, Clarence," said the determined young woman. "The last one got away."—Chicago Record-Herald. "Yes, he's impulsive, but there isn't much likelihood of his ever getting married; he stammers so." "What has that to do with it?" "Well, you see, he may start to propose to a girl, but before he gets it out he has time to cool off."—Philadelphia Press. "Don't you think the women now have adopted a very loud way of wearing their hats?" "Not half so loud as when they wore bangs."—Baltimore American.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE

The battleship Nebraska hasn't a corn belt, but it has something just as good. May's reputation as a calendar beauty is seriously impaired by its stunt as a tank ship. Money talks, but never above a whisper when you have the price to pay for a divorce through the referee system in vogue in New York. The Kansas receiver who wound up the affairs of a bankrupt concern at an expense of \$20 in a shining candidate for a Carnegie hero medal. The press agent of the mosquito concert company gives it out cold that the bills of the soloists are equipped with suction pumps for the season's business. Five banks of Pittsburgh have suffered from defalcations aggregating \$3,000,000. A vote for postal savings banks in the smoky city would be practically unanimous. A Chicago scientist who claims to be able to convert human cuticle into brass must learn something to his benefit by sending plans and specifications to campaign committees. Hetty Green, the New York millionairess, is getting gay and blowing herself on swell dinners, fashionable dresses and modish coiffures. If this news doesn't bring General Confidence out of the hospital, his case is hopeless.

A PALM OF LIFE

Henry W. Longfellow. Tell me not in mournful numbers Life is but an empty dream. For the soul is dead that slumbers, And things are not what they seem. Life is real, life is earnest, And the grave is not its goal. Dust thou art, to dust returnest, Was not spoken of the soul. Not enjoyment and not sorrow In our destined end or way, But to act that each tomorrow Finds us further than today. Art is long and time is fleeting, And our hearts though stout and brave, Still like muffled drums are beating Funeral marches to the grave. In the world's broad field of battle, In the life's short struggle, Be not like dumb driven cattle! Be a hero in the strife! Trust no future, how'er pleasant! Let the dead past bury its dead! Act—act in the living present! Heart within and God o'erhead! Lives of great men all remind us We can make our lives sublime, And departing leave behind us Footprints on the sands of time. Footprints that perhaps another, Sailing o'er life's solemn main, A soldier and shipwrecked brother, Seeing, shall trace their way to us. Let us then be up and doing, With a heart for any fate; Still achieving, still pursuing, Learn to labor and to wait.

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