

THE OMAHA DAILY 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 July, 1908.

M. P. WALKER, 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 Chicago White Sox have been pulled down.

Betsy Ross may not have made the flag, but it stays put.

A Texas woman announces that she would not marry the best man living, she won't.

Few men object to the women of some other man's family wearing the director's gown.

"Why was Minister Wu made an L. D.?" asks an exchange. That's the question of Mr. Wu's questions.

No set of resolutions can bridge the gulf between the democracy of Cleveland and the democracy of Bryan.

It is a waste of time to make fun of Mr. Sherman's whiskers. They are only a side issue in the campaign.

Bryan and Ridder is now suggested the Denver ticket. Bryan and Ridder would be more appropriate.

Mr. Bryan may not be an accomplished fisherman, but he certainly is fishing all the known brands of bait.

The small boy with the full complement of unimpaired fingers and toes is open to the charge of a lack of patriotism.

Mr. Bryan says he has more than 90 votes to spare, but it will be noticed that he is not sparing any of them.

The price of rope has been increased. The raise is probably due to the increased demand for campaign gears.

The Chippewa Indians of northern Wisconsin have an even \$1,000,000 on deposit in the banks. Lo! the rich Indian.

Denver bank clearings last week increased 24 per cent. Is it possible that Pred. Wealth has opened head-arteries in that town?

The czar has suppressed three of Count Tolstol's books. Still the world has had the impression that the czar an enemy of Tolstol.

Mr. Bryan wants it understood that the things he said about Roger Sullivan in 1904 now apply to Colonel Sney of Pennsylvania.

The Equitable Life company is to have a sixty-two-story building in New York. The Equitable had more stories in that a few years ago.

Prominence is being given to the fact that Denver is a mile high, but it is looking for hotel rates will go higher than that.

There is much evidence that Mr. Bryan misunderstood the bugle call he announced that the republic party had sounded a retreat.

Tom Watson and Eugene V. Debs would cheer up. The New York world has it figured out that neither Bryan nor Mr. Taft can be elected president.

President Roosevelt has been holding a picnic on Lloyd's neck. Don't worry Mr. Lloyd, but there are a lot of undesirable citizens who are doubtful that Mr. Roosevelt is on the other fellow's neck.

THE SOLDIER AND THE FLAG

Brigadier General Funston, noted for his bluntness, has been doing some exceedingly plain talking to certain eastern editors who have been criticizing the administration for sanctioning the action of a court martial which inflicted a penalty upon a private soldier for attending an anarchist meeting and loudly cheering the tirades of the speaker against the federal government.

It appears that William Buwala, a private in the engineering corps of the army, attended an anarchist meeting, addressed by Emma Goldman, at San Francisco and warmly applauded her abuse of the government and congratulated her. Commenting on the criticism made by eastern papers and by socialist orators, General Funston says:

Just why the socialists are tearing their hair over the matter I am unable to understand, as the meeting in question was not one for the discussion of socialistic views, but a violent tirade, pure and simple, by the well-known Emma Goldman, against all government and particularly that of the United States, to which Buwala had on every one of his several enlistments solemnly sworn allegiance.

The record shows that the military authorities were particularly careful in their trial of Buwala. The court martial was composed of thirteen officers, none of whom was below the rank of captain. Buwala was represented by counsel and a stenographic report of Emma Goldman's speech was submitted in evidence and it was shown that Buwala was not only familiar with the contents of the speech, but had attended other anarchist meetings and had acquainted himself with the views of the anarchists and had taken pains to ingratiate himself with Miss Goldman and those associated with her.

Thinking people will agree with General Funston. The first duty of a soldier is absolute and unqualified obedience and loyalty to the government to which he has sworn allegiance. His service is voluntary and if he can not approve of the government it is his privilege to get out of the army. He cannot serve his government and at the same time give encouragement and support to an association that is formed for the cardinal purpose of opposing all government and all law. There is no room in the American army for anarchists. The army stands above all other things for loyalty to the government, and every soldier must needs be an uncompromising foe to the enemies of government.

SCIENTIFIC FARMING.

The Canadian farmers are apparently going through the experience of this country in the days when the "college-bred" farmer was scorned and ridiculed by the man who works in the fields. The Toronto Globe contains a dispatch from Guelph, Ontario, telling of the experience of a young expert from the Canadian department of agriculture who was lecturing on "Alfalfa" before a meeting of farmers. A weather-beaten listener to the address wanted information. The dispatch reads:

"Young man, did you ever plow a six-acre field?" The man on the platform hesitated. The other continued: "Did you ever pitch hay or load manure, or run a binder, or milk cows twice a day, seven days a week?" The volley staggered the younger man. He murmured that he did drive a manure spreader just the other day up at Ottawa, and had done a little of all the things mentioned at one time or another. The old man, whose questions had been earnestly put, relapsed into a silence which might only be interpreted as expressing dissatisfaction for anything the speaker might say since he was not a practicing farmer.

In this country practically all of the former prejudice against the "theoretical" farmers has disappeared. By experience the farmers have learned that man may know all about soil, the germination of seed, the adaptability of certain lands for special crops and a great deal of very valuable information of that kind without having ever been yanked through a stumpy field by a team of obstinate mules. Practical farmers are heeding the advice and instruction of young men sent out from the college laboratories, and the result is a constant and persistent improvement in agricultural conditions.

THE JONAH STORY.

There will be regret over the disposition by a Missouri court of a case in which the merits of the story of Jonah swallowing the whale was in dispute. A minister of the old school had agreed to pay \$5,000 toward the maintenance of one of the colleges of Missouri, but when the collector came around, refused to pay his subscription on the ground that the college taught heretical doctrine and had rejected the Jonah story. The college brought suit for the collection of the full amount, and now the case has been compromised. The minister surrenders a portion of his convictions and pays the college \$2,500 of his subscription, while the college professors give up half the subscription and go on teaching that the Jonah and the whale story was an apocryphal yellow yarn conceived in the fertile brain of our antediluvian ancestors.

The average person will be glad that the college got the \$2,500, as it doubt-

ON PRESIDENTIAL FIRING LINE.

Hopeless Task of the Democracy in Middle West. Washington, D. C., July 6.—Let us look at this "Middle West" they are talking about. Since the formation of the republican party there have been thirteen presidential elections at which every electoral vote from Ohio was cast for the republican ticket save one vote that went for Grover Cleveland in 1892. Michigan went republican twelve times and divided its vote in 1892—cast five of its fourteen for Cleveland. Since and including 1856 Indiana in presidential years has voted democratic four times and republican nine times. In that time Illinois in presidential years went democratic two times and republican eleven times, and Wisconsin has gone democratic once and republican twelve times. Minnesota has supported every republican ticket in presidential years since it became a state of the union, and Iowa has yet to refuse its vote to a republican national ticket. As for Kansas, it has supported every republican ticket since it became a state, save Harrison's in 1888, when it voted for Weaver, the populist, and McKinley in 1896, when it voted for Bryan, the democrat-populist.

That is the expedition the democratic party is invited to enter upon. And thus it is again demonstrated that the will of the popular dominant in democratic countries. It is manifest to every discerning mind that the republicans stand more chance to carry Kentucky than the democrats to carry Indiana, the one state of this "Middle West" that gives the G. O. P. any concern. Tennessee is much less likely to go democratic than Ohio is to go republican. In short, the new political incursion into the middle west is as reckless and hopeless as John H. Morgan's military invasion of it in 1862.

The "Dead Hand" in New York.

The really significant and impressive fact about the up-state situation is the atmosphere of hopelessness that seems to mark the feeling of democrats everywhere. A few months ago there was a general atmosphere of elation, there was talk about a "democratic" party, and the "rainbow chasers" were hard at work. They are idle now. There is no more talk about a "democratic party" in New York state. Practically all that is to be heard is academic speculation as to what it "might have been" without Bryan.

What the democracy of the state are actually doing, so far as Albany is an index, is sitting down and discussing the outlook of the next campaign with Bryan as a candidate, in much the same frame of mind as if the state democracy was about to be seized upon by the mysterious and all-Atlantic "sleeping sickness," which to them seems to share not a few symptoms with malignant Bryanism. There is no talk of a cure and no notion of a recovery, but over the whole party, irrespective of faction, and upon each individual democrat seems to rest the numbing weight of a Bryan blight which brings an atmosphere of complete hopelessness.

It is the "dead hand," stretched out and likely to fasten upon the state ticket, as well as the national, that seems to have deprived the up-state democrats of even the power of protest. They see it coming, they realize its effect, but about their only significant comment seems to be, "What's the use?"

Cleaning the Desk.

William Allen White came a most felicitous phrase when he said that Secretary Taft was just the man to clean up the White House desk; that is to say, to finish President Roosevelt's unfinished work.

What he meant was that what was needed now in the White House was a man not so much to originate a new policy, and strike out a new line in a new field of endeavor, but one who will soberly though firmly finish up the business that has been begun and thus put the country in a position where it might, if it desired, start on a new movement of national development.

Not to be Secretary Taft eminently fitted to perform this work, but it is a work which the country needs to have done. The people of the United States are in no mood to retrace steps already taken, to undo reforms already begun or to return to old conditions, but they do need time in which to consider the work which has been begun and to adapt themselves to the new conditions which they have ordered. Cleaning up the desk is now the next great work.

"Pike's Peak and Bust!"

A miscellaneous fate, if the unkind portends be accurate, has changed the defiance on the canvas sides of the last of the prairie schooners.

The alternative "or," which contained the hope and the determination of the weary but grimly confident processors of this last plot, has been erased and a sardonic conjecture has been substituted. The tired and plodding donkey which for the last schooner does the work of the weary but occasionally between floggings by spurring around to catch a glimpse of that destructive conjuncture.

A flicker of expression of all but suppressed complacency shows that at least some portions of the motive power find a reviving thought in the "and." On the benignant countenance of the last plot can be seen no trace of a suspicion that his legend has been changed.

Cleveland's Opinion.

Philadelphia Record (dem.). When Grover Cleveland was asked his opinion of the Nebraska democratic platform, foreshadowing the probable Denver output, he wrote warningly: "Our people need rest, after a period of terrific hysteria; they need peace, after intense excitement and apprehension; and they need conservatism after the disturbing fever of radicalism. These things true democracy in its integrity and purity should offer to them, and nothing except these things and the advocacy of democratic policies which lead directly to their establishment deserve to have affixed thereto the democratic label." This appeal of a dying patriot ought not to be lost upon his countryman.

Platform Ambiguity.

St. Louis Times (ind.). What the people want is a platform of principles, free from loose speech and general condemnation. It would like to see these principles set forth in good English, with no hint of ambiguity. Denver democrats will in all probability keep to the old rule of highfalutin' declarations, with their hollow appeal to the gallery, but there is a chance for some statesman to say something new in a convincing way.

The Hearst Peril.

Washington Post (ind.). If Mr. Hearst should be nominated it is not unlikely that the claims of his supporters will be made good in the harvesting of 1,000,000 votes. Most of these will be drawn from the democratic party if Mr. Bryan is nominated. With such a lead a loss, it goes without saying that he would cut a sorry figure in the struggle against Taft.

RATES AND "ERRORS OF LAW."

Important Ruling of the Circuit Court of Appeals. Chicago Herald-Tribune. It takes years and dozens of suits to establish the meaning of any important statute. The new railroad law is young, and the courts have but taken up the task of interpreting it.

The decision of the circuit court at St. Paul in what may be called the Stockyard case in one respect is very far reaching. The court sets aside an order of the commission that was based on an "error of law." The error consisted in judging of the reasonableness of a charge in connection with other charges and rates. The commission thought it had the authority under the law to reduce the terminal charge of \$2 a car for transporting cattle to the Union stockyards to \$1 a car because the total of the rates and charges in the case of any shipment was too high. The court says that in any complaint to the commission the "question of the justness and reasonableness of each segregated rate must be determined by itself."

It is not indispensable in the correction by the federal court of an error of law into which the commission has fallen whereby a specific rate is made unreasonably low that the aggrieved party should prove that the effect of this unreasonable low rate would make its entire business unprofitable. It is enough that the reduced rate is unjust and unreasonable.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Denver is a mile above the sea level, and the democrats as usual will be all up in the air. Only time will tell whether the ringing speech of the temporary chairman at Denver will be a tocsin, a knell or a clime. Notwithstanding an expensive strike, the Municipal Traction company in Cleveland is fulfilling all of its promises as to cheap fares, free transfers and better equipment.

In the democratic congressional primary for the Sixth district of Tennessee, Joseph W. Byrnes, a lawyer, of Nashville, defeated John Wesley Gaines, incumbent for the nomination. Gaines has represented the district for twelve years. Melvin G. Palliser of New York, the member of the executive committee of the independence party, who is really in charge while William B. Hearst is in Europe, says that the independence party at its convention in Chicago on July 27 and 28 would put a ticket of its own in the field.

Related Tribute to Cleveland.

Springfield Republican. It is reported from Denver that a picture of Grover Cleveland, draped in mourning, will be a feature in the convention hall this week. It will be placed among the pictures of Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson. No picture of Mr. Cleveland has appeared in a national democratic convention hall in over twelve years, and its reappearance now will not, we imagine, be greatly objected to by the Bryan element. They will doubtless indeed welcome it, for they will doubtless regard it as a protest upon the eastern vote—a re-union of the party under the Bryan leadership. Mr. Cleveland is not here now to make any protest and no one is authorized to make a protest for him.

Much Ado About Little.

Indianapolis News. In connection with all that friction over the platform, it might have a tranquilizing effect for the builders to reflect that a considerable number of the mere voters will never have the remotest idea of what it contains, to say nothing of a proper appreciation of the niceties of its phraseology.

Harmonizes with the Main Show.

Pittsburg Dispatch. Mr. Theodore Bell, slated for temporary chairman of the Denver convention, appears to be in line for the predominant qualification in that gathering. He has been twice defeated for office.

A Boost for Weaver.

Philadelphia Ledger. James B. Weaver of Iowa will head the prohibition movement among the democrats. Weaver would head anything that could possibly result in the printing of his name in large type.

Don't You Hear Him Yell!

Chicago Tribune. Alton B. Parker, who was snored under in such a spectacular manner four years ago, is certainly destined, of course, that Mr. Bryan shall be triumphantly elected.

SUNNY GEMS.

"I understand that whenever an Astor-baby is born it gets a \$200 grade." "Well, it certainly must take lots of 'rucks' to keep that grade going."—Philadelphia Press. "Gumbolt and I made a bet and agreed to leave it to you. He says a drowning man gets his lungs full of water, and I say he doesn't. Which of us is right?" "What are the terms of the wager?" "The loser is to pay for a dinner for the three of us." "I never knew Gumbolt to pay a bet. You lose."—Chicago Tribune. "Do real resourceful men," said Uncle Eben, "when some one hands him a lemon in a ready set sugar and other fixin's to make it so pleasant to take."—Washington Star. "Knicker-Edison says four hours' sleep is enough for everybody." "Knicker-Edison would be if he could take it after it is time to get up."—New York Sun. "I want a photograph representing me just as I am. None of this 'touching up' business, understand." "You are in the wrong shop," replied

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