

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 September, 1908.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN: Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have the Bee mailed to them.

The anti-noise campaign is not creating any disturbance.

King Corn will now be prepared to give the laugh to Jack Frost.

Airship experts report that there is still plenty of room at the top.

Director's trousers for men are now proposed. Still, folks wonder at crime.

Has anyone stopped to inquire where Poultny Bigelow stands in this campaign?

No independent telephone franchise this year for Congressman Hitchcock to hitch to.

The ministers returning from their vacations find that Satan remained on the job all summer.

Prof. Muskett of Australia says we eat too much. Prof. Muskett should keep still when he is loaded.

"The Bonian Order of Bats" is the name of a new secret society. Candidate Chaffin is not a member.

It is easy enough to see through the wiles of the window glass manufacturers who are planning a combine.

Dr. Wiley is planning to make alcohol out of garbage, while the prohibitionists are planning to make garbage out of alcohol.

A New York magistrate sternly rebuked a woman who tried to bribe him with a box of cigars. Evidently he is a married man.

It is only fair to say that perusal of Mr. Bryan's Commoner fails to disclose any difference since his retirement from the editorship.

Mr. Taft may not talk as much as Mr. Bryan, but when he speaks he says something that appeals to the common sense of reasonable men.

Congressman Sulzer wants to run for governor of New York on the democratic ticket. The scheme will not fool the prohibition vote.

Scientists assert that a fly has an eye which can look in 1,000 different directions at the same time. That's why it is hard to fool a fly.

A scientist has discovered how to make a valuable serum from a pig's ear. Perhaps, but he can't make a silk purse out of one of them.

A Philadelphia man has been sent to jail for swindling several lawyers. He can get rich on the museum circuit as soon as he gets out of jail.

That state pride story has received several punctures since Colonel Bryan set out to invade the states of other candidates where he has to go up against the state pride argument.

The receivership for the Booth Packing company calls attention to the establishment of what is practically a trust or monopoly of the fish trade, which would not be affected at all by a removal of the tariff on the "trust-made product."

Former Secretary Leslie M. Shaw possesses the kind of humor that appeals to fun-loving Americans. He has just sent a message to Mrs. Taft to be delivered to her by Mr. Taft "in case he should meet his wife during the progress of the campaign."

NO PLACE LIKE AMERICA.

Since last October, when the period of industrial depression began in the United States, more foreigners have returned to Europe each month than have come to the United States.

The returning sons of Sweden left the United States last fall when times were bad in this country.

They had listened to the representations of the Swedish government officials, picturing improved conditions across the ocean and telling of the desire of the Swedish people to have their native sons come home and help in the up-building of the nation.

This appeal to patriotism, coupled with the desire to see home once more, was a potent factor in causing the exodus of Swedes. Now they are returning to America with stories of disappointment.

When the Swedish-American citizens returned to Sweden they found wages higher than they had been in this country for years.

They also found that the cost of living had grown, leaving the margin of possible saving no larger than in the old days.

Above all, they discovered that, owing to century-old prejudices and customs the working man could not live in Sweden in the "American way."

THE REMEDY? Words used in discussing the speed mania are wasted. Just what it is that impels the owner of an automobile or a motorcycle, or any other form of time and distance annihilator, to want to go faster than anyone else, has so far eluded the search of many who have sought zealously for the answer.

The real question is: What is to be done about it? As these machines increase in number, and they are multiplying rapidly, the problem becomes more and more acute.

One correspondent of the Bee has suggested that the machine itself be levied upon and made to bear the cost of whatever damage may follow on the owner's or driver's carelessness.

This plan has the merit of offering something tangible against which to levy a fine or assess punitive damages. But it meets with the difficulty of establishing responsibility for the accident complained of.

A far better remedy is to require a license as a condition precedent for the driving of a machine of any kind. A rigid examination as to qualifications should be made the basis of the license, and not only should the mechanical and physical ability of the applicant be taken into consideration, but his moral fitness as well.

The enforcement of some such law as this would do away with much of the scandal that now attends the driving of high-powered, speedy machines about the public streets.

It would relieve drivers of known prudence and skill from the odium they now share with the careless and reckless, and would give to pedestrians something more of confidence in safety on the streets.

THE COMING OF A COMET.

If the astronomers have not mixed their dates or missed their calculations, we are going to have something besides politics to talk about next year.

Mr. Halley's famous comet is headed this way, playing a return engagement after an absence of seventy-five years.

This comet, according to the astronomers, is no side-show affair by any manner of means, but a real giant among comets, with a head as big as all outdoors and a tail that is longer than art and the moral law combined.

When it appears the people will all sit up and take notice. An English scientist, Halley, has the distinction of having been first to tag this comet and fix the proper label.

He showed that the comet, which has been named in his honor, made its initial bow to the earth twelve years before the Christian era and has come back every seventy-five or seventy-six years since.

It was here in the year 839, in 1066, 1145, 1456, 1531, 1607, 1682 and about every seventy-five years since. The advance agents of the comet have tipped it off to the astronomers that Halley's big show is now enroute toward the sun from a point beyond the orbit of the planet Neptune and is billed to emerge from the impalpable night of space and dazzle the earth some time this winter, unless the stellar landlords attach its baggage or some like mishap forces the attraction off the aerial road.

History shows that Halley's show has always created something of a sensation. When it first appeared, 12 B. C. it was held responsible for the overthrow of governments, the epidemic of plagues and the breaking up of homes that occurred about that time.

Its next appearance was followed by the locust plague in Egypt, and it was held responsible, when it appeared in 1066, for the Norman invasion of England. It shone again in the eyes of men in 1456, just when the Turks had become masters of Constantinople and threatened to advance into Europe.

It was in that year that Pope Calixtus felt obliged to issue a special edict, adding to the ordinary litany the petition, "Deliver us from the Devil, the Turks and the Comet."

This comet has always been associated with predictions of war, pestilence, famine or revolution, but, thanks to the astronomers, twentieth century people are more familiar with comets and their habits and have lost

THE SICKLES FAMILY REUNION.

The reconciliation of General Daniel E. Sickles and his wife, after a separation of twenty-seven years, is one of the most notable social events of recent times and deserves special attention.

General Sickles has been a prominent figure in public life for more than sixty years and his career has been bizarre and sensational.

His friendships have been warm and his enmities bitter and no man has attracted more popular discussion, criticism and defense. His part in the fighting of the second day at Gettysburg is still a moot subject wherever two or three survivors of that conflict are gathered.

It is nearly fifty years ago since General Sickles shot and killed Phillip Barton Key, the alleged betrayer of the old general's first wife, who died soon after the tragedy.

The trial which followed was celebrated in the annals of criminal jurisprudence, resulting in a verdict of acquittal through an appeal to the "unwritten law," the jury holding that in such cases as his had been, a man must needs kill to defend and fortify the sacredness of family.

Some years after the killing of Key, General Sickles was made American minister to Madrid and there married the daughter of a Spanish councillor of state.

When General Sickles decided to return to America his wife elected to remain with her mother, who was very ill at the time.

That was twenty-seven years ago and the general and his wife have lived apart since that time, although they have corresponded regularly and he has been liberal in his provisions for her support.

Mrs. Sickles' mother died recently and now the old general and his Spanish bride are to be reunited. In the meantime, the stormy career of General Sickles has continued. He has taken a personal hand in the politics of state and nation, enthusiastic for his friends and unrelentingly hostile to his opponents, until declining years have forced him to abate his activities.

General Sickles will be 84 years old in a few weeks, and it is fitting that his career, which has been tempestuously stormy in war, love and politics, should be rounded out in peace.

COMBATING TUBERCULOSIS.

Progress made by medical science in the struggle against "all the ills that flesh is heir to," and especially against the more dreaded forms of physical disorder, such as cancer and tuberculosis, has not as yet come to that point where the doctors will agree that results are more than encouraging.

The greatest public interest, probably, centers in the effort to eradicate, if possible, one form of tuberculosis most commonly known as "consumption."

This has been dubbed "the great white plague," and statistics gathered during recent years shows that it well deserves the title. It slays annually more persons than all other forms of disease, and no section of the country is safe from its ravages.

And the most hopeless phase of the struggle is that a specific has yet been disclosed whereby a sufferer may insure himself from the ravages of the germ after it has gained a foothold in his system.

Years of anxious research along this line have been rewarded by failure only, and the doctor nowadays can only prescribe what his predecessor did, plenty of fresh air, proper food and well-regulated exercise.

But the doctors are not without hope. They have discovered that a great many, possibly the majority, of cases when taken in the earlier stages are benefited, if not permanently cured, by the regimen suggested by the "out-door treatment."

It has been learned that this may be undertaken as well in one section of the country as another and that the chief advantage of the arid regions once so eagerly sought is that there may be found conditions more nearly ideal for the open-air life enjoined upon the sufferer.

Thought has turned to another phase of the fight against the dread disease, and that is to its prevention. Certain conditions of life tend to predispose the individual to the attack of tuberculosis in some one of its many forms, and this predisposition has lessened his powers of resistance to the extent that he falls a ready victim.

It is to remedy these conditions of life and by surrounding possible victims of the disease with such environment that they may be able to resist infection that the chief effort is now being directed. While the search for the remedy has not been given over or relaxed, the "ounce of prevention" that "is worth more than a pound of cure" is coming in for greater attention.

A national association with this object in view has been formed and under it state associations, Nebraska, which is in a large measure immune from the disease, has its association, which will soon make an exhibition of the methods of prevention for the benefit of Omaha people who may be interested.

The work is being carried forward by the medical profession with the assistance of the laymen and the results have been most encouraging and more than justify the effort.

DRAWING THE LINE.

The Bee has received a number of complimentary letters and many more personal expressions of satisfaction on its refusal to make its columns a sewer for all the nauseating filth stirred up by a recent tragic scandal.

While The Bee takes no special credit to itself for drawing the line as closely as possible in favor of decency, such evidences of appreciation are naturally pleasing.

It is the aim and object of The Bee to publish a paper that can be safely admitted into the home without filtering noxious poison into the systems of pure-minded women and children.

While occasionally it is difficult to draw the line between what is news which our readers ought to have and what should be expurgated for their good, we believe it is better to err, if at all, on the side of cleanliness and wholesomeness.

The people of Omaha and vicinity who want scandal sheets will probably continue to look for the vile stuff in their newspapers, but those who want their news served to them promptly and reliably by a paper they will not be ashamed to take home will give their preference to The Bee.

NO PENSION RECOMMENDATIONS.

For the first time since the civil war the annual encampment of the Grand Army has adjourned without making, requesting or suggesting additional pension legislation.

The veterans went further and adopted a resolution granting congress "three years' respite from soldiers' legislation."

The dollar-a-day pension bill, introduced in the last congress by General Sherwood of Ohio, was withdrawn at the author's request, and the resolution asking that prisoners of war be granted a pension of \$2 a day was laid over, with the understanding that it would not be offered again for three years.

The decision of the veterans is a tribute to the various republican administrations that have, from time to time, made liberal provisions for the care of the nation's defenders.

Although slowly, practically all reasonable demands have been met, with the result that the United States has paid more money for the relief of its war veterans and their families than any other nation on earth.

The present annual pension roll is about \$145,000,000 and the total amount paid by the government for the pension of the veterans of all its wars has been in excess of \$3,220,000,000.

Each year for many years the commissioner of pensions has reported that the high water mark in pension disbursements had been reached and that the pensioned were dying faster than the new applications, but each year these calculations have been defeated by the creation of new classes or increases in existing rates of pensions.

The three years' respite from pension legislation will have the effect of causing a reduction in the annual pension appropriation until the increased needs of the veterans, a need no real and certain with their advance in age, demand more liberal provision for the survivors.

THANKSGIVING ON MONDAY.

The Canadians have decided on an innovation in the matter of holidays by determining to celebrate their Thanksgiving day on Monday hereafter, instead of on Thursday, as has been customary for many years.

The argument back of this decision is that Monday makes a better holiday than Thursday because it follows a day of rest and, counting it with Saturday and Sunday, makes a three days' vacation for school children, thus giving more opportunity for family reunions and holiday excursions.

It is urged, too, that it will interfere less with the commercial affairs than if observed on Thursday, just as Labor day causes less dislocation of industrial affairs than would be the case were it observed in the mid-week instead of on Monday.

Thanksgiving day is a movable feast and nothing but custom has fixed its observance on Thursday and in November. President Washington fixed Thursday, November 26, as Thanksgiving day in his first presidential proclamation, but changed it the next year to February 19.

The day was not regularly observed throughout the country until the custom was revived by President Lincoln in 1863 and succeeding presidents have followed his example by setting the third or last Thursday in November for the celebration of the day.

Several members of both houses of the last Nebraska legislature have been renominated notwithstanding the unwritten rule for rotation that under the convention system would have accorded the place to some other county in the district. Of course, geographical location is not always a prime factor in a political campaign, but it remains to be seen whether in this respect the direct primary carries with it an incurable weakness.

The German emperor is making it plain that he has no objection to France doing all the fighting necessary to keep the unruly faction in Morocco subdued.

Speaking of the negro vote, Colonel Waterston declares that "the democratic party asks nothing, promises nothing." Oh, yes it does. It asks the negro in the north to vote the democratic ticket and requests the negro in the south to submit without complaint to disfranchisement.

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SERMONS BOILED DOWN. You can give nothing to men until you give them yourself.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES. "I never saw such a devoted father."

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. If the weather clerk was onto the possibilities of his job he would mount the water wagon and jar loose.

GOOD FORTUNE OF THE FARMERS. The Philadelphia Record at the beginning of the month of spring wheat and barley at the time of harvest, and of oats, was not quite up to the average at this date for the past ten years.

STUDY OF CHILDHOOD. Proposal to Extend Activities of the Federal Government. The western woman who complained that while the national government was ready to advise her husband concerning the proper care of his hops, it was not prepared to help her in the care and training of her children, was not giving way to necessarily vain regrets for the guidance she sought will be furnished if the proposal of the national child labor committee, with headquarters in New York, is enacted into law.

THE BRANDEIS BANK. The average man saves in what he puts into life insurance. This kind of saving not only makes ample provision for his old age, but provides immediate protection to family and business interests if he should die.

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