

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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GEORGE B. TSCHUCK, Treasurer.

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

Naturally the football season opens with a rush.

Of Kohrs you know the Montana man who got the president's letter.

"Who is the author of 'The Follies of 1908'?" asks a reader. W. J. Bryan.

Mr. Bryan should inform the public whether the swimming is still good up at Esopus.

The phonograph has one advantage over the amateur spellbinder. It can't make gestures.

Maine must be losing its conservatism. In the gubernatorial fight, "Bert" defeated "Obadiah."

It would appear that the question of veracity is the paramount issue with Mr. Hearst and Mr. Haskell.

"Taft lets Bryan talk," says the Springfield (Mass.) Republican. Not even Mr. Taft could prevent that.

The sun is about to cross the line, but this is no reason to expect that the weather man will behave any different.

George W. Berge has a few hours left before he will be compelled to declare whether he is a man or a mouse.

"Will the aeroplane defy the skill of our gunners?" asks the Baltimore Sun. Oh, no. We'll get after 'em with air guns.

Mr. Gunn is the democratic candidate for governor of Connecticut. Mr. Cannon should make some speeches in that state.

Illinois holds the record for the number of lockjaw cases. The record was established in July, not during the campaign.

A southern physician claims to have discovered a cure for the "sleeping sickness." He might try it on the democratic party.

There are any number of "meancholy Danes," now that their most trusted statesman has embezzled some \$5,000,000 of the public funds.

Governor Haskell of Oklahoma has written a campaign poem in which he makes Bryan rhyme with "tryin'." It rhymes just as well with "fryin'."

Mr. Bryan insists that he is "absolutely right on all the great issues of today," even if he has been absolutely wrong on all the great issues of the past.

Arizona is increasing its copper output at the rate of 3,000,000 pounds a month. It is refreshing to find Arizona producing something besides queer politics.

It is unfair to charge Mr. Bryan with having fooled the people. The results in national elections when he was a candidate show that the people refused to be fooled.

Mr. Taft received wishes of many happy returns of the day when he celebrated his 51st birthday. Mr. Taft's happiest returns will be received on the night of November 3.

If the Bryanites will only take their eyes off Foraker for a moment they will see Haskell and Bailey and a few other eminent followers of the "Peerless," whose records are none too bright.

THE PROOF OF THE PUDDING.

It is an old adage that the proof of the pudding is in the eating. When the Junkin decision was rendered overruling the protest against accepting a populist filing for presidential elector from the Second congressional district on the ground that the populists had not cast 1 per cent of the votes in this district, The Bee protested that the decision was unwarranted by the law and the facts.

The secretary of state had before him evidence to show that no populist candidate for county office had received any votes whatever at the preceding election in any one of the three counties making up this district. He had evidence before him that in Omaha and South Omaha together not a dozen voters had on registering stated that they affiliated with the populist party so as to entitle them to vote the populist ticket at the primary. Nowhere in the election returns of the preceding year was there anything to show that any populist votes had been cast in any one of these three counties for any office unless it were assumed that the difference in the votes polled by the candidate for regent, who had both democratic and populist nominations, and that of the candidate for regent, who had only the democratic nomination, represented the votes of populists, and even then no amount of scraping could muster up the necessary 1 per cent of the total vote. To find something on which to turn down the protest it was necessary to go outside of the record and to rely on a fiction that an unofficial poll of Washington county several years old furnished the ratio of populists in the whole district, and thus to invent a populist vote in the other counties sufficient to constitute the needed 1 per cent.

The official canvass of the primary, recently completed, ought to be an eye-opener for the public as well as for the secretary of state. The fraud of putting the democratic presidential elector for the Second district on the ticket has been consummated by the casting of exactly nine votes in three counties. Taking the highest number of votes polled by the populists in this district, by adding together the two columns representing the candidates for the gubernatorial nomination, we have this magnificent showing of populist votes:

Douglas 12
Sary 5
Washington 0
Total 17

The total maximum populist vote in the Second Nebraska district, as disclosed by the recent primary, is exactly 17. No intelligent person will want further proof of this great political fraud perpetrated by Mr. Bryan and his associates in order to purloin populist votes not intended to be cast for him.

"A SOUTHERN VAMPIRE."

Eminent physicians in the south have become convinced that the "lazy worm" is not the product of superstition or negro folklore, but is a real "southern vampire," as the Atlanta Constitution calls it, which is menacing the health and very existence of from 150,000 to 200,000 Georgians. The Georgia state board of health has taken up the warfare against the hook worm, or the "lazy worm," which they assert causes more deaths in Georgia each year than tuberculosis and pneumonia combined.

The physicians state that the hook worm is picked up in its embryonic stage by barefooted children and reaches the vital organs through the circulation. The children grow into sickly, bloodless and indolent adults. Physicians insist that the "lazy sickness" can be cured by a few doses of thymol, but the ignorance and superstition of the negroes and illiterate whites prevent the general use of the remedy.

DEMOCRATS AND THE NEGRO.

While Mr. Bryan, with more political acumen than he usually displays, is making a determined effort to sidetrack discussion of the negro question in this campaign, some of his associates on the national democratic committee are apparently as equally determined to force the issue into prominence and the result is certain to be exceedingly embarrassing to Mr. Bryan.

Democrats of West Virginia recently declared in their state platform for the disfranchisement of the negro voters in that state "for the protection of the purity of the ballot," although negroes cast less than 5 per cent of the votes in the state. Now comes John H. Atwood, member of the national committee from Kansas and in charge of the speakers' bureau for the west, and in a signed letter demands the disfranchisement of the negro voters in Kansas. Mr. Atwood, in the course of a brutal and vicious assault upon the negro, declares that the colored voter is a menace to Kansas and that the state must get rid of him.

close states so as to draw the negroes from their alliance with the republican party." We doubt if Mr. Bryan is diplomat enough to accept the conflicting advice that is being offered to him without making a muck of it. What can Mr. Bryan say in Maryland, Kansas or West Virginia, where the democratic leaders are demanding the disfranchisement of the negro, that will win any colored voter from the republican ticket? It will be embarrassing to him to ask them to vote the democratic ticket in close states and submit without protest to disfranchisement as soon as the democrats get into power in those states. He can hardly afford to ask the northern negro to vote the democratic ticket after first taking the precaution to see that the south is not looking.

THE AWAKENING OF CHINA.

Covetous and predatory neighbors that have been keeping an eye on China for the last century or more and making predictions as to what would happen when the sleeping yellow giant was awakened, may find food for thought in the report just made by the postal department of China. That document shows that in 1907 the post-offices in China increased 40 per cent in number while the gain in the number of letters, post cards and newspapers handled was nearly 50 per cent. The significance of this gain in postal business can not be underestimated. It would not attract attention in a new and progressive western country, but when it occurs in a nation that has practically a stationary population it must indicate great development and activity in other directions. It indicates a quickening in the social and business intercourse of the Chinese people and a stirring of the vast bulk of the most populous nation in the world. The increase in the postal business is the most assuring sign of the long-heralded, long-delayed "awakening of China."

FOOD AND MEAT EXTRACTS.

The chemistry experts of the Department of Agriculture have been busy again and this time have upset some of the prevailing theories about the food value of extracts and prepared meat products. The theorists got away some time ago and insisted that the coming food would be served in capsule form and that a man might carry enough provender in his vest pocket to last him on a trip around the world. The chemists now spoil this pretty dream. A recent bulletin of the department, containing the results of analyses made of the meat extracts of commerce, asserts that the food value of meat extracts is very limited, although they are a source of energy to the body and highly valuable as stimulants for the ill.

It is explained that when prepared under the best possible conditions a commercial meat extract is of necessity, in order that it may not spoil, deprived of the greater part of the coagulable proteins, which constitute the chief nutritious elements of the juice. Valuable as these preparations may be and are in the sick room, their nutritious value is often exaggerated and it is on that account that the department has deemed it wise to publish the result of its investigations.

That consultation at Esopus on Sunday must have reminded Alton B. Parker of one afternoon at Denver in July, when Chairman Clayton looked steadily over the head of the late candidate for president on the democratic ticket and announced, "Ignatius J. Dunn of Omaha has the floor." The studied insult offered on that occasion must now very greatly incline Parker and his friends to support the "Peerless."

The legislative record of the republican party in Nebraska is good enough to stand on. It is a record of promises redeemed, platform pledges enacted into law and reforms instituted that are of unquestioned benefit to all the people of the state. It is a record of which any party could be proud and absolutely answers any charge the opposition may make.

A Chicago minister suggests that a barrel stove properly applied is the remedy needed in the high school frat epidemic. This is probably a correct prescription, and if it were generally followed there would be less need for juvenile courts and a lot of other reform trappings that are now costing the taxpayers large sums annually.

INJURIOUS DRY SPELL.

Damage wrought over a vast stretch of country. Pittsburgh Dispatch. The long duration of dry though for the greater part not excessively hot weather is bearing heavily on the rural districts. With the exception of a day's rain in early August, and sporadic showers a week ago, the northern section has been unwatered for nearly, if not quite, six weeks. The results are tragic in many sections.

Forest fires are raging along the north shore of Lake Superior, in the timber regions of Wisconsin and in upper Michigan. Towns and villages surrounded by forests have been threatened with extinction, and in one or two cases the threat has become stern reality. Even as near as along the line between northeastern Ohio and northwestern Pennsylvania the problem has been afforded that the forests have reached a condition in which the sparks from locomotives or the careless smoker or camper may develop into disaster. A more universal burden is the exhaustion of water on many farms. A locality is reported where the inhabitants have to send twenty miles for drinking water; while live stock is compelled to seek the impure water of stagnant pools, with the increasing danger that even that poor supply may be exhausted.

This drought has come at a period when its chief injury to the crops is the delay in seeding the coming winter wheat crop. It has, of course, worked no evil on crops already harvested, and extensive injury to the growing corn crop is not yet reported. But all classes will earnestly hope for the speedy advent of rains that will quench the forest fires, fill the springs and streams and restore the fertility of the parched earth.

Mr. Bryan declares that he will carry every doubtful state west of the Missouri. That might be important and significant if there were any doubtful states west of the Missouri.

INNOCENCE OF CORPORATIONS.

Analysis of the Decision on the "Commodities Clause."

The Outlook, New York. Judge Gray, in the principal opinion of the court, declares that the legislation by which the people through congress attempted to divorce railroading from coal mining is drastic, harsh, dangerous in its tendency, and unconstitutional.

"From every point of view from which we have been able to approach the question, the unreasonableness and consequent invalidity of this so-called 'commodities clause' is apparent. It invades the rights of the state by striking down the liberty hitherto innocently enjoyed by its citizens, under the laws and usages of the commonwealth, to engage in interstate commerce to the fullest extent, as to all harmless articles, whether owned or not owned by the carrier and the consignee, and to transport these defendants, contrary to the letter and spirit of the fifth amendment to the constitution. If the enactment in question be warranted by the commerce clause of the constitution, it is hard to see what bounds may be set to the expenditure of that power. It will, indeed, be an open road through which the forces of a centralization hitherto unknown may enter at will, to the overthrow of that just balance between federal and state power, for which the makers of the constitution so wisely provided, as an essential to the preservation of our dual form of government."

"We cannot see the force of Judge Gray's argument that the defendants were 'innocently and lawfully engaged in transporting coal which they own,' and that therefore it is drastic and unjust for congress to declare such transportation unlawful. The vested rights of ownership, if applied, it appears to us, to any legislation regulating or modifying the practices of civilized society. Children less than 10 years old were formerly permitted by some states to work twelve hours a day in factories and mines. So far as the government is concerned this was a lawful and unobjectionable right of ownership." To quote Judge Gray, were built up on the practice. When some of these states prohibited this practice, and thus to some extent destroyed the profits gained from "vested rights of ownership," was the legislation harsh and drastic? But even further, it appears to be clear that this vested right of ownership, as exercised in Pennsylvania directly contrary to the state constitution. We fail to see how, under these circumstances, the railways can plead innocence.

Of course Judge Gray is entitled to his opinion that the Hepburn act registers a tendency toward a dangerous centralization which endangers the preservation of our government, but we do not understand it to be the function of the courts to determine whether legal enactments are expedient or desirable, but simply whether they accord with the principles of a national law. The social and commercial evils which have grown out of the consolidation of the two distinct industries of coal mining and railway transportation have not been denied even by the railways themselves. Up to the time of the present decision the opposition to the enforcement of the "commodities clause" has been chiefly, not that it is unjustifiable, or even outside the function of the government, but simply that it would be too difficult to enforce on account of the complication of determining what proportion of the stocks and bonds of the railways involved rests upon purely railway property and what rests upon the mining property.

The Outlook does not minimize the enormous difficulty in the way of enforcing the "commodities clause," but, in view of the constitutional provision of the state of Pennsylvania, it is not in the nature of a friendly feeling on the part of the public toward the railroads.

It promises, while working to secure a fair return to capital and labor engaged in the industrial world. It will be in the nature of a guarantee against railroad strikes. The community dreads those strikes above all others, so disastrous to business are they. It would welcome an assurance of future exemption from them.

One of the professed objects of the association must keep out of politics. So long as it shall play the part of an educator and a harmonizer no exception will be taken to it. If it shall be found attempting to exert illegitimate influence in congress or in state legislatures then the

Association which lives up to such a promise cannot be regarded with apprehension. Indeed, the more close and friendly the relations between railroad capital and railroad labor the better will it be in one important particular for the industrial world. It will be in the nature of a guarantee against railroad strikes. The community dreads those strikes above all others, so disastrous to business are they. It would welcome an assurance of future exemption from them.

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THE PEOPLE DO RULE.

New York Sun.

For an unassuming striking illustration of the truth that the "People do Rule" Mr. Bryan might be referred to this case of Charles Evans Hughes.

Significance of Two "It's." Boston Transcript. If Bryan narrowly misses an election this time it will mean his nomination for years hence. If Taft narrowly misses success it will mean Roosevelt. Thus seven weeks from today will to some extent foreshadow 1912.

A Supporting Circumstance. Boston Transcript. If Mr. Taft's response to Bryan, that the people do already rule, needed support, it would find it in the number bosses who have lately been "bounced" from their self-constituted places of political dictation by the people.

Where Light Would Help Some. Boston Herald. There are at least 13,143,172 reasons, ready at hand, in favor of Postmaster General Meyer's proposition for teaching the pupils in the public schools how to address letters properly, according to the latest returns from the dead letter office.

Maker Strives to Please. Minneapolis Journal. Some man has invented a new religion and reduced the number of commandments from ten to seven. He ought to make a hit, for there are any number of people who believe that the commandments were constituted pieces of political dictation by the people.

Down to Particulars. Kansas City Journal. Mr. Bryan's Ananias club is not large, but it is lively. The Hon. William Randolph Hearst can talk in half a dozen newspapers and on any number of stamps, and from every one of them he declares that Bryan is another. And furthermore he gives very precise particulars to prove it.

Power of Public Opinion. Chicago Record-Herald. Governor Hughes has been renominated by the people, and renominated on his record. He is identified with sound and proper policies and with dignified and clean methods. He has stood for corporate honesty, for obedience to law, for legitimate protection of the public interests, for sane regulation of the things needing direction and supervision, and for official integrity and independence.

The Real Thing in Bosses. New York Sun. This triumph of unorganized public sentiment over the elements and factors usually decisive in a political convention is marvelous. The nomination is dictated by a boss, but for once the principles of the nomination is the boss intended and indicated by the spirit of our political institutions—the people. There never was anything quite like it before. May there be much that resembles it hereafter.

The Aeroplane Marries. Boston Transcript. The late Lieutenant Seldridge, who was killed in the wreck of the Wright aeroplane at Fort Myer, was an army officer who had distinguished himself as an expert in ordnance and munitions. Seldridge is a name so intimately associated with the navy, for almost a century, that some devotion in the racial talent must have sent the unfortunate lieutenant into the army. Instances of army officers with sons in the navy, and of navy officers with sons in the army, are not uncommon. Seldridge comes a family's strong predilection for the "service" whether ashore or afloat. The modern conditions of warfare are such that hereditary precepts for the army are not altogether valueless in the navy. Doubtless to a contributory cause is the habit of serving in the government, when comes a natural preference for those employments which besides carrying social prestige, carry the advantage of immunity from political changes. A commission in either service opens a career to many which if it offers few cash prizes, holds forth the inducement of a good pay regularly received.

NOT A FAIR COMPARISON. Question of Fortune Between Mr. Brooklyn and Speaker Cannon. Brooklyn Eagle (Ind. ed.). According to his own admission, Mr. Bryan is worth about \$150,000. He calls for a schedule of Speaker Cannon's assets, convinced that the inventory would prove Uncle Joe to be the richer of the two. Without a doubt it would. And without a doubt it should. The Nebraska is the speaker's junior by many years. When Mr. Bryan shall have had as long a past as the speaker now looks back upon, he will have seven figures to his credit, assuming the government to keep up at its present rate. For his turn of mind is unquestionably thrifty, and a good start once effected, dollars multiply. Whatever he may be worth, Uncle Joe neither patronizes fashionable tailors nor smokes cigars of indisputable quality. Besides, he does not make money out of politics, which statement will not be made of Mr. Bryan otherwise than by way of a joke.

Points in Appeal in the Commodity Clause Cases. Chicago Record-Herald. There would be little profit in speculation concerning the outcome of the government's appeal, just ordered by the attorney general, in the commodity clause cases. It is plain, however, that neither the Department of Justice nor the commerce commission is greatly oppressed or impressed by the adverse decision of a majority of the federal circuit court for the Pennsylvania district. A reversal seems to be expected with the decision of the supreme court. This confidence is based, of course, on the supreme court's past decisions in thoroughly considered cases which involved the construction and application of the commodities clause. It is true that recent opinions of that tribunal have been full of dicta in favor of the preservation of the rights and powers of the states, but it is by no means clear that the commodities clause infringes upon any reserved state right of power. How, for example, can the state of Pennsylvania, as a consumer, and regulate the shipment of products into other states? The commodities clause leaves Pennsylvania as free as it ever was to regulate intrastate commerce. The coal-mining roads are not prohibited by that clause from retaining and operating their mines and selling their products in Pennsylvania itself. Nor does the clause directly require them to give up or sell or suspend work in the mines. All it says is that such carriers as own and operate mines or conduct other industries shall not be allowed to transport their products in interstate commerce.

Has not congress the constitutional right to say this? Has it not the plenary and exclusive power to regulate interstate commerce—that is, to lay down terms and conditions upon which, and upon which citizens and corporations may engage in such commerce? So far as the commerce clause is concerned, the states as separate sovereignties might as well be deemed inoperative; they have absolutely nothing to do with interstate commerce and interstate transportation.

Thus the power to regulate interstate commerce includes the power to prohibit what was settled by the famous lottery case. States may legalize lotteries and permit them to flourish, but that does not prevent congress from saying that lottery tickets shall not be transmitted by carriers engaged in interstate commerce. Such prohibition may destroy property rights and vested interests, but it is constitutional, for it affects no right lawfully recognized by the states. They remain supreme within their spheres.

These are the considerations that will be urged before the supreme court, for the essential issue in the commodity clause case is the extent and nature of the power of congress to regulate interstate commerce and prescribe conditions for those wishing to engage in it.

One of the Government's

most noted scouts, Ben Sheffield, once said that though he had travelled through the Rocky Mountains thousands of miles alone, and often with no protection better than a good knife, the only time that he was ever afraid was in a large city after dark, and then he wanted to have his watch and his money in

Places of Safety

such as the First National Bank of Omaha. This bank is a place of SAFETY, not only because it has large fire and burglar proof vaults for the keeping of its own cash and the valuables of its customers, but also because it has, year after year, steadily increased the amount of its assets as well as the quality of them.

Whenever you have surplus funds, it would be wise to take out one of their 3% CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT.