

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 14th day of October, 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.

Hot Springs, Va., has rudely crowded Oyster Bay out of the date lines.

All things considered, Banker Morse has dealt "the system" a harder blow than Tom Lawson could deliver.

The Austrian cabinet is preparing to retire," says a Vienna dispatch. Sweet sleep and pleasant dreams.

The first snow of the season has arrived. It would have been more polite to have sent an advance man ahead.

"Can alcohol be used as a fuel?" asks a magazine writer. Well, a lot of folks have been "hot up" by using it.

A woman has laid claim to the heart of Little Rock. She will probably learn that Little Rock has a hard heart.

New York is to be doubly congratulated. Senator Platt is to retire and "Fingy" Conners will not succeed him.

Senator Elkins has sold a railway for \$6,000,000. Must be something in the report that he is going to buy a duke.

Mr. Taft is showing the country that he believes that between presidential campaigns business is more important than politics.

A woman has confessed to being the leader of the Night Riders in Tennessee. Perhaps it was natural for her to be a leader of men.

The Omaha World-Herald reads a lecture to the Lincoln Journal on "pin-headedness." Now each may tell the truth about the other.

It is said to cost more than \$5,000,000 to transmit the results of a presidential election on election night. It was worth the money this year.

That union depot at Kansas City is about the only big enterprise that has not responded to the impetus given to industry by Mr. Taft's election.

A Texas man is suing the Southern Pacific for 15 cents. Still, some folks have been asserting that the war against the corporations is over.

Governor Hughes says the election of Mr. Taft is a "toxic" to the country. Even at that some democrats are taking their medicine with bad grace.

The contributions to the republican campaign fund are to be printed in book form, a sort of a modern edition, as it were, of the Book of Numbers.

A New York policeman accepted John D. Rockefeller's word that he would pay a fine. Justice Landis doubtless would like a similar chance.

"The greatest need of the democratic party is new policies," says Judge Parker. The greatest need of the democratic party, except in spots, is new votes.

Since the election the city authorities of Atchison, Kan., are preparing to make war on the "Joinks" that have never existed since the state passed its prohibition laws.

Count Boni has told the Goulds that he would like an allowance of \$60,000 a year. The count is as expensive a luxury as some of the Goulds' branch lines in Kansas.

As the next step in the great moral uplift, it is in order for Reformer Elmer E. Thomas to hike up to Minneapolis to help his fellow reformer, Sheriff, keep out of the penitentiary.

THE SPEAKER AND LEGISLATION.

The announcement by Congressman Fowler of New Jersey of his candidacy for speaker is being encouraged by the democratic press and by some republicans who have the idea that the abuses complained of by reason of the enforcement of the rules of the house are all traceable to Mr. Cannon personally.

The agitation against what is generally termed the "arbitrary power of the speaker in ordering or suppressing legislation in the house" may have considerable justification, but the general public evidently has a mistaken impression that the abuses complained of would be ipso facto removed by the election of a speaker other than Mr. Cannon.

This arbitrary power of the speaker originated in the rules adopted in the time of Speaker Reed for the purpose of bringing order out of chaos in the proceedings of the house and expediting legislation which the democrats of that house were seeking to block by filibustering tactics.

Congressman Norris of Nebraska has submitted a plan which met with general favor among the reformers at the last session of congress for a committee of forty-six on rules, to be selected by the delegations from each state, instead of the present membership of five, appointed by the speaker.

The house of representatives shall elect a board of managers consisting of seven members, which shall be charged with that direction of legislation which is now assumed by the speaker.

Out of this agitation may come some modification of the existing rules, but the point should not be lost sight of that the house is master of its own affairs and may change its rules at any time a majority so wills.

Mr. Hadley went into the campaign with the political history of his state against him and is the first republican governor Missouri has elected since the civil war. He appealed to the people because of his conscience and his courage and his admirable record as attorney general of the state in the four years just passed.

STOPPING THE DIVORCE MILLS. Belated returns on the referendum relating to the divorce laws of South Dakota are highly complimentary to the moral sense of the state. They show that the people, by a decisive majority, have voted to put the divorce mills, which have made the name of the state a byword, out of business.

Intelligent Citizens Show Too Little Respect for Human Life. "We are menaced by many things," said William A. Percy, a Memphis lawyer, in a speech before the cotton convention Tuesday.

A fashion magazine says that "stripes with modifications" will be the popular thing in men's wear this winter. Sounds like a sentence of the court, with a promise of time allowance for good behavior.

No one hears anything about the members of the South Omaha Police board resigning when Governor Shelton goes out of office, although South

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The rivalry of the old world powers in military and naval expansion is gradually but surely approaching the bottom of the taxpayers' resources.

Most of the republicans who are looking for appointments to bi-partisan boards under the coming democratic state administration are fully prepared to prove that they have as good claims to recognition as any democrat who worked openly for democratic success.

A victorious candidate for congress on the republican ticket in North Carolina says he did not expect it and is sorry that he was elected. A lot more who did expect it may be sorry they were elected before they get through.

"Upon the issues of the campaign just ended," writes Colonel Henry Watterston, "Mr. Bryan was wholly right and Mr. Taft was wholly wrong."

Dom Miguel of Braganza, one of the claimants to the Portuguese throne, is engaged to marry Miss Mary Pullman of Chicago.

The intermeddling Mr. Fields has been pulled off. The liquor interests of Omaha would do well to follow The Bee's advice and suppress him permanently as their accredited mouthpiece.

State authorities in Kentucky are making a bid for immigrants. It is not encouraging to immigrants to be invited to come to Kentucky and be shot up with the country.

Missouri republicans refer to their newly elected governor, Herbert S. Hadley, affectionately as "Herb." Mr. Hadley is to be congratulated that they do not call him "Bert."

This extra session suspense is tantalizing to legislative members who are not sure whether they should send out their laundry now or wait until they get to Lincoln.

The Last Best. Chicago Tribune. Make way for Uncle Sam's new battleship, the North Dakota, "the most formidable fighting machine afloat."

Unpleasantly Suggestive. Boston Herald. Can't they manage to find some more encouraging name to attach to the coming tariff revision law than that of Seneca D. Payne?

A Decree for Decency. Baltimore American. The people of South Dakota have vindicated the good name of their state in voting against the continuance of the divorce mill.

The Loom Up of Johnson. Cleveland Plain Dealer. Of course, there is nothing in it, but Governor John Johnson might just as well put on his rubbers when the walking is bad and carefully watch his digestion, thus keeping himself in good trim for the year 1913 possibility.

Plea for Disarmament. St. Louis Times. Until the hot-headed southern journalist and politician give up the practice of gun "toting" the news from the south is likely to be punctuated with bullets from time to time and the history of the country reddened by very foul tragedy.

Lots of Engagements Ahead. Minneapolis Journal. The correspondents have it all fixed up that the president is going to clear the wild animals out of Africa; that he is to be sporting editor of the Outlook; that he is going to write that long-postponed history of Texas, together with magazine articles and a book about his African experiences; and he is going to be elected to the United States senate to succeed Senator Platt.

Taft's Popular Plurality. Boston Transcript. Taft's popular plurality over Bryan will approximate 1,200,000 votes, which is 50 per cent greater than McKinley's over Bryan in 1900, making this the severest of Bryan's three defeats.

Whatever fear Great Britain entertains regarding the American invasion, one branch of the nation's activities is in no immediate danger, British enterprise and spirit in building battleships surpasses the other two rivals.

The tide of emigration from Italy, strongly directed to the United States until the middle of last year, is now setting toward Brazil. The demand for labor in the great coffee-producing states is such that the republic, indirectly, is paying the passage of immigrants and by this means is enticing a flow of immigration that is alarming the Italian government.

The people of the United States, about to enter upon various systems of inland navigation, should profit by what Europe has accomplished in that line.

Necessity for the Square Deal. Boston Transcript. Andrew Carnegie's experience with railroad rebates, set forth in some detail in his new book, should give pause to those conservatives who have argued that all the Roosevelt legislation was unnecessary; that the railroads, guided by intelligent self-interest, would treat the shippers fairly without the necessity of further government control.

PERSPICUOUS.

While discussing the causes of the third defeat of Mr. Bryan's standing candidacy for the presidency, this intelligent and perspicuous explanation of an ardent democratic organ, the Spalding (Neb.) Enterprise, should not be overlooked:

No well informed and honest man will deny that Mr. Taft owes his election to purchased votes, intimidation and coercion. It may well be asked, Can he break away from the influence that made his election possible? It is a sad commentary upon the progress of our civilization that after 121 years of popular government an election can be purchased in this country.

The editor of the Enterprise must have gotten his trolleys mixed and reprinted with variations some of the outbursts of despair uttered by Mr. Bryan and his associates just before the election. This sort of stuff was spread about by the democratic campaign management before the votes were counted in an effort to scare back voters who they saw were turning away from them.

If the election had been really close the Bryanite organs would doubtless be again insisting that their followers cared more for money than for principle and had sold out for cash.

Under the conditions it is fortunate that no one but some stone-blind partisan, like the editor quoted, will question the honesty of the verdict of the people.

INDIA'S PROPER PROTEST. Americans who are wont to ridicule foreigners because they have an uncertain knowledge of the geography of this great nation and a sad lack of understanding of American habits and customs have been properly rebuked by a native of India, who calls attention to the fact that Americans have very crude ideas about some of the high civilization of the countries of the far east.

The occasion for this rebuke was an article in a recent issue of the Review of Reviews in which the writer declared that the Hindus cast their dead into the Ganges, bathe in the river and then carry the water home for drinking purposes.

The Hindus, after burning their dead bodies, cast in the Ganges only the bones and the teeth, which purify the water. The water of the Ganges is naturally very pure and cold, as it comes down from the snow bed of the Himalaya, the highest mountain in the world.

All of which shows how far behind the times we Americans are in some important things. Instead of spending millions in the construction of reservoirs and filtration plants, in order to secure a pure water supply, all that appears to be necessary is to throw the bones and teeth of the dead into the river and pure water is assured.

The Anti-Saloon league is convinced that it was double-crossed by the prohibition party in the recent Nebraska election. We have no doubt that the prohibitionists of Nebraska labor under the impression that they were double-crossed by the Anti-Saloon league. The true explanation how the officers of the Anti-Saloon league came to be working hand in hand with the officers of the Liquor Dealers' association would be interesting reading.

The Lincoln Journal relates that once upon a time "The Third congressional district made Omar M. Kem its representative in congress."

The successful democratic candidate for congress in this Second Nebraska district swears a great oath that he spent only \$360 to be re-elected. What a hard time he must have to keep a straight face while he advocates complete publicity of campaign expenditures.

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POLITICAL DRIFT.

The steamed "Fingy" Conners of Buffalo cheerfully admits he doesn't know why it happened. How it happened is easy. You can't always tell beforehand what is behind a name, Dickey and Dolley were the nursery warblers of republican music in Missouri and Kansas.

The traditional strength of Orton failed lamentably in Texas. A candidate for the state senate bearing the pungent name was "beaten to a frazzle."

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As a sign of returning consciousness in politics it is worth noting that the question whether Taft will be the twenty-sixth or twenty-seventh president is up for consideration.

The perplexities of betters in Maryland equals the troubles of those who tackled the question, "What is an Ann?"

Former Senator William E. Mason of Illinois has been handed a consolation prize by Chicago. A job in the city law department will net him about \$7,500 a year.

The reason for the split in Maryland's electoral vote is the provision of the state ballot law requiring a voter to place his mark opposite each of the electors of his party.

SEEKING NEW LEADERSHIP. Homeless Logic of Politics Points That Way. St. Louis Republic (dem.). It is far too soon to canvass the availability of other candidates who may be named in 1912, but it is not at all too soon to recognize the fact that Mr. Bryan's undoubted personal popularity did not develop any evidences of growth from 1900 to 1908.

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The moral of the figures is not to be escaped. Mr. Bryan cannot mistake it. His phenomenal popularity is waning. No more forcible evidence of that fact is afforded than the Missouri returns present.

In 1896 Missouri gave him 57,772. In 1900 it gave him 77,329. Yet the state went against him with the party reunited and apparently harmonious. The politicians, it appears, were more united than the people and Bryan lost strength in Missouri, as he did in half a dozen other democratic states, because of decreasing popularity and not because of organized opposition.

It is in the order of progress that democratic thoughts should turn to new leadership in 1912, a leadership which Mr. Bryan as a good party man will accept along with every other loyal democrat.

AMERICAN REVOLVER HABIT. "Toting a Gun" = Sign of Lunacy or Egotism. Minneapolis Journal. Again the holy revolver has made havoc with human lives. In the heart of New York the postmaster of the city is shot down by an assassin, who thereupon turns the weapon on himself and ends his own life.

In the capital of Tennessee a former member of the United States senate and the son of a leading attorney exchange blows with the Black sea and its upper levels are connected with the Rhine by canals.

The New York case is clearly one of a disappointed and unbalanced man giving way to a homicidal mania. In the southern city the tragedy grew out of an ordinary political feud. In the same code now valued elsewhere that seems to obtain in Tennessee, it would depopulate the country, leaving us with no statesmen and no lawyers to bear the burden of government.

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