

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.: George B. Tschuck, treasurer of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily Morning Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of January, 1920, was as follows:

Table with columns for copies printed, copies not mailed, copies mailed, and total circulation for various categories.

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

Why are nearly all the monopolists in vaudeville men? That's not natural.

Charles P. Taft wants it understood that it was another Charles that had his Crownwell.

Eggs may now be hatched by electricity, but they are still laid in the same old way.

The Simplified Spelling board reports rapid progress. It has issued another circular.

Lucky for Mayor Jim that he was not the captain of a battleship when he sailed up to Sioux City.

Move to increase the pay of wireless telegraphers on steamships to at least as much as the stokers get.

When Mr. Taft has that alligator feast at New Orleans we will know whether alligator is served as fish or meat.

Mr. Rockefeller says he earned his first money driving turkeys. He made the bulk of it, however, shearing lambs.

Congress has voted \$500,000 for airship experiments, but it will make more money than that fly between now and March 4.

Watch the competition of the auto makers for the privilege of equipping the White House garage with a machine built for Mr. Taft.

Upton Sinclair says he is ashamed that he is married. Really, Mrs. Upton Sinclair is the party who should feel ashamed on that score.

"Is the Indian specially adapted for any trade or profession?" asks a magazine writer. Well, originally the Indian was an adept hair dresser.

Senator La Follette is having a hard time looking innocent when strangers inquire what is the cause of the delay in re-electing Senator Stephenson.

Castro says he will start no trouble if he goes back to Venezuela. He will not need to. The other fellow will start the trouble if Castro returns.

Forrest Crissey has an article in a Chicago paper in which he says he takes off his hat to a certain chiro-podist. Must have corns on his head.

Captain Qualtrough of the Georgia has been court-martialed for getting drunk at a reception. Possibly he had not heard that Georgia had gone dry.

There must be some mistake in the inauguration program. The printed order of march makes no mention of a place in the procession for the Ananias club.

Mr. Taft is confident that, if congress will dig up as fast as Colonel Goethals' force digs down, the Panama canal will be completed in less than four years.

Congressmen are trying to stir up a mull over whether the special session of congress shall be convened March 10 or March 15. It will save trouble if the case were referred to Mr. Taft without argument.

HAD LINCOLN LIVED.

In his always interesting survey of world progress in the current Review of Reviews Dr. Albert Shaw raises the interesting question as to what would have happened had Lincoln lived.

Would Lincoln have been able to accomplish in his second term, compelled as he would have been to grapple with the intricate problems of reconstruction and to steer between sharply divided factions of his own party, results in any way comparable with the great achievements of his four years in the White House?

Had Lincoln lived, would he have escaped the shoals upon which the political craft of his successor, Andrew Johnson, went to shipwreck?

Had Lincoln lived, would his character have stood out in such towering contrast to those around him, and would his memory have been revered, as it is now, with its crown of martyrdom?

It is suggested by Dr. Shaw that while Lincoln's death was a great calamity. It has doubtless helped to give "that peculiar touch of dignity, pathos and heroism" to the accepted figure of Abraham Lincoln that so tragic an ending of a great career at its moment of climax must have bestowed.

"If he had fought congress through four bitter years on its reconstruction policy," he continues, "and then lived on afterward as an experienced, the historical portrait would have lacked something of the bold, statuesque outlines that it now possesses."

It is well known that Lincoln, himself, had something of the fatalist in his makeup, and while his untimely ending was entirely unexpected, it could not have taken him at any other moment and left his part of the work practically at completion. He would have seen in the tragedy evidence of the hand of destiny concluding the career of the great captain at the very moment that the men warring to destroy the union were laying down their arms.

The verdict of history is that Lincoln's greatness was full reached and that, had he lived, he could not have added to it, but might have postponed the day of its full realization.

THE BUILDING REVIVAL. One of the most reassuring proofs that business conditions and confidence are being restored to normal throughout the country is found in the report just issued by the Construction News of the building operations in forty-three American cities for the month of January compared with similar operations in the same cities for January of last year. These figures show that permits were issued in these forty-three cities in January for 6,895 buildings, involving a total estimated cost of \$36,592,845, compared with 5,555 permits issued in January, 1919, for buildings estimated to cost \$17,962,643, a gain of 104 per cent in the construction investment.

The exhibit is especially significant in showing that the improvement in conditions is general, the statistics being taken from cities in all parts of the country. Decreases are shown in but five cities, Cincinnati, Portland, Terre Haute, Davenport and Tacoma, and these are explained by the fact that permits for large public buildings, involving an unusual expenditure of money, were taken out in those cities in January of last year. Chicago leads among the larger cities with an increase of 220 per cent. New York shows an increase of 112 per cent. Omaha's increase is placed at 47 per cent and the gain all along the line runs from 25 per cent up.

The Omaha showing is particularly satisfactory, as this city's record for January of last year was better than the average and the increase of 47 per cent is equal to that of double gain in some of the other cities. The entire showing is highly gratifying, as the business confidence necessary to the investment of big money in buildings is of the lasting kind.

A "DEAD DUCK" DINNER. The dinner given by Vice President Fairbanks to the members of the Indiana delegation in congress who fell by the wayside at the last election was something of a novelty and somewhat significant in that the guests numbered nearly all of the present house membership from the Hoosier state. A more startling and complete reversal of form in a single campaign is seldom recorded than that shown by Indiana in the last election. Congressmen Landis, Overstreet, Watson, Foster, Chaney, Holliday and Gillhams were among those who fell outside the breastworks, along with Senator Hemenway. Congressman Watson, who was whip of the house, was not a candidate for re-election, but was defeated as the republican candidate for governor. Judge Crumpacker was the only one of the old guard to survive the slaughter at the polls and he was appropriately selected as toastmaster at the "Dead Duck" dinner.

From a party standpoint the dinner was important, as the guests displayed a determination to get together, to bury factional differences that have existed in the ranks and to seek to recover Indiana to the republicans. The defeat of the congressmen and the loss of the state was not an unnatural result of conditions existing within the party. One of the strong factions of the party was not in full harmony with President Roosevelt nor with the national ticket during the campaign. A presumably republican Indianapolis newspaper bolted the nomination of Mr. Taft and practically the entire republican ticket. Some of the congressmen were with Mr. Fairbanks for the presidential nomination and some

were opposed to him and they all went down together, losing the delegation in congress, the legislatures, the state offices and a United States senator, while Mr. Taft, whom the disgruntled members of the party wanted to defeat, carried the state.

The recovery of Indiana to the republicans will be one of the interesting political fights of the near future, if the democrats retain control until the next apportionment they will undoubtedly redistrict the state in a manner to keep them in power for an indefinite time. This is easy of accomplishment, owing to the closeness of the vote in nearly all the congressional districts. The democrats have an advantage by having a number of hold-over state senators, and if they win in 1920, for which they are already planning, the republicans will have a decidedly uphill fight to prevent congressional and legislative redistricting to their disadvantage. It will have been worth while if the "Dead Duck" dinner makes some eminent statesmen in Indiana realize the home situation.

SPOILS LEGISLATION VETOED. President Roosevelt's veto of the bill for the 1910 census, because of the clause exempting the census force from competitive examinations for appointment, is in entire keeping with his attitude toward the civil service and his policy of making merit a test for the clerical employment of the federal government. It is also in line with the recommendations of the census bureau officials, whose experience has taught them that the spoils system of appointing census clerks results in inefficient service and increased expense.

The vetoed bill was passed by the senate and the house only after long and exhaustive debate. Census bureau officials and civil service reform advocates presented what should have been convincing figures to show that the service would suffer making the clerks and enumerators political spoils. These arguments were futile, however, in face of the proposition advanced by the house committee, which arranged for a distribution of the census patronage so that all members of congress should share in it, republicans and democrats alike. Under the terms of the bill each member of congress is given the selection of about twenty clerks or other census employees whose names are to be certified to the director of the census for appointment. The director is practically without recourse in the premises and the plan would result in the appointment of the entire census force, except the permanent employees of the bureau, without reference to their qualifications for the work. It plans a return to the spoils system, pure and simple, and is particularly attractive to members of congress whose patronage has been for years greatly curtailed by the operation of the civil service.

The president's veto message makes the point plain that the proposed plan calls for a prodigious waste of the people's money in a task of such great importance; that it demands intelligent workmen, and these can be surely had only by competitive examination. The eleventh and twelfth censuses were taken under a law excluding competition in the making of appointments and the entire testimony of the officials of the bureau is that the consequence was extravagance and demoralization. President Roosevelt has vetoed but few acts of congress, and this census bill is one of the most important of the measures from which he has withheld his approval.

A BLOW AT THE TRUSTS. The decision of the United States supreme court that an illegal trust is not entitled to collect from its customers for goods sold to them is calculated to lend some embarrassing complications to business dealings with the trusts and also to emphasize the need of a comprehensive anti-trust law which shall not make it nearly so impossible for large business enterprises to organize honestly and exist honestly.

The opinion of the court was delivered in the case of the Continental Wall Paper company against Lewis Voigt & Sons of Cincinnati, in which suit was brought by the wall paper concern to recover on a debt of \$57,000. The defense was that the paper company was an illegal trust and that the \$57,000 claimed by it simply represented the excess that Voigt & Co. had to pay above what the natural price would have been had there been free competition. The company admitted that it was operating in defiance of law, but contended that it could properly collect debts due to it. The supreme court refused to grant the judgment, a portion of the decision being as follows:

"The present suit is not based upon an implied contract of the defendant company to pay for goods that it purchased, but in fact is based upon the agreements to which both the plaintiff and the defendant were parties pursuant to which the accounts sued on were made out and which had for their object, and which it is admitted had the effect to accomplish, the illegal ends for which the Continental Wall Paper company was organized. If judgment be given for the plaintiff the result will be to give the aid of the court in making effective the illegal agreements that constituted the forbidden combination.

"We hold that such a judgment cannot be granted without departing from the statutory rule, long established in the jurisprudence of both this country and England, that a court will not lend its aid in any way to enforce or to realize the fruits of an agreement which appears to be tainted with illegality, although the result of applying that rule may sometimes be to shield a defendant who has got something for which, as between man and man, he ought perhaps to pay, but for which he is unwilling to pay.

Justices Holmes, Brewer, White and Peckham dissented from the majority

opinion of the court, Justice Holmes declaring that the party buying from an illegal trust, knowing it to be such, forfeits the right to set up such a defense.

Conceivably this decision might paralyze business, as it offers an invitation to purchase goods of an illegal trust and then refuse to pay for them on the ground that the courts can not be used to collect the debts of a company operating in the restraint of trade. Carried to the extreme, it would place the big corporations under penalty of forfeiting their rights to collect their debts by the slightest violation of the anti-trust laws. The majority of the supreme court evidently holds that it has no option in the matter, whatever the results of its decision may be in actual business practice. The court does not concern itself with the reasonableness of the Sherman law, and combinations violative of its provisions have no standing in court, however honest may be the particular transaction in question. The decision furnishes new argument in support of President Roosevelt's position and conflicts with the opinion of the senate judiciary committee that the Sherman law needs no amendment whatever.

THE FLEET AT GIBRALTAR. Nearly all the vessels of the American fleet have assembled at Gibraltar, ready for the long dash home, where their arrival is expected about the end of February. The fleet has been fittingly welcomed by the British commander at Gibraltar and its condition is reported to be a cause of marvel and admiration by the foreign naval authorities.

Having accomplished the greater part of a round-the-world voyage—a feat never before achieved by the battle-ships of any power—the fleet after months of travel in all kinds of seas and in all kinds of weather, reports at Gibraltar ready to go into a fight at a minute's notice. The ships have not been injured in the least by their long and trying voyage. The health and spirits of officers and men are reported splendidly good, and the nation will have its prestige increased by the demonstration that its navy is ready to do active service in any part of the world.

The sea strength of the United States is no longer a questionable quantity and the nations of the world have been impressed with that fact. The moral effect of the journey of the fleet will remain long after the vessels are safe in the home harbors.

THE BAT IN THE ELEVATOR. The Washington Herald has revived discussion of that old question whether men should remove their hats and keep their heads bare in the company of women in elevators. It is something of a moot question, with proponents and adversaries always ready to take either side and argue it to a hoarse finish, without conclusion or conviction.

Polliteness of the real variety is always a genuine delight, whether displayed in an elevator or a drawing room. It cannot be measured like beans or calico, and is not governed by set rules. Its abuse or exaggeration is as marked as its naturalness is accepted as a matter of course. In the elevator problem it is more a question of common sense than of politeness or etiquette. Much depends on the location of the elevator. Common sense would indicate that a man should not be expected to bare his head in an elevator in an office building any more than he would in a street car or any other public conveyance. If the woman who enters the public elevator is an acquaintance the man will of course raise his hat in courteous salutation, but there is no reason why he should remain bare and risk a cold. On the other hand, the man who refuses to bare his head in a private elevator, in a hotel or apartment house, in the presence of women would be equally justified in wearing his head gear in the drawing room.

After all, it is a good deal a matter of taste and appropriateness and individuals must decide for themselves.

A bill is pending in the Pennsylvania legislature providing for the forfeiture of his license and expulsion from the profession of any physician who stupefies himself with liquor or drugs. It is nothing short of criminal for a doctor to be irresponsible while attending to his practice. Fortunately, a law of the kind proposed would be seldom invoked.

The three democratic senators from Douglas say the democratic mayor and council of Omaha are four flushers. The democratic mayor and council of Omaha intimate that the three democratic senators from Douglas deal from a stacked deck. They ought to know all about each other.

"Senator Bristow of Kansas has set out for Washington with a war whoop," says the Baltimore Star. Does that mean that he has set out for Washington with Senator "Jeff" Davis of Arkansas?

Wonder why the showman who offered President Roosevelt \$300,000 for a thirty weeks' tour with a Wild West outfit did not make the offer in person instead of sending a letter?

A Brooklyn girl married a Chinese "just to spite" her parents. It will probably be about eight weeks before she returns to father and mother "just to spite the Chink."

Pleanty of Company. Washington item. Statements about millionaires being miserable call attention to the popular willingness to provide the company misery is said to love.

SERMONS BOILED DOWN.

Short prayers often last longest. Friends do not freeze to a frozen heart. Easy times often account for hard habits. Nothing is really sacred until all things are.

Short cuts to fortune are often bottomless cuts. Big plans do not balance small performances. If wishes were wings good works would soon cease.

No man ever saw his father by climbing over his brother. That soul is truly lost that gathers darkness of the light.

Your rank and most men depends on how you help them to rise. The faint hearted are those who think only of feeding themselves. There is sorrow without selfishness, but never selfishness without sorrow.

It's a poor kind of piety that seeks all the pleasures and dodges the pains. The significance of sins against ourselves is that they are sins against society.

Many think they are going forward bravely because they fear to go back. It's the habit of our minds never to think of thorns until we are paying for the roses.

It often happens that the man who talks much about going to glory has no members who wish he'd make a start.—Chicago Tribune.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT. Washington Post: Rockefeller could have been pope if he had wanted to, says a Detroit priest. Yes; and just about now he would be sidestepping an investigation of purgatorial rebates across the old Stix ferry.

St. Paul Dispatch: Women may be too lacking in the sense of humor to be preachers, as Dr. Pattison says, but there are also some men preachers who never can see the funny side of hell fire, election, damnation and similar topics, or, at least, they never show it in their sermons.

Boston Transcript: Assuming that the statistics of the Catholic population of the United States approximate accuracy and that Catholicism has 14,235,451 followers, exclusive of those in our "possession," it is noteworthy that almost half of these are found in the great urban dioceses. Those of New York, Chicago, Boston and Brooklyn contribute one-third of the total for the United States.

Baltimore American: A high church dignitary, asked to preside at a meeting of organized friends of labor, to protest against the sentence of officers of the American Federation of Labor, for contempt of court, has declined, giving reasons which ought to be illuminating, even to the warmest advocates of the cause. He says while the sentenced men have the sympathy of all friends of labor, the case is not yet ended, and until the law of the case is decided, the courts must be obeyed. If it is in fact, it must be corrected, Americans, he says, have it in their power to bring about just laws by the ballot, and should use that power, remembering in union there is strength. Here is wise and temperate advice which seems fully to cover the situation, especially from the moral side of the duties of citizenship.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. Speaking of Nebraska weather, it would be difficult to go further and fare better. An authority on the subject claims that sausages were compounded as far back as 87. Some of them took it.

The New York Stock exchange complains of recent business, while New York hotels are crowded with guests. Wall street appears to have a reputation.

An improved quality of print paper is urged for the permanent edition of the Congressional Record. Asbestos seems to meet the requirements of a depository of hot air.

"Anxious inquirer," is informed that a good look at the grotesque gutterspouts on the Omaha city hall is more enlightening than a dictionary in defining the word "sargolite."

Song mating in Kansas will be put in a class with bootlegging if a pending bill becomes a law. Thereafter, affinities caught in the act will be hustled to different penitentiaries.

London policemen are about to introduce, for the benefit of suffrage raiders the Parisian system of bodily pressure, forcing the mob against the nearest wall. Then will the suffragette be up against it.

"No man will ever again enter into my life," exclaimed a Chicago club woman who had staid twice a husband some time before, Cards for wedding number two are out. A sacrifice is necessary to "punish the brute."

A New York critic assures victims of neuralgia that the Salome dance of the seven veils as executed in that town is an excellent emollient for the taut chords of the neck. The victims forget their pains in following the pace.

If Chicago's health sharps insist on banning the festive germ from the milk can, milk vendors insist Chicago must pay for the trouble. A conference of milk producers in the Chicago territory decided to boost the price of germless milk to nine cents a quart.

Scandal of Expert Evidence. New York Tribune. The New York State Bar association has unanimously decided to recommend the passage of a law tending to end the scandals of expert evidence. It would establish a board of experts in each appellate division of the supreme court to be called on to testify at the state's expense when expert testimony was needed, and would thus relieve the givers of expert evidence from any feeling of obligation either to the defense or the prosecution. Their only obligation would be to their reputations and the truth. This is a desirable reform. If we have to have experts at trials let us have thoroughly impartial and unprejudiced ones.

Gay Deceivers, Never! Baltimore American. Truly, this is an age of iconoclasts. The national Boot and Shoe Manufacturers' association in convention assembled has frowned upon the code signs which enable the dealer to cater to the vanity of a woman customer by deceiving her as to the size of her shoe and has decreed that the exact number of the footwear shall be plainly stamped.

Can Two Keep a Secret? New York Sun. Admiral Evans says that the instructions given him by the president when the battleship fleet left Hampton Roads on the "practice cruise" will not be made public until the admiral or Mr. Roosevelt dies. Can both of them keep the secret?

Looking in Wrong Direction. Indianapolis News. Somehow it never seems to occur to the wisdom of congress that increasing the revenues is not the only way to avoid the embarrassment of the deficit, and that there can be done by reducing the expenditures.

Old Reliable Exercise. Minneapolis Journal. There is the Swedish movement cure and the Emanuel movement cure; but, after all, the back saw or the snow shovel movement furnishes just as good exercise as they did twenty years ago.



Ancient History. J. L. Brandeis & Sons. Boston Store. Omaha, Neb., Feb. 4, 1920.

Mr. H. D. Neely, Manager. The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the U. S., Omaha, Nebraska.

My Dear Sir: Regarding my \$5,000.00 Twenty year deferred dividend policy, No. 244,250, written by yourself February 18, 1887, I elect to accept the cash value, a sum in excess of all premiums paid.

You have written all the members of our firm for large amounts. My confidence in you and your great Company has never been shaken, and now, after twenty years of unbroken friendship and business dealings, I have taken an additional new policy with you in the sum of \$20,000.00.

I think this letter is an answer to your question this morning. "Are you satisfied?" Yours very truly,

Modern History. CHARLES N. DIETZ, OMAHA. Jan. 12th, 1920.

Mr. H. D. Neely, Manager. Omaha, Nebraska.

My Dear Mr. Neely: I am, this morning, in receipt of New York draft in settlement of my \$50,000.00 policy in the Equitable Life Assurance Society. I notice the cash value is more than the premiums I have paid.

The absolute protection of \$50,000.00 has been a great source of comfort all those twenty years. I regard the future of the Society most auspicious under the guidance of our fellow Nebraskan, Paul Morton, and I further desire to congratulate the Society upon having such efficient representatives in Nebraska.

Yours very truly,

Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States. "Strongest in the World" PAUL MORTON, President. H. D. NEELY, Manager, Omaha, Nebraska.

LINCOLN'S FAME.

Death Came at the High Tide of His Labor. Rev. T. L. Cuyler in Homiletic Review. Terrible as was the tragedy of that April night, it is still true that Lincoln may have died at the right time for his imperishable fame. He had conducted an immense nation through the most tremendous civil war ever waged and never committed a single serious mistake. He did not possess Hamilton's brilliant genius, but Hamilton never saw the future more sagaciously. He made no pretensions to Daniel Webster's magnetic oratory, but Webster never put more truth in oratorical form for popular guidance. He possessed Benjamin Franklin's immense common sense, and that twenty-line address on the battlefield of Gettysburg is the high watermark of American sententious eloquence. It is fitting that after such a career his own life should be the last to be lost in that stupendous struggle. He had called over 200,000 heroes to lay down their lives and then his own life was laid down beside the humblest private soldier or drummer boy of Gettysburg or Chickamauga.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES. Orlando Spoonmore bent over the fair hand and respectfully kissed it. "Young man," retorted the parrot in the cage overhead, "is there anything the matter with my lips?"—Chicago Tribune.

"Does your wife ever take your advice about anything?" asked the impertinent relative. "Certainly," answered Mr. Meekton. "She frequently consults me as to whether her hat is on straight."—Washington Star.

"Have you ever seen the prisoner at the bar?" "Yes, Judge, and he can drink like a fish."—Harper's Weekly.

"Do you turn your salary over to your wife?" "Of course," answered Mr. Meekton. "I'm obliged to. She is one of the most enthusiastic bridge players in the city."—Washington Star.

"Johnny," said Mrs. Lapsling, putting on her wraps, "I've been in the house all day and I need the fresh air. If you'll mind

Lincoln. James Russell Lowell. How beautiful to see Once more a shepherd of mankind indeed, Who loved his charge, but never loved his

Can You Ignore These Savings? To the woman who studies economy, this store makes an special appeal. Spend a few minutes of your shopping time here tomorrow. To look at the piano bargains on our floors will cost you nothing nor will you incur an obligation to buy. Simply see them. Besides a line of special new pianos, we are showing several scores of slightly used pianos, which have been taken in exchange or returned from rent. We must dispose of them. The good values are astonishing. Come in, inspect these instruments carefully. We welcome the most searching investigation. We quote a few just to show how far a dollar will go now at Hospe's.

Chickering, Walnut. A fine Piano, only...\$300 Cramer, Oak. Good beginner's Piano...\$159 Hospe, Mahogany. A reliable Piano...\$210 Whitney, Oak. A good wearer...\$198 Russell & Lane, Oak. A bargain...\$235 Kimball, Square Piano. Pine shape...\$40 \$10.00 takes one home. Permonth and up...\$5.00

CABINET ORGAN BARGAINS Taylor & Farley Organ, Walnut...\$22.00 Moline Organ, Walnut...\$25.00 Kimball Organ, Oak...\$35.00

All the above organs are high top instruments. Cheaper organs from \$10.00 up. You pay \$2.00 cash, then 50c per week.

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