

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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Entered at Omaha postoffice as second class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Daily Bee (without Sunday), one year, \$6.00
Daily Bee and Sunday, one year, \$7.50
DELIVERED BY CARRIER.

Advertisements: Single copy, 10 cents
Per week, 60 cents
Per month, \$1.75
Per year, \$18.00

Address all communications to the editorial department, Omaha, Neb.
Address all subscription orders to the circulation department, Omaha, Neb.

Copyright, 1909, by Victor Rosewater.
Published daily except on Sundays and holidays.

Printed at the Omaha Daily Bee Printing Plant, 1014 F Street, Omaha, Neb.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.
For the month of January, 1909, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Category, Circulation, Total. Includes Daily average, Less unsold and returned copies, Net total.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 25 day of February, 1909.
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.

Have you bought your automobile yet?
Move to change the name to the "Square Meal" club.

If editors were pensioned—but why waste space on an irrelevant dream?
Down in Kansas there is a vast difference between the drug business and the drug store business.

The courts have been asked already to decide whether the Kansas prohibition law will hold water.

"Who's a liar?" asks our amiable democratic contemporary. No need to go in search of the answer.

If those glaucous faces that have been nearly watching over the city hall for nearly twenty years could only speak.

Mr. Taft is committed to the lock type of canal at Panama. That should and probably will end the argument.

A buried forest has been discovered 400 feet under the soil in New Jersey. The lumber trust occasionally overlooks a bet.

The dispatches failed to state whether Mr. Reuter had lifted his voice in cheering welcome to the returning fleet.

The date and the head are to be on the same side of the new 1-cent coin. Looks like a direct blow at the "heads or tails" crowd.

It is announced that the price of steel rails is to be cut. Thrifty housekeepers should lay in their supply at the bargain prices.

Wall street is preparing for a mild celebration when Mr. Roosevelt follows George Washington's example and crosses the Delaware.

There is some delay about putting Henry James' new play on in New York. Chances are that the translation is not satisfactory.

Tom Watson has written a lengthy magazine article criticizing Lincoln. The reply to it will be withheld until the centenary of Watson's birth.

The Arkansas legislature has invited Elihu Root to deliver an address before it. Senator "Jeff" Davis will be clasped as a mollycoddle if he does not protest.

"Which state has the worst legislature?" asks a New York paper. The question can never be decided, as state pride will compel each state to vote for its own.

John W. Gates is playing in hard luck in Texas. First he was bitten by a dog and now comes the report that he has been seriously bitten by a Texas real estate agent.

"George Coban's last show is making a mint of money for him," says a theatrical note. Unfortunately, the statement is erroneous. It is Coban's latest and not last show.

We doubt very much whether President Roosevelt, himself, expected to convert Congressman Walter I. Smith to the support of an unconditional secret service appropriation.

Mr. Bryan is taking great chances in going east for another lecture tour and leaving his Fairview fence exposed for trampling down by those untamed democratic law-makers at Lincoln.

The New Cabinet.

The completion of Mr. Taft's cabinet, as authoritatively announced after the acceptance by Franklin MacVeagh of the treasury portfolio gives the public an opportunity to become acquainted with the men who are to form the president's official family.

Of the nine men, seven are lawyers by education. Mr. Meyer and Mr. Wilson being the exceptions. Mr. MacVeagh has not practiced his profession for many years, but is admittedly one of the great business men of the country, with vast experience in financial and business affairs.

Six of the nine men have had more or less varied experience in federal public life and therefore are trained in the work that will devolve upon them.

As secretary of state, Philander Chase Knox will have had a more varied experience than any other member of Mr. Taft's cabinet. As attorney general in the cabinet of two presidents and as United States senator he has been actively and intimately associated with the Roosevelt administration.

George von L. Meyer, who is to be secretary of the navy, has made an excellent record as a diplomat and as postmaster general. Jacob M. Dickinson, the new secretary of war, is cordially endorsed by the south as a man of marked ability and integrity.

For attorney general Mr. Taft has selected George W. Wickersham of New York, a man unknown to public life, but recognized as one of the ablest attorneys in the country, skilled in legal work of the larger kind and particularly equipped for the wide scope of work that has developed in the Department of Justice under President Roosevelt's administration.

Richard A. Ballinger of Seattle, the secretary of the interior, has served as commissioner of the general land office and is familiar with the land, lumber and mineral business of the west and northwest, the administration of which is the chief work of the interior department.

No change is made in the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Taft having retained James Wilson of Iowa, whose twelve years' service as secretary of that department has been marked by increasing development and enlarged usefulness.

Frank H. Hitchcock, the postmaster general, is trained in the government service. He played a large part in the organization of the Department of Commerce and Labor and deserves more credit than any other person for the reorganization a few years ago of the Postoffice department, in which he served as first assistant postmaster general.

The Oregon Plan.

Our democratic friends are trying to make much ado over the opposition of republican members of the legislature to the adoption for Nebraska of the Oregon plan of electing United States senators.

They are trying to make out that this is a back-sliding from the position which Nebraska republicans have repeatedly taken in favor of the election of United States senators by direct vote.

The Nebraska delegation in the Chicago convention last year recorded itself for a platform declaration for direct election of senators and republican legislatures have several times passed resolutions asking congress to set in motion a constitutional amendment to that end.

The Oregon plan, however, is not the election of United States senators by direct vote, although it is supposed to be an approach to it. The plan now in operation in Nebraska comes as near to being a direct choice as does the Oregon plan, because it gives the rank and file of each political party the right to choose the candidate for senator and then leaves it to the popular vote in the respective legislative districts to say which candidate shall have the election.

By the Oregon plan one candidate for senator might carry two-thirds of the legislative districts and still lose out on the total popular vote.

The proposed change can be best understood by applying it to the election of president through the electoral college. Presidential electors are now all chosen by states, although they have been chosen by congressional districts. The successful candidate is the one who gets a majority of the electoral votes in the respective states, although not necessarily a majority of the popular vote.

The Oregon plan applied to a presidential election would require every member of the electoral college to vote for the candidate for president receiving the highest popular vote at the polls.

This proposition has never been seriously made in connection with a presidential election and would, doubtless, be most vigorously opposed by the democrats because it would take away from them the advantage they now have in the overweighted representation of the solid south in the electoral college. The nearest they would want

Guaranty Law Defects.

Even the framers of the Oklahoma law guarantying bank deposits are now convinced that the measure affords many dangerous loopholes which might be used by reckless financiers to their own profit and the hurt of the state and the honest bankers.

Senator Reuben Roddie, author of the original law, is now pressing a number of amendments that materially change the scope and details of the original law.

When the law was first passed it was predicted that banks would spring up in Oklahoma like "drug" stores in a prohibition state, and the prediction has been abundantly fulfilled.

Another amendment provides that at least two members of the banking board shall be experienced bankers, it having apparently dawned upon the Oklahomans that bankers would be expected to know more about banking business than farmers and cowboys.

All of the amendments furnish evidence that the law itself is a species of experimental legislation that is not based on established economic principles and might, in case of a general period of depression, accentuate the very evils it was designed to remove.

Our contemporary, The Bee, is greatly exercised over the water works issue. It wants the question of municipal ownership versus an extension of the water works franchise left to the judgment of the Water board without submitting the question to direct vote of the people of Omaha.

This is a deliberate misrepresentation of The Bee's position. In the only article that has been printed in The Bee discussing the proposed \$6,500,000 water bond issue The Bee said:

Members of the Water board explain that they want to find out whether the people wish to complete the purchase of the water works or to compromise with a franchise extension on new terms. If this is the purpose the submission of the proposition in that form will not accomplish it. To get such an expression of public opinion the people should be permitted to vote for one of two propositions—either for the bonds or for a compromise—and the terms of the compromise should be known so as to permit of intelligent voting.

The people of Omaha were gotten into their present water works dilemma by systematic lying and falsehood, but it seems to us that they ought to have had their eyes open by this time sufficiently to be suspicious of further imposition on their credulity from the same source.

Restoring an Expunged Record.

The president's order to replace on the tablet on the bridge across Cabin John Run the name of Jefferson Davis, chided therefrom during the war in perfectly natural heat, will meet approval.

There is an "open market" in steel. In other words, there is competition. If the minor concerns can underbid the giant of the steel industry, the better for the people and so much the worse for the monopoly.

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President Roosevelt's speech to Admiral Sperry and the officers and men of the battle fleet at Hampton Roads Monday was the best thing that he has done. He did not say too much, and what he said could not have been said better.

Peace Comes High. Boston Transcript. To the \$100,000,000 of the regular army budget, must now be added about \$130,000,000 in the general deficiency bill. There is the fortification appropriation bill carrying nearly \$300,000,000.

Bobbing Up Serenely. A Remark or Two on Democracy's Priceless Banner. Brooklyn Eagle (dem.). Mr. Bryan says that everybody who knows anything, or who has any sense at all, knows where he stands in the matter of being a candidate for president for the fourth time.

Political Drift. The print shop proofreader is putting the finishing touches on the inaugural address of the president-elect.

Money Made Easy—Dollars Double At the HOSPE PIANO SALE. Your Down Payment on Pianos Doubles REDUCED PIANO PRICES.

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ROYAL BAKING POWDER. The grape illustration is to remind the reader of the fact that this healthful fruit gives to Royal its active and chief ingredient. From the grape derives those prime qualities which make it unique as a raising-agent, a favorite with all who desire the finest, most healthful food. Royal is the only Baking Powder made from Royal Grape Cream of Tartar.

In Other Lands. Side Lights on What is Transpiring Among the Near and Far Nations of the Earth. Railroad construction is progressing in the remotest regions of the old world at a notable pace.

PANIC ROOSEVELT CAUSED. Lippincott's Magazine. In the forest Africanic, there's a really dreadful panic. In the jungle and the river and the air.

HIGHEST IN HONORS Baker's Cocoa AND CHOCOLATE. 50 HIGHEST AWARDS IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. A Cocoa of inferior quality or artificially flavored soon ceases to be palatable; but the genuine BAKER'S COCOA never loses its relish by constant use. It is a perfect food, preserves health, prolongs life.

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