

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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Table with 3 columns: Copy number, Circulation, Total. Rows 1-16 showing circulation data for various issues.

Total, 1,196,130. Less unsold and returned copies, 10,418. Net total, 1,185,714. Daily average, 38,246.

GEORGE B. TSCHUCK, Treasurer. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 24 day of February, 1930. (Seal) M. F. 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.

Mr. Bryan thinks that he resembles Noah. Not-Jonah? The legislature should take the Sunday base ball from the bench.

Japanese men might get a better standing in this country if they would quit doing housework for a living.

"Premier Asquith," says the London Times, "is a man of little humor." Premier Asquith is an Englishman.

It is early yet to predict that the cut in the price of steel will have any effect on the price of Easter bonnets.

Jack Johnson says he is willing to fight any living man. Johnson is almost as pugacious as Senator La Follette.

An eastern professor says that Adam was a democrat. Some folks can not refrain from speaking ill of the dead.

A St. Louis newboy has just built a \$95,000 apartment house and has put the rental rates high enough to bar out editors.

The writing of an inaugural address will doubtless be much easier work for Mr. Taft than the selection of a cabinet.

It might be interesting to know what Seth Bullock, Old Bill Sewall, "Jack" Abernathy and "Bat" Masterson will do after March 4.

"A kiss is worse than a drink," says an Ohio minister. What he really meant probably was that a drink is better than a kiss.

"In case of war Japan would take the Philippines," says a Vermont senator. Fortunately, or unfortunately, there is no prospect of war.

Count Boni is telling the Paris crowd how solicitous he is about the future of his son. Which translated means that Boni is broke again.

The season is approaching when the wise editor will refrain from printing the base ball news and the society news on opposite sides of the same page.

Race track gambling has been stopped in California and the book-makers out there will have to turn their attention to writing wild west novels.

"Those who perform the feat again can but follow in your footsteps," said President Roosevelt in welcoming the returning fleet. Still, it might prove rather wet walking.

Mrs. James Hamilton Lewis reports the loss of her diamonds while on her way home from abroad. The only consoling thought is that Jim Ham returns with his wonderful whiskers intact.

A New York actor with assets of \$28 has failed for \$55,000. It is strange that Mr. Taft overlooked that man when he was hunting for an experienced financier to become secretary of the treasury.

Why should members of the Water board object to being invested with authority to compromise their lawsuits? They wouldn't have to exercise the authority unless they wanted to. And yet a chance to crawl out of a bad hole might be handy in emergency.

Mr. Taft's Policy.

Ever since the result of the November election was known Mr. Taft has been much in the public eye, but he has refrained from making any declaration of his policies other than those found in the platform of his party and his promise to the south to be president of the whole people. He has wisely and properly withheld comment on all measures pending in the present congress and on the work of the present administration. This is no small achievement, as Mr. Taft has been an active participant in the work of the Roosevelt administration and has been engaged in shaping plans for carrying on the policies of government to which his predecessor and his party are pledged. But while he has addressed conferences and colleges and banquet guests by the score, he has steered clear of presidential speeches, as it were, until his address at Philadelphia the other day, when he sounded what is believed to be the keynote of the policy of his coming administration.

Mr. Taft's Philadelphia address was upon "The Present Relations of the Learned Professions to Political Government." He discussed the progress of medicine, the advancement of the work of the ministry, the teacher and missionary and the growing closer relation between the press and the public. Then he turned to his own profession of the law, and spoke most earnestly of the great work before lawyers in incorporating the spirit of the people into all the laws from the constitution down. One paragraph of his address which is considered particularly significant is as follows: "It needs some great, strong, courageous spirit to point out not in too delicate color and with no fear of hurting people's feelings the truth, and to stir up the people to demand in tones that cannot be denied a reform of the abuses. After it is settled by popular decree that such reforms must take place, it is for the members of the legal profession, clearly advised as to the necessities of the case, having a nice and accurate knowledge of the operation of proposed statutes and clearly perceiving the practical difficulties in their enforcement which must be obviated by special provision, to furnish the legal means of making such reforms permanent and effective."

It requires no stretch of the imagination to find in this a strong endorsement of President Roosevelt as "the great, strong courageous spirit" that has pointed out "not in too delicate color and with no fear of hurting people's feelings the truth," and stirred the people up to demand the reform of abuses. This has been President Roosevelt's work, and it now remains for the lawyers "to furnish the legal means of making such reforms permanent and effective." The address, viewed in this light, appears as a plain notice of intention to "elucidate" the Roosevelt policies, to use a favorite word of Mr. Taft's, a high service for the accomplishment of which he is abundantly qualified.

A Tardy Correction.

The restoration of the five words, "Jefferson Davis, Secretary of War," to the tablet on the famous Cabin John bridge, near Washington, marks the culmination of an effort that has been persistently made for many years to right what is now generally admitted to have been a wrong committed by the authorities at the outbreak of the civil war. Cabin John bridge is a stone structure that spans a small tributary of the Potomac in Maryland, about six miles north of Washington. It was for years one of the show spots of the national capital because it was the longest single stone span bridge in the world. Of late years its chief distinction has been the tablet bearing the names of the men who built it, minus the name of Jefferson Davis. When the bridge was built Mr. Davis was secretary of war, and his name led all the rest, but when he became the confederate president his name, under government orders, was chiseled from the tablet.

The bridge is something of a monument to the engineering skill of the day and was built under the direction and authority of Mr. Davis. The restoration of his name marks the passing of a prejudice and sectional feeling that for years unjustly deprived him of his share in the credit for the achievement.

The Mania for More Laws.

Notwithstanding the constant iteration, apparently with universal approval, that what we need is fewer laws and better laws, every meeting of every law-making body seems to be immediately possessed of a mania for more laws. Each session of the legislature or of congress bends every effort to set a new record in the number of measures proposed and the volume of bills sent to the printer and eventually to the furnace is growing steadily larger and larger.

Every law enacted apparently betrays a dozen proposed bills for amendment, modification or repeal, and the rate of increase resembles a geometrical progression. No other people in the world is menaced with such a surfeit of much legislation, big in quantity and indifferent in quality, as is the American people.

The cure for the legislative mania, if any cure is possible, has not yet been prescribed. The codification of existing law might help some in the way of simplifying and making accessible the already existing multitudinous legal enactments, which every person is presumed to know, but it would not be a preventive of the law-making disease. A resolute governor, laying down and adhering to the rule of refusing to sign every legislative measure that should come up to him

not absolutely necessary to the welfare of the people or the administration of their government might put a brake on the machinery, but it would be effective only so long as the legislators refrained from over-riding the veto.

A grievously law-ridden people will hail as a public benefactor the statesman who devises a practical way to eradicate this so-far incurable mania.

White House or Executive Mansion.

It is to be hoped that there is no warrant for the report that Mr. Taft, when he becomes president, will employ the term "Executive Mansion," instead of "The White House," to his official home. "Executive Mansion" was the official title of the president's stationery and documents for many years, but Mr. Roosevelt practically began his record of precedent breaking by using "The White House" in his first official communications and during his term in office has persistently refused to use the "Executive Mansion" designation.

While the law does not fix the title of the president's residence and business office, public opinion will generally approve President Roosevelt's departure from custom in that respect. "The White House" is a distinctive name. It means the head of the great government of the United States. There is only one "White House," while there is an "Executive Mansion" in every state of the union, and any roof that covers the president, whether in Washington, at Virginia Hot Springs or at some country club where he may be temporarily quartered, is an "Executive Mansion" to all intents and purposes. During his term of office the president cannot get away from an executive mansion, if he stays under a roof, but the White House remains at Washington, the home of the head of the federal government.

Whatever Mr. Taft's decision may be, it is safe to say that a popular vote would show an overwhelming majority in favor of "The White House."

Doom of Public Gambling.

Nevada is, we believe, the only state that still licenses public gambling and all indications are that the present Nevada legislature will pass a law abolishing gambling as a legalized institution. The sentiment for the measure appears to be overwhelming and favorable reports on the bill have been made by committees in both branches of the legislature. The opponents, of course, contend that the conditions in Nevada are peculiar and that the "sporty" element of its population must have its liberty, as it brings "lots of money" to the state, while the revenue from licenses is large. This opposition is also in favor of establishing race tracks in Nevada as a refuge for the race track gamblers who have just been driven out of California. The impression prevails, however, that these arguments will not weigh with the legislature against the general demand for the abolition of legalized gambling.

The trend all over the country is very strongly against the licensing of any form of vice by the state and the open gambling house is almost unknown outside the state of Nevada. Even in Mexico public gambling has been abolished in many of the cities, and through Europe public gambling is either prohibited or restricted as to extent, time and place. Public sentiment is against the gambling den and the professional gambler, even in Nevada, will soon find his occupation gone.

A Congressional Swan Song.

The reactionary senators at Washington, having spent time enough in squabbling to prevent the consideration of all reform measures to which they were opposed, have quieted down and have been making an apparently honest effort to give intelligent and conscientious attention to the appropriation bills and other measures whose passage before noon of March 4 is deemed imperative. The house, on the other hand, still retains its war paint and refuses to return to the reservation. Members who are still ranking under the smarts of the president's message on secret service legislation, aided by democrats and republicans who are against anything proposed by President Roosevelt, have been venting their spleen with a vengeance and attempting to defeat legislation specially urged by the president, even though approved by the senate.

The house has refused, by a small majority, to remove its restrictions from the use of the appropriation for the secret service, a restriction which the president declares, and the general public believes, must result in hampering the different departments of the government to the benefit of land thieves and corporations persistently seeking to violate the laws. The house members who opposed the senate amendment, removing the restriction, have made no effort to defend their position with facts or arguments, but have been content to abuse the president and the head of the secret service bureau.

The rejection by the house of the bill increasing the salary of the president from \$50,000 to \$100,000 is apparently without explanation other than that the members must have listened to the assertion by Champ Clark of Missouri that "instead of \$50,000 the president actually receives \$291,000 per annum." This is, of course, a thrashing over old straw, but the figures by which the total is reached are interesting. Included are clerk hire, \$65,930; White House grounds, \$9,000; fuel, \$6,000; printing, \$2,000; lighting White House and grounds, \$600; care and repair of greenhouses,

\$12,000; maintenance of White House stables, horses, vehicles, etc., \$35,000, and items of that character, none properly chargeable as "received" by the president. This expense must be borne by the government just as the president of a railroad company is furnished with office room, clerk hire, lights, stationery and private cars or other vehicles needed in the discharge of his official duties. The fact remains that in spite of the assistance lent by the government in maintaining the White House, the president has demurred upon his purse for official and quasi-official purposes that make a heavy inroad on the salary allowed by the government. The expense of maintaining the White House has nothing whatever to do with the president's personal salary, which should be determined by itself on the merits of the questions involved.

The revolt of the house by no means indicates that the salary of the president will not be increased or that restrictions on the use of the civil service remain. The action of the house simply throws these measures into conference committees, between the senate and the house, with a prospect that the senate amendments will finally prevail. The house has let off its surplus steam and will feel relieved enough to make a sensible disposition of the disputed questions before final adjournment.

The Red Cross Emblem.

A wholly meritorious bill, prohibiting the abuse of the Red Cross emblem, which will probably fall of passage at the present session of congress, will stand a better chance in a future congress, as it will have the personal interest and championship of President Taft, who is national president of the Red Cross society and one of its most enthusiastic workers. The bill makes it unlawful for any person falsely and fraudulently to hold himself out as a representative of the American National Red Cross or to use the emblem of the Red Cross on a white ground for the purpose of trade or as an advertisement to induce the sale of any article whatsoever.

It would be natural to suppose that no one could have objection to the passage of a measure to prevent misuse of the emblem of a society whose work lies entirely along the lines of humanity and is recognized by every civilized nation. Strong opposition, however, has been offered by persons who fear that their trademark will be taken from them if the Red Cross is made the sole property of the organization, which certainly has best claim on it.

It was developed in the course of the hearings on the bill that in times of disaster, such as the earthquake at San Francisco, unscrupulous persons have pinned red crosses on their sleeves and used the emblem to gain position in which they could steal and rob and carry out other selfish and criminal purposes. It was shown, too, that the emblem is being used for advertising purposes for everything from cough drops to chicken feed, and frequently stands as a sign of excellence for many articles intended for much baser commercial purposes. There can be no good reason for refusing to give this great humanitarian organization protection for its emblem.

Problem of the Unemployed.

Unquestionably the most important subject before the British Parliament, just assembled, will be the devising of ways and means to handle the problem of the unemployed. British pauperism is a chronic condition of dimensions that do not decrease, but a report just submitted to Parliament by a royal commission contains an array of statistics and conclusions that are nothing short of staggering.

The report of the Royal commission contains 1,238 printed pages and is supplemented with records and special reports making a bulk of matter which when finally printed will fill more than forty volumes. The striking figures show that last year \$70,000,000 was spent in relief of the poor of England and Wales, that one of every three persons of 65 years of age or over is in an almshouse or in receipt of outdoor relief, and that more than 2,000,000 workmen were out of employment for the greater part of the year, not counting dependents in the great cities who make no effort to seek work, but live upon charity or by crime.

The situation is made more critical by the fact that British industries have been declining, while the cost of living has increased. In the last year British foreign trade declined 11 per cent, while Germany lost but 2 per cent, and the cost of living in England rose nearly 8 per cent while it remained practically stationary in other European countries. The Royal commission reports that "the conditions of life in London and other big towns are such as to produce a degenerate race, morally and physically enfeebled."

Admitting the seriousness of the situation, the Royal commission makes but little headway in suggesting plans of improvement other than to refer the whole question to Parliament. The commission makes but one pertinent recommendation, that of a comprehensive plan for reforestation. The commission estimates that 3,000,000 acres of land may be reforested without encroaching upon the agricultural land, and that planting 150,000 acres annually would furnish employment to 18,000, and incidental and subsidiary work to an equal number. The need of forests in England is even more grave than in this country, but reforestation as a means of relieving the English poor would fall far short of solving the problem. England's great-

est need is a larger demand for labor and the task is to create that demand. The commission admits that the greatest source of trouble is in London, where the demands for maintenance of the poor is constantly increasing. If a way could be found to clean the London slums of their idle, vicious, intemperate and criminal people a beginning would be made in the reform work. But these people cannot be sent to jails already overcrowded. The colonies will not have them and each year they must be supported by the government or by the honest people upon whom they prey. The report of the commission and the solution of the problem of the unemployed will call for the exertion of a higher order of statesmanship than has been exhibited by any British Parliament in recent years.

Congress has authorized the president to invite proposals for the removal of the wreck of the Maine from Havana harbor, the bids to be submitted to congress for decision. This will cause another unwarranted delay, but may result in final action.

A bill pending in congress makes it a crime to ship whisky from one state to another labeled as "varnish." Shippers of that kind may have to get some "embalming fluid" labels if the bill becomes a law.

Castro must have that "gone" feeling in pronounced form. Just after the Berlin doctors removed his appendix the high court of Venezuela removed his presidential title.

Former Senator Clark of Montana is to build a big powder plant at San Francisco. He is a wise powder-maker who knows where trouble is most apt to break out next.

The Washington authorities are still discussing the question, "What is whisky?" When they decide upon the answer they might take up the other question, "Why is whisky?"

What About the Proofreader?

The Taft inaugural address has gone to the printer. Nothing can now change the program of the next national administration but that ultimate and mighty weapon, the blue pencil.

Pathos of a Hold-Up.

It appears to be a solemn fact that a nomination for a United States judgeship is being held up in the senate on the charge that the nominee played poker twenty-five years ago. Apparently no allowance is made for the fact that this was before prohibition came in.

Knocks That Count.

These are hard days for the trusts. The natural laws of trade are proving too much for the steel combination, while the United States supreme court delivers another judgment—upholding the Arkansas anti-trust law—which places the court strongly on the side of large reserve power in the several states for dealing with this question.

Let the "White House" Alone.

Washington dispatches report that certain silly people, who happily are called "put a movement afoot," will restore during the next presidential term the use of the name "Executive Mansion" in place of "White House," as the Executive Mansion has been called during President Roosevelt's incumbency in office. The suggestion is a movement afoot, as the old historic name of the official residence of our presidents, and "White House" it should remain forever.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.

Falling off in Rate of Increase During Last Year.

The growth of the Christian churches of the United States in the year 1929 was not so rapid as in any one of the preceding years. According to statistics of all the religious bodies just compiled by H. K. Carroll of New York, in the report are included only church members in the United States. In all Christian churches in this country—Protestant and Catholic—there are now 34,323,543 members. Of this total 29,624,424 are credited to the Roman Catholic church. In all the churches 72,647 communicants were added in 1929, far less than was the gain in 1927, which was reported as 1,241,286, but more than half of that total was credited to the Roman Catholic church, whereas for 1928 the Roman Catholic increase is only 396,943. This leaves the total Protestant gain for the two years, respectively, 67,443 in 1927 and 421,904 in 1929. Compared with the results of the government census of 1920, the new figures show that in the eighteen years the number of communicants has grown from 20,613,597 to 34,323,543, an increase at the rate of 66 per cent. The number of ministers has grown from 11,089 to 18,725, an increase of 49 per cent. In 1929 there were 143,639 churches; now there are 212,049. Religious bodies having more than 200 communicants each in order according to size, are:

Table with 2 columns: Religious body, Membership. Rows include Roman Catholic, Methodist Episcopal, Baptist (South), Baptist (colored), Methodist (North), Disciples of Christ, Baptist (North), Protestant Episcopal, African Methodist, Congregationalists, Lutheran Synod Conference, Assembly Methodist, Zion, Lutheran General Council, Latter Day Saints (Mormon), Reformed, United Brethren, Presbyterian (Book of Confessions), and others.

A few of the denominational bodies show decreases in membership as compared with last year. The largest decrease is that of the Presbyterian church, North, for which 33,616 fewer communicants is reported than a year ago. The falling off is a statistical rather than actual, however, it is caused by a readjustment of the numbers added from the Cumberland Presbyterian church. Notwithstanding the tendency of existing denominations to unite and federate their efforts, there are continually being added new denominations to the total in the United States. The government census of 1920 reported 143 denominations. The present statistics show 189, an increase of 46. Six of these were reported for the first time this year. Three of them were created by division in the Disciples of Christ, the Church of the New Jerusalem and the Christian Science church. There is also a new Holiness body, a new one in the Methodist family, and a negro Christian body.

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SECULAR SHOTS AT PULPIT.

Washington Post: An Ohio preacher, objecting to hugging and kissing in church, declares that the kiss is an intoxicant. Bill Wheeler Wilcox must have put him next. Kansas City Star: Rev. N. S. Thomas, who has just been elected Episcopal bishop of Wyoming, is none other than "Nat" Thomas, the tall, handsome young priest who started out in life at Leavenworth. He was considered at one time by the vestry of Grace Episcopal church in this city, but decided to go east. With successful career has again demonstrated that it is good luck to be born in Kansas and that it is not even bad luck to come from Leavenworth. Cleveland Plain Dealer: A Chicago pastor has added to the resources of his church by opening a "silence room" for the women of the congregation. Not a word is to be spoken in this hushed apartment. Just what the pastor expects to demonstrate by his innovation isn't clear, but there is no doubt the husbands of the church whose wives are called upon to undergo this ordeal will be in a position to suffer acutely when their disciplined helpmates make up, as it were, for this enforced silence.

SERMONS BOILED DOWN.

No man ever spoke truth without hearing its echo in heaven. Repentance is always lame without restitution and reformatory work. The church does not lead folks to heaven by looking like a funeral. A man's religion goes no deeper than the big potatoes in his bushel. Religion is always a bad bargain to the man who tries to get it cheap. The man who brags of his humility is equally proud of his consistency. It's hard to go on singing "Take my sin and my guilt away from me" when you get to heaven and find out you are not exempt from other taxes or services here. The bigot is the man who thinks that all souls go to heaven only through his private methods. When you get after the profits of oppression you will hear a lot about the principles of liberty. A plate of soup may weigh as much in the universe as many a song or sermon on brotherhood. The fool has two extremely difficult tasks, to know himself and to keep others from doing the same. The reformer who blows a trumpet is more anxious to astonish the natives than to surprise the enemy.—Chicago Tribune.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.

"Every proposal of marriage is the basis of a divorce suit nowadays," said the pessimist. "Oh, no," replied the optimist, "sometimes nothing worse comes of it than a breach of promise suit."—Philadelphia Ledger. "I kept my husband on a string five years before I consented to marry him." "Why so long?" "Well, you see, I waited until I could see his way clear financially."—Lippincott's.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

The man with the first violin story is assured of all the publicity that is coming to him. King Alfonso yearns to fly on a flying machine. Flying high in his customary way has grown stale. When General George Crook and General Meade on the happy hunting grounds, there will be something doing. The reports of damaging floods in Kentucky call for a revision of the claim that 86 per cent of the state is dry. Going to Africa as hunter and naturalist will enable Mr. Roosevelt to hand a few more pelts to "nature fakirs."

THE NEWSON-LAW OF MRS. HETTY GREEN.

She is \$2,000,000 in his own pile. But that did not influence the matchmaker. Mrs. Green has money to throw at the birds, if she felt that way. Parting the product of steel mills on the barging counter is mighty interesting for builders, but what people generally would relish is a cut rate on articles ordinary teeth could masticate. In decorating their interior departments with toothsome muffins, made of alfalfa meal, the delegates at the National Alfalfa Millers' convention in Kansas City harked back to the edibles of their forefathers. Nebuchadnezzar ate grass. There are ways of reaching results more effective than the pressure of a club. Managers of a dance in Philadelphia posted in the hall notices that women over forty would be permitted to dance with their hats on. "Every 'lid" stayed in the dressing room. A professional writer down east, defendant in a divorce suit, averred that he had not seen the ghost walk for a year, but lived on borrowed money. A profession, with such splendid credit attests the soothing influence of right living and English thought. Margaret Illington says that she "would rather darn socks for my husband and do the family marketing with a chip basket under my arm than be the greatest English-speaking actress." Margaret deserves a good husband, but he might object to wearing the stockings Margaret darned.

THAT LOATHSOME MAN.

Chicago News: I simply loathe that fellow, Jones. He is a man I hate. Because he says in his first-rate. "My furnace works first-rate." "I shake it down just once a day. No cinders clog the grate. For me with pains to poke away" (Jones is a man I hate). "The drafts are simple as can be. 'Nonsense! Up to date you.' He said, 'I swear I hain't once gone out.' (Jones is a man I hate). "The coal I have is hard to beat." (Jones is a man I hate). "It won't burn, it won't heat. And has no slag nor slate." "Six tons last night the winter through. And I anticipate That this mild winter fire will do." (Jones is a man I hate). The snuff I hear to Jones I know will not abate. Because he says in cheerful tones, "My furnace works first-rate."