

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, as George E. Teschke, treasurer of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full copies of the Daily Morning Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of March, 1909, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Circulation type and Number. Rows include Total, Less unsold and returned copies, Net total, Daily average, and GEORGE E. TESCHKE, 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.

Mombasa the next station. The joy ride on the sulky plow is the one that pays.

Aeronautically speaking, Omaha is booked to be a high flyer.

It is no violation of the fifteenth amendment to draw the color line on oleomargarine.

Mayor Jim is always great on promises, but the package proves to be misbranded when it is opened.

A Pittsburg woman admits giving a man a love potion which killed him. Pittsburg cupid is getting entirely too strenuous.

Yes, the siren whistle would have license to blow when the Commercial club passes its one thousandth membership mark.

A surgeon is now one of the attachments of the Detroit juvenile court. He is expected to cut out some of the boys' pranks.

When the lawyers get through with John D. Rockefeller it is possible his fortune may look like a wool garment after wash day.

Texas lays claim to having more red-headed women than any other state in the union. And they say the Texas aurora is worth going miles to see.

Wireless telephones have been attached to automobiles. The sound waves will be forced to speed up if they are to catch some of the machines.

A Chicago coal dealer has solemnly proclaimed that coal smoke is a blessing. The cup of the windy city, on that basis, is certainly full to overflowing.

The newspapers published at Lincoln are again terribly wrought up over the dire evils that are confronting Omaha. Such solicitude is truly touching.

Because he had undervalued his property in his returns to the assessor a Kansas man drowned himself. If the habit becomes general the next census enumerators will have a short job.

When the New York State Highway commission started out on a tour of inspection, it stuck in the mud the first day. If the report was formulated on the spot it might need expurgating.

Mr. Bryan denies he has already decided to enter the senatorial race in Nebraska. The record of the late democratic legislature has a tendency to induce a tired feeling among wise democrats.

Castro's wife insists the ex-president of Venezuela has no intention of starting a revolution. Just the same the French government took the wise course in not allowing him too long a lead off first base.

In order to ascertain the authorship of the democratic city platform this year a searching expedition will have to be sent out to identify the scribe who wrote out the democratic city platform of three years ago.

Our democratic friends must be hard up for campaign ammunition if they have to go back to the republican administration that preceded the advent of the "Jims" in order to find something to find fault with.

Plea of Railroads Analyzed.

In support of the railroad plea for higher rates because of rate legislation and orders of the Interstate Commerce commission, the chief argument advanced is that the roads lost heavily in revenue during the business slump of 1907. The fact that railroad earnings decreased is not denied, though the commission and the railroad representatives differ widely as to the amount. This, however, is not pertinent as applied to the present situation. If the railroads suffered from the panic, so did every other business enterprise. While earnings and dividends decreased, the absence of net income was not so noticeable in railroad as in other lines and the struggle for actual existence not nearly so severe.

The real meat of the question is whether present conditions justify an advance of rates. For the months of November and December, 1908, and the month of January, 1909, all the railroads in the United States showed an increase in net earnings from operation of \$34,000,000, as compared with the panic months of the year previous. For the month of February, 1909, as compared with the same month of the preceding year the increase was \$11,550,000. These figures are not taken from unauthorized sources, but are beyond dispute by the railroads, for they are the returns made by the roads themselves to the Interstate Commerce commission. Neither can the figures be assailed as being the earnings of favored lines, for they represent the exhibit of every steam road in the United States doing an interstate business.

If the railroads can make this showing in the face of the conditions of which they complain the plea in abatement must be unfounded.

Dickinson Off for Panama.

Secretary of War Dickinson has started for Panama to see for himself what is being done there and what remains to be done. In doing so he is but following the practice of his predecessors in office of getting at first hand an insight into the work with which, in his official capacity, he is compelled to deal. The financial as well as the moral credit of the government is behind the canal enterprise and any official charged with the duty of carrying forward the work who should fall, would draw upon himself merited criticism. There is nothing like personal knowledge to enable an official to act intelligently upon the problems presented, and in securing this at the outset of his administration the new war secretary is taking a wise step. The secretary has, of course, the reports of the engineers in charge of the work, but he also has a constant stream of suggestions, fault-finding and adverse comment, the motive for which is not always apparent. Mr. Dickinson is a man of capacity and a tour of the canal zone will enable him to see for himself wherein the truth lies. He is simply one of a business administration, going about in a businesslike way to perform his duties.

The Irrigation Congress.

The irrigation congress, which meets at Spokane in August, is already attracting widespread attention. The west has for some time been alive to the importance of bringing into productive condition the large areas capable of irrigation, but up to recent times has carried on alone the contest for the development of the enterprises. Eastern congressmen at first grudgingly voted government aid to the larger enterprises, even though the plans called for the ultimate payment of the expenses out of the proceeds of the lands improved. The necessity of increasing the food-producing area of the nation is being rapidly driven home to eastern men, however, and opposition has given way to encouragement.

There are other reasons for hoping the meeting at Spokane will be pregnant with results. Not only will those who have had to do with the work in this section be present, but from all over the world where irrigation is practiced there will come men rich in experience to counsel regarding the subject. The meeting of such a body of men, backed by the approval of the federal government, is destined to be a landmark in the development of the arid and semi-arid sections of the west. As the gate city, through which the products of a large portion of the country to be developed must pass, the interest of Omaha and Nebraska is large, for our future is necessarily linked with the farms of that section.

No Entangling Alliances.

The Montreal Star presents to the United States a direct appeal for a co-operative alliance with Great Britain for mutual protection, the basis of the appeal being the expressed fear that Germany plans, by the building of a powerful fleet, first to wipe out the British navy and then to defy the United States and the Monroe doctrine, seize Brazil, and deminish the American fleet.

The argument of the Montreal paper has force if its premise is to be accepted, but circumstances point rather to the conclusion the fear is chiefly imaginary. The German navy, it is true, is being largely added to, but there is nothing surprising about this. Germany is one of the great commercial nations of the world, with a large merchant marine and interests scattered all over the globe. The weakness of its position without the backing of a strong navy no doubt appeals to the German government as strongly as the same situation has appealed to Great Britain and the United States. The assumption that the creation of a new German navy is for the purpose

of aggression against either of the powers mentioned is not apparent, much less conclusive.

In the second place both the United States and Great Britain are in the midst of a decidedly strenuous navy building program, and there is no reason to believe Germany could accomplish the object stated even though such were its program. The United States has no quarrel with Germany or any other nation, beyond a friendly, though perchance strenuous, commercial rivalry. Candidly it appears as though John Bull and Brother Jobbsman were both amply able to meet any situation which present conditions are likely to evolve without plunging into the stream of bitterness and enmity which the suggested coalition would result in.

A Possible Reason.

OMAHA, April 17, 1909.—To the Editor of The Bee: I have read your article about the Water board's haste in submitting the bond proposition now, and what you say strikes me as good. If there is no chance of a hearing in the supreme court for six or eight months, why could not the Water board have held off the bond proposition until next fall's election? Is there any special reason? R. T. G.

There is only one reason which we can think of which may have prompted the high-priced Water board lawyers to ask that the water bonds be voted now instead of later. This turns on the vote required to authorize the issue of such bonds. Water Bill No. 2, which is the law under which the Water board is supposed to be acting, contains this further proviso with reference to the water bonds voted "for the acquisition of such water plant under such appraisement," already cited by The Bee:

Said bonds are not to be sold for less than par and issued only in case the proposition is ratified by a majority of the votes cast upon the proposition at a general election or two-thirds of the votes cast in case the proposition shall be submitted at a special election.

If the words "general election" mean "general city election," then to carry by a mere majority the bonds would have to be voted now. If these words mean the fall election, at which members of the Water board are chosen, then a majority vote would carry the bonds only next fall and not at the coming city election. It is possible that the words could be construed to mean either general city election or general state election, in which case a majority vote would carry the bonds at either time. But plainly, if submitted at a special election, it would take a two-thirds majority to make the bond issue valid, and this is the hazard which the water bond boosters do not want to incur.

Looking Backward.

James C. Dahlgren is a democrat and believes in letting the people rule.—World-Herald.

Looking backward over a period of less than two months, this is decidedly rich, rare and racy. Go back over the World-Herald files for February and March of this year and you will find them full of denunciation of James C. Dahlgren as the arch enemy of popular government, a traitor to his party, scheming to pervert the rule of the people.

The question at issue was between an appointive and an elective police board, the mayor standing for the appointive power and the democratic organ clamoring for elective commissioners. Reading the World-Herald, then, no one would imagine that James C. Dahlgren was a democrat, or that he believed in letting the people rule. He was a tool of the corporations, a spokesman for the liquor dealers, the mouthpiece of a despotic political machine. He was accused even of having made a deal with the odious republicans.

Has that all been so soon forgotten? Is he again a democrat in good standing? Is he now an apostle of "Let the people rule?"

The next step toward building the new court house is the approval of the contractor's bond. It is up to the Board of County Commissioners to make sure that the taxpayers are amply protected against every possible loophole. What we want is a new court house and not a law suit.

Although the water company has gone into court to compel the city to buy its plant at the appraised value of \$6,262,295.49, it is accused of trying to obstruct the purchase. Wonder what it would have to do to establish conclusively its desire to sell out at that magnificent price?

A lot of laws passed by the late Nebraska legislature were so mutilated in the crush of the final hours that they have already been sent to the legislative hospital and the doctors express doubts whether they will ever be able to stand alone.

Governor Shallenberger will not worry over the World-Herald's great show of indignation over the remarks attributed to him at Beatrice. That sheet will take the other end in due course with or without the proper provocation.

Sixty students of a Tennessee college were expelled for going to a circus unaccompanied by the faculty. How thoughtless of the boys to deprive the faculty of an excuse for seeing the spangles and pink tights.

Several officers of the Daughters of the American Revolution refused to attend a tea given by the other faction. Tea, from the first played an important part in revolutionary affairs.

A Chicago woman secured a \$25,000 verdict against a broker in that city for breach of promise. The broker

must have attempted a corner in the love market which collapsed.

Governor Brown of Georgia is to wear a suit of homespun when he is inaugurated. Now if he will only let mother cut his hair he will look too sweet for anything.

Putting It On Old Joe.

Washington Post. And now Secretary Wilson is accusing Joseph of operating the first corner in wheat, but Joseph is protected by the statute of limitations.

An Apt Illustration.

New York World. Theodore Parker called politics "the science of exigencies." To illustrate the definition it is only necessary to read the great tariff debate in the congressional record.

The Reward of Trust Building.

Baltimore American. Trust-building ought to become a popular occupation. The prosecuting attorney in Texas who won the state's antitrust fight against the oil company is to get the best of \$100,000. Thus is virtue coming to get a more substantial reward than the mere approval of its own conscience.

Rivalry in Perfecting Corn.

Collier's Weekly. Through the schools of a number of western corn-growing states boys and girls are stimulated by prizes to plant little patches of corn. Out of each community, where an exhibit is held, ten prize-winning ears are sent to the county exhibit. The best ten there are entered in a state show, and then the states compete. The final winners are sifted to the best one ear in the whole United States. Scientific interest in agriculture is growing. It is one finger post on the road from the city to the farm.

CORN FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

High Prices Stimulating Over-Sea Imports. Minneapolis Journal.

Importing corn seems verily bringing of coal to Newcastle. Nevertheless, importation of America's peculiar grain, maize, is being seriously considered by large handlers of the staple in New York. And the country is producing it in all places in the world, is South Africa.

A New York firm, investigating the situation, finds that South African farmers marketed their corn at less than 20 cents a bushel last year. Allowing 36 cents a bushel this year to the Boer producer, corn could be laid down in New York, all charges and duties paid, for 85 cents a bushel, as compared with 75 cents, the price paid for the July option in New York. The South African corn is reported to be of fine quality.

The American consul at Johannesburg reports that corn is the staple crop of the Transvaal. He writes: "The greater portion of the crop of corn is consumed within the colony, but a large quantity is exported to the mines. It is not sold by the bushel, but by the muid, equal to 200 pounds, and brings \$2 to \$2.50 per muid. The cost of production is estimated to range from 55 cents to \$1.50 per muid."

From the consular report, it would appear that while the soil of the Transvaal is deficient in lime and fertilizers are scarce, the climate of the country is well adapted for corn culture, permitting the crop to ripen with but slight danger from frost. There is a dearth of statistics, but the consul estimates that 80,000 acres in corn about covers the area in the Transvaal.

A SQUEEZE ON LEMONS.

Proposed Tariff Increase a "Lemon" for Consumers. Baltimore Sun.

In the whole state of California there are less than 75,000 farmers. Of these only a small number are engaged in the production of lemons. There is an active demand on the western coast for all the lemons that can be produced there. The cost of hauling them 3,000 miles by rail to the Atlantic seaboard is so heavy that few of them reach this side of the country. And yet Senator Aldrich's bill proposes to increase the tax on imported lemons 50 per cent over the Dingley rates, so as to give the few California lemon growers a monopoly of the American market, the demands of which they cannot satisfy. The proposition is to tax about 90,000,000 people for the benefit of a few thousand, or, if they refuse to pay the tax, to deprive them of a most wholesome fruit which has come into such general use that it is now regarded as almost a necessary of life. At a time when revenues are needed lemons are to be excluded from the market and the government deprived of a considerable revenue in order to increase the private gain of a few people. This is protection run mad. If the people pay the tax and keep on importing lemons the increased tax will fall heavily upon millions who are already burdened beyond their means. If the price of lemons is advanced so the people cannot or will not pay it, then the government will lose the revenue and the people will be deprived of a cheap and wholesome luxury. The republicans may as well insist that lemons increase the price of lemons this summer.

FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

In Its Central Portion, Which Passes the Hotel St. Regis.

IS AN AUTOMOBILE BOULEVARD

Ten years ago Fifth Avenue trailed Hyde Park in the splendid character of its equipages; today it more than vies with the Bois de Boulogne in the number, elegance and variety of its motor cars. On pleasant days more than sixty autos a minute pass the St. Regis Hotel. The cars are the most convenient, the most comfortable and the most beautiful parade unexcelled anywhere else in the world.

The St. Regis Hotel, with its entrance just off the avenue on Fifty-fifth Street, thus affords to motorists touring through New York, and to those contemplating a longer stay as well—the most convenient stopping point. To this convenience must be added its other paramount features, for the St. Regis has won merited distinction among travelers as America's most comfortable and restful hotel. Great good taste, artistic feeling and appreciation, and above all else, wide experience in catering to people of refinement, have made this hotel what it is, and have gained for it a reputation without flaw as the most desirable touring and rest hotel in New York. The touring motorist who makes his New York stop at the St. Regis finds there real comfort and rest under ideal conditions. Nor is he required to pay dearly for the privilege, for the hotel is really low-priced when quality of service is considered. Its catering is unsurpassed anywhere; yet restaurant charges are no higher than at other first class hotels. Splendid single rooms may be had for \$2 and \$4 a day, or the same with private bath for \$5 a day; for \$5 for two people; while for a parlor bedroom and private bath the rates are from \$12 a day up.

Army Gossip

Matters of Interest On and Back of the Firing Line Gleaned from the Army and Navy Register.

It was recently held by the comptroller of the treasury that the signal corps of the army could not purchase an automobile out of the appropriations authorized by congress because no mention of such vehicle was made and its use was not absolutely necessary. In view of such a decision the question was raised as to whether or not five Rambler bicycles could be purchased for use by the signal corps linemen in the repair of military telegraph lines and by messengers in delivering telegrams passing over such lines. The assistant comptroller holds that the bicycles appear to be necessary as a part of the signal corps equipment and operation of the army telegraph lines and he has approved of such purchase.

A special board of commissary officers in periodical session at Fort Riley, Kas., has nearly completed its compilation of a new army cook book and a bakers' book. The former will replace a publication which was not entirely satisfactory in that it was in some respects too "fancy" in its recipes. The book was made up with the aid of a specially employed French chef. The new edition will embody the results of the practical experience of army cooks and will have recipes which contemplate the use of the army ration, both in garrison and in the field. The bakers' book will give a description of bread baking applicable to work at the post as well as in the field.

It need not surprise the people who are specially interested in the 3,000-mile wireless station, originally proposed for location in Washington, is not built at all. It has been found that so much opposition attended the installation of the plant in the neighborhood of the Washington monument that it would be quite as well, all things considered, if the station were not located anywhere near the national capitol, although a site at Annapolis has been recommended as suitable for the purpose. At the same time Secretary Mayer looked into whether there is a remarkable advantage derivable from the big station to justify the expenditure of the amount of money involved.

The infantry soldier of our army for some time has been without a knapsack or other receptacle suitable for carrying on his person his personal belongings. The need of some adequate means for the soldier to carry articles of this kind with him on the march in military operations has long been felt. In view of this fact a board of officers has been organized April 25 to consider the question of equipment and load of the infantry soldier. The board will consist of Colonel Henry A. Greene, Tenth Infantry; Lieutenant Colonel Frank E. Hobbs, ordnance department; Major George Bell, Jr., inspector general; Captain James P. Harbeson, Twelfth Infantry; Captain Merch B. Stewart, Eighth Infantry; and Captain John L. De Witt, Twentieth Infantry. Keep disappointment awaits the fourteen majors and ten captains of the army's retired list who were advanced one grade in annual confirmation of their nominations on April 5. The nominations were made as a result of an opinion of the attorney general of February 25 that "officers retired for physical disability contracted in the line of duty, in accordance with the terms of the act of 1893, are entitled, in the discretion of the president, by and with the consent of the senate, to the promotion permitted by the act of 1904." It was expected that these officers would receive the pay of the advanced grade from April 23, 1904, which was the date of the act authorizing the advancement of officers of civil war service. Army officers who have been hitherto advanced grade from the date of the law, but in the case of the twenty-four officers recently mentioned the advance pay will date only from April 5 of this year, which deprives the officers of the five years' accumulation of increased pay, which they had a right to expect, under the revised opinion of the attorney general.

There are signs that President Taft will at least consider the proposition to modify—perhaps to an extent which amounts to a revocation of—the orders fastened upon the military and naval personnel by President Roosevelt, requiring periodical physical tests as a condition of professional fitness of officers. The requirements are just beginning to be felt, by way of keen anticipation, in the navy, where much dissatisfaction is expressed with the exactions imposed by departmental orders. With the application of the test to the army, navy and marine corps, the utter uselessness of the whole proceeding is more and more apparent. It is evident that the purpose of the system is not to encourage physical exercise, of the value of which, no one entertains any doubt, its effect is quite up to the purpose—that of forcing retirements under conditions which are humiliating in some cases, a hardship in others, and needless in most. It is understood that certain senators have interested themselves in the situation, with the prospect that they may be successful in pointing out to Mr. Taft the absurdity of the arrangement.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Rhode Island is somewhat regretful that President Taft did not select one of its shore resorts for his summer home. But Rhode Island is a rather small state for so big a man.

Thomas West, known as "the big Indian," died last week at his home near Kenawha, Okla. The lawless warrior he owned and sold for \$12,000 West was a Seminole, and came to Oklahoma in 1860.

Miss Rita Whitehead of Seattle has just been made deputy prosecuting attorney for Kings county, Washington. She is an honor graduate of the law school of the University of Washington in the class of 1906. Before studying law Miss Whitehead was a stenographer.

Ex-Clerk O. J. Marko of Ohio dismissed from the War department in 1902, has put in a claim against the government for \$50,000 damages. He says that because of the persecution to which he was subjected he couldn't study, didn't get his Ph. D. and didn't enrich himself with his pen.

Mrs. Francis Cook Van Zandt died at Fort Worth, Tex., aged 94 years. She was the widow of Isaac Van Zandt, Texan minister to the United States and negotiator of the treaty of annexation. She was the mother of General K. M. Van Zandt of the confederate army. She leaves behind her on the earth more than seventy living descendants.

Colonel Alexander K. McClure of Philadelphia long one of the best known journalists in the country and of late years prothonotary of the supreme court of Pennsylvania has suffered a serious breakdown. Colonel McClure recently visited the south and scouted before the boards of trade in several cities, which proved to be too much of an undertaking for a man of 82 years.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER. Thousands of millions of cans of Royal Baking Powder have been used in making bread, biscuit and cake in this country, and every housekeeper using it has rested in perfect confidence that her food would be light, sweet, and perfectly wholesome. Royal is a safeguard against the cheap alum powders which are the greatest menaces to health of the present day. ROYAL IS THE ONLY BAKING POWDER MADE FROM ROYAL GRAPE CREAM OF TARTAR.

PASSING PLEASANTRIES. "The way they are pushing poor Castro from pillar to post is really pathetic, isn't it?" "Yes, quite moving."—Baltimore American. "Fader, dere be clouds of black smoke rolling off of der clothing store." "Well, every such cloud has its gold lining."—Judge. "Bronson-I noticed your wife sitting by the window sewing this morning. I thought you told me yesterday she was ill." "Woodson—So she was, but today she's on the mend.—Brooklyn Eagle. "Girl with the Clara Morris Eyes—I talk about you like a fool when I try to talk about art." "Girl with the Viola Allen Voice—You don't need to feel that way. If you lean your head a little to one side when you look at a painting, and throw in a remark now and then about "perspective" and "tonal values," you can pass for an artist with the best of them."—Chicago Tribune. "Daughter, do you think that young fellow is the man for you?" "Oh, I know it, papa." "How do you know it?" "He told me so himself."—Denver Post. "Hallo, old fellow, you look sort of out of sorts this morning." "That is not surprising; Jinx has eloped with my wife." "He has?" "Yes, and to think that that fellow always professed to be my best friend!" "Well, he proved it, didn't he?"—Houston Post. "What do you think of tariff revision?" "Well," answered Farmer Corvessel, "it strikes me that the tariff is a good deal like the weather. No matter what kind you get, it's pretty sure to be bad for some body's business."—Washington Star. "What's become of that girl who wanted a career—said she felt herself fitted to a headwork in the world?" "She's doing it all right—got a good job with a fashionable milliner."—Baltimore American. THE DEPARTED FRIEND. Robert Louis Stevenson. "Thought he that ever kind and true kept stoutly step by step with you through mire and marsh, by heugh and bill. He gone a while before—Be now a moment gone before, Yet doubt not, anon the seasons and restore Your friend to you. He has but turned a corner—still He pushes on with right good will. Through mire and marsh, by heugh and bill. That selfsame arduous way— That selfsame uphill hopeful way. That you and he through many a doubt full day Attempted still. He is not dead, this friend—not dead. But in the path we martial tread Get some few trifling steps ahead. And nearer to the end. So that you, too, once past this bend, Shall meet again, as face to face, the friend You fancy dead. Push gayly on, strong hearted. The while You travel forward mile by mile. He lingers with a backward smile. 'Till you can overtake. And trains his eyes to search his wife. Or, whistling, as he sees you through the break, Waits on a stile.

The Syrup of Purity and Wholesomeness. Karo. The most delicious for griddle cakes of all makes—or any use where syrup takes. A pure, wholesome food. In 5c, 25c, and 50c air-tight tins. A book of cooking and candy-making recipes sent free on request. CORN PRODUCTS REFINING COMPANY, New York.

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