

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 15th day of September, 1909. M. P. WALKER, Notary Public.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested.

Will Ig Dunn take it back and apologize? Will a stuck pig squeal?

Our amiable local contemporary calls Dr. Cook to a showdown. That settles it.

Can it be that the formation of a bull fight trust in Spain forecasts a rival in the beef trade?

Between imported strike agitators and imported rum power pounders there is not much difference.

This is the last day for the tumult and the shouting over the base ball pennant. It has inspired a season's record crop of fans.

Anti-Saloon league spokesmen are proclaiming their dislike of Mayor "Jim" and his ways. That will not surprise Mayor "Jim."

General d'Amade, just retired from the French army for criticizing Spain's conduct in Morocco, should know how to sympathize with Mr. Crane.

Omaha again furnishes the president of the State Federation of Woman's clubs. Another welcome sign that Omaha is still in Nebraska.

The labor orators who keep on insisting that the street car strike is still on should wake up. Organized labor has nothing to gain by fighting phantom battles.

British parliamentary circles are agitated over an effort to make divorce as convenient for the poor as for the rich. Another blow at the privileges of aristocracy.

With the discovery of a governor's message urging state preservation of water power as far back as 1893, the conservation policy may hardly be styled brand-new.

This "baleful thought of malicious animal magnetism" that is being exploited in the Mrs. Stetson-Mrs. Eddy controversy sort of harks back to the Salem witchcraft days.

Morning readings are popular in society as the cool weather advances. They have no relation to the breakfast lectures that maintain a coolness in some households the year round.

All good live democrats "who want to see democratic success" are summoned by the local democratic organization to get busy for the impending election. We thought this was a non-partisan campaign so far as the democrats are concerned.

If Mr. Bryan does not go to the rescue of Judge Gaynor, the Tammany candidate heading the democratic ticket in New York, he will lay himself liable to another charge of ingratitude, which is one of the counts Mr. Hearst brings against him for himself.

A rank prohibitionist is trying to bait our old friend, Edgar Howard, into an open-letter debate on the liquor question. We suggest that Judge Howard turn the challenge over to Mr. Bryan, who is experienced in side-stepping unfeeling debates.

One good feature in the cotton situation is that most of the big mills have such large contract orders ahead that they do not see how they can meet the demand of the manufacturers' association to curtail production until the worst of the winter is over.

Maryland's Color Amendment.

The constitutional amendment to eliminate the negro vote, which the people of Maryland defeated four years ago, was less adroitly drawn than the one for the identical purpose whose fate the voters of the state are to determine on November 2. Since their defeat the democrats have crystallized the judgment of their shrewdest counselors into an amendment designed to avoid the faults of the previous amendment, but their drastic requirements for the right of suffrage have precipitated a campaign which has split up their party so that the fate of the measure is in doubt.

On its surface the amendment is intended to free all whites from the necessity of educational or property qualifications, while subjecting all negroes to such qualifications. This is attempted by stipulating that no person shall be entitled to vote unless he was a voter on January 1, 1869, or unless he is a foreign-born citizen naturalized since that date, or unless he is the male descendant of a person in one of these two classes. These stipulations, standing alone, would bar the negro openly, and the courts would lose no time in pronouncing the amendment unconstitutional, but it is further provided that any other person may vote if he passes certain educational tests or has certain property qualifications. These are intended to be so severe that in the experience of Maryland no negro could successfully meet them.

The amendment is tragic for the negro voter, yet it has a humorous element as well, for the property provision enables "a person, or the husband of a person" who for two years has paid taxes on \$500 worth of property to vote. On the face of it this would enable any thrifty negro woman who could produce the necessary tax receipts to vote, or it would enable a negro to marry a white if he could find a willing woman whose possessions would aggregate the required amount.

While democratic advisers are confident that the amendment will eliminate the negro and none other, and miquelet President Taft's warning letter to clinch that argument, the entire foreign-born element of the state has been aroused to the fear that their franchises are similarly in danger. The resultant disputes have carried the campaign beyond the original democratic intent.

If the amendment be adopted the democrats may suffer the loss of the one-party domination they have gained in other southern states through negro disfranchisement, for Maryland does not face the same fear of negro domination that has obtained in states where similar amendments have been permitted to remain unassailed. Only 20 per cent of the entire electorate of Maryland is of negro blood, and the republican leaders in Baltimore are already prepared to get the amendment before the supreme court in due form in case it is voted. The supreme court has never yet had the disfranchisement of the negro squarely before it, but if the Maryland amendment comes up for decision and is pronounced unconstitutional, with it will doubtless fall the similar disfranchising amendments already in force or projected in other states.

Exploiting Alaskan Resources.

It is evident that President Taft's declarations concerning the future of Alaska have stimulated the waiting interests to action that shall the sooner people the territory and demonstrate its readiness for self-government, for various of the suspended operations in that country are now reported as taking on a new lease of life. Conspicuous among these is the Alaska Central railroad, which, now that it has fallen into the control of the Morgan interests, will doubtless be completed forthwith into the Tanana country, with a view to the opening up of the resources of a wide area and the exploitation of the Matanuska coal fields.

It has long been believed that the success of the road was dependent upon the ultimate development of the coal resources, and the assurance of the Morgan people that many millions are to be expended in Alaska is taken by the people of the northwest to mean that the town of Seward is to have a great smelter and become a center of activity for the Tanana country and that it will become the shipping point for the Matanuska coal deposits, for which the northwest has long been a waiting market.

The practical entrance of the Morgan millions into Alaska cannot but give a great impetus to a variety of interests which have long sought to enter the service of the prodigious capital necessary to conquer the natural obstacles between source of supply and practicable shipping points.

Smoke Crusades and Coal Economy.

Out of the various crusades now under way in American cities to lessen the smoke nuisance may come a partial solution of the fuel problem. Necessarily the chimney belching forth dense volumes of smoke represents a waste, but how definite a waste it remained for the United States geological survey to demonstrate. Its experimental station at Pittsburgh seems to have solved the problem of consuming the cheapest sort of refuse coal with a maximum of heat and a minimum of smoke. The survey experimenters make no prodigious promises, but guarantee that by their process of combustion domestic consumers may save 5 per cent of their coal bills and industrial consumers 10 per cent.

Inasmuch as the secret of the survey's success has come through the use of mechanical stokers, which are an

expensive equipment except for large consumers, it is evident that household chimneys will continue to smoke so long as the householder is in a position to buy coal. But upon those in control of large and progressive plants this season of fuel-saving is not likely to be entirely wasted.

The American Army and Others.

The annual report of Inspector General Garlington, criticizing the United States army in detail, comes at a time when his recommendations may be considered with special facility, for the document is contemporaneous with that of Captain Langhorne of the cavalry service giving a practical review of his studies of armies abroad.

General Garlington's argument that necessary legislation for general reforms in the service would be fostered by quartering troops in centers of population where they would come into contact with the people is in line with Captain Langhorne's observation upon the splendid results obtained in Great Britain, where the army has been popularized by having troops stationed in large cities.

Necessarily such a report as General Garlington's emphasizes the deficiencies of the service, most of which, in his opinion, could be remedied by the general exercise of common sense, a commodity that the observing public had not noticed any special lack of, among either officers or men. The bluff remark will no doubt serve to stiffen the various posts to a renewed mastery of the regulations and a sound interpretation of them.

A criticism that is evidently just is the marking of discontent over the crippling of commands through the assignment of officers to detached service. This would seem to be a matter readily remedied by the adjustment of extra pay among those so assigned and those upon whom the additional duty of the absentees may fall. General Garlington's recommendation of a modification of the severity of physical tests is so emphatic an endorsement of the general criticism that official heed of it will, no doubt, be taken with a view to the adoption of such a system of general exercise throughout the year as he suggests.

While General Garlington is stimulating the United States service by pointing out its faults, Captain Langhorne institutes comparisons with armies abroad that may serve for guidance in the improvement of our troops. The thing he likes about the British soldiers is their steadiness and ability to shoot, and he considers that we may well take lessons from them in their superior rifle instruction, the use of model targets and a practical course of the general criticism that official heed of it will, no doubt, be taken with a view to the adoption of such a system of general exercise throughout the year as he suggests.

When they consider the halt, lame and blind hero-generals of history, those who have difficulty in meeting the physical requirements of modern army dictators must marvel how times have changed.

Weakens at the Finish. Washington Herald. Mr. Taft appears to be quite as much of a sermonizer as his illustrious predecessor, but his hallooing tick is not nearly so pronounced.

Too Much of a Good Thing. Cleveland Plain Dealer. A Nebraska woman is asking for a divorce on the ground that her husband is too generous with his kisses. And she gets them all. No wonder the case is looked upon as a domestic novelty.

That Would Help Some. Cleveland Plain Dealer. Perhaps Cook and Peary will bring down enough Eskimos to form a couple of base ball teams that can play all winter. The real fan who hates to be deprived of his pleasure during five months or more would take issue with those who hold that the discovery of the pole was of no real practical value.

In Training for Congress. Philadelphia Record. The present is half through with his great circuit, and while he still feels confident of his ability to beat all records at "swinging around the circle," he is looking forward to a respite of a few months with congress as a piece of recreation that will enable him to recuperate from his efforts to get acquainted with the country.

OLD AGE IDLENESS. Throwing a Scare Among Retired Army Officers. Washington Post. The great number of demerits among retired army and navy officers recently stirring official circles to an inquiry as to the cause. The belief is growing that the enforced idleness of the old veterans hastened their end. Cases are cited where these men have retired at the age of 62 or 64 hale and hearty, and apparently good for twenty years more of life. Yet in four or six years they have dropped off. It appears that the average life of these officers after retirement is six years.

Yet army and navy officers are well prepared to pass with ease the allotted three score years and ten. There has been the freedom of the plains and the open sea, with plenty of exercise and that absence of luxury that undermines the physique. They are grizzled and hearty when they retire and could furnish a merry tussle for many a younger man following the career of a civilian.

But the retired officer has absolutely nothing to do. After an active life of forty years in service, he is shunted at an age when he is beyond the taking up of the duties which the civilian callings offer. He is settled at home on his retired pay, and finds nothing to do other than twiddle his thumbs. This occupation is a poor climax for an active life. It has many of the mental and physical disadvantages that are faced by pensioners who are confined in idleness. The mind that is likely to turn inward and dwell upon ailments, real and imagined, until the health suffers as a consequence. The absence of the active duties of mind and body that have filled all the days of a lifetime weighs heavily upon the old warrior.

A physician in a western town recently made the statement that the retired farmer died within three years on an average. These brassy sons of toil are making their fortunes out west by the score and retiring at the age of 50 or thereabouts. The lives they have led in the open fields have given them a vigor and hardiness that are not to be found in the city. But with their money invested in mortgages and a sufficient income to support their families in ease and luxury for the remainder of their lives, these men pine away and die. They have been accustomed to other things and their physiques demand them. Their minds are not healthy in idleness. The unused plow rusts out when exposed to the weather, so does the man of activities lose his vitality when left to stagnate in idleness.

But, allowing for all that, the Lincoln exhibit still leaves open to speculation the question, How do they do it?

The controversy of which Boston is now the hub is not between Cook and Peary factions, but between the "regulars" and "insurgents" of the New England Dahlias society. What they are fighting about no one at this distance may discern, but the air at Bunker Hill is thick with petals, and the noise of projectile bullets sounds like the rattle of musketry at Concord and Lexington. New England's war of the Dahlias bids fair to become as celebrated in the annals of horticulture as the War of the Roses in the history of nations.

At least one of the democratic candidates for supreme judge is hot-footing it around the state in total disregard of the judicial dignity which supposedly marks a nonpartisan campaign for the bench. Of course, however, it is all right for a nonpartisan democrat to obliterate the so-called professional proprieties, but if a republican candidate did it it would be an unpardonable offense.

The official ballot in the New York municipal election is expected to be four feet two inches wide and fifteen inches long and to be the largest ballot ever used anywhere. Perhaps. But the best sheet ballot which the late democratic legislature inflicted on Nebraska voters at our last primary was quite large enough for us.

A prisoner tortured by being forced to stay awake four full days in an effort to force him to sign a dictated "confession" is still resisting police dictation in an American city. No wonder Minister Wu is complacent when he hears our criticisms of Chinese barbarity.

In Other Lands

Side Lights on What is Transpiring Among the Near and Far Nations of the North.

A significant outward calm succeeds the storm of party clamor following the suspension of final action by the British House of Commons on the budget. The intervention of King Edward with a view to securing favorable action when the finance bill reaches the House of Lords next month has not produced immediate results. But this does not forebode failure. The issues are too sharply drawn and party passions too strong to be harmonized in a day or a week. If the king succeeds in effecting a compromise in any form between the bellicose peers and the commonsense he will have bridged the most dangerous political chasm that has developed during his reign.

The liberals apparently are fully determined to stand by their guns and have challenged the peers to do what they have been threatening for months. The sentiment of the minority was forcibly expressed by Premier Asquith in his reply to the criticisms of Lord Rosebery last month. "Amendment by the House of Lords is out of the question. Rejection by the House of Lords is equally out of the question. That way lies revolution." With equal emphasis Lloyd George, chancellor of the exchequer, a week ago declared: "We are going to send the bill to the House of Lords and get all the taxes or none. The lords may decree a revolution, but the people will direct it. If it is begun, issues will be raised which are little dreamed of by the answers to which will be charged with peril for the order of things which the peers represent." Winston Churchill, president of the Board of Trade, in a speech last Friday, emphasized the views quoted above, showing substantial unanimity among the ministers in resisting any compromise or amendment. Unless King Edward secures some concessions before the budget is disposed of by the House of Commons, the irritated peers must choose between a dangerous fight or inglorious retreat.

Spokesmen for the entrenched interests of the aristocracy in the British House of Lords strive to cover the cause of their angry opposition to the finance bill by denouncing certain taxing provisions as "socialistic" and "revolutionary." The latter designation conveys some truth, though not in the sense intended by the aristocracy. The bill is revolutionary in its comprehensive scheme for reaching the tax alibier. Therein lie the teeth that cut into the cuticle of the landlords. Other interests are equally passionate against the taxing provisions of the bill because of increased taxation. But the landlords, the dominant class in the House of Lords, are touched to the quick by a real revolutionary scheme of determining land values, for the double purpose of direct taxation and the tax on investment. Originally the provision provided for assessing the cost of determining the value of all land in the British dominions. As it now stands the government proposes to spend \$10,000,000 in making a complete record of lands, owners and values. It would not matter much to the landlords if the record could be kept out of reach of county and municipal assessors. These minor functionaries will have access to the record for their respective localities and must accept such valuation as the minimum valuation for local purposes. While in the United States tax-dodging is confined in the main to personal property, in Great Britain land affords the best means and the landlords are past masters in the art. The scheme embodied in the finance bill strikes these eminently respectable tax dodgers a solar plexus, and the knowledge of what is coming to them accounts for the extraordinary rage among the titled idlers of the kingdom.

The drift of population from the farms to the cities noted in Europe and America is a marked feature of the changing life in Japan. Henry George, Jr., writing to Collier's Weekly, notes as a result of personal observations that the youth of the country are driven to city workshops and factories as the only means of escaping the heavy and increasing burden of taxation imposed on the products of the soil. Rural industry is also menaced by intensifying competition, higher standard of living and the cutting off of responsibility of ownership. "So," he writes, "out of the misery of the farming poor, land speculation in Tokio, Yokohama, Osaka, Kobe, Nagoya and other cities profited enormously. In all these places population has increased rapidly. While there is considerable centered sentiment in favor of a small land-value tax, the political power of the country is centered in the hands of a comparatively few, and the landed class can for the present at least, hold things as they are.

While the youthful shah of Persia, now in his sixteenth year, is growing up to his growing age of sixteen, the government of his troubled country will be in the hands of a regent, Assad-ul-Mulk, a bearded prophet of the Kajar tribe and an eminently honest man. "A somewhat rare character in Persia," adds a correspondent of a London weekly. The deposed shah has been given a liberal pension on condition of his taking himself out of the country. The younger, meanwhile, is fitting himself for the job of governing under skilled trainers, and may be pardoned for occasionally mumbling in the lingo of his tribe, "Everybody works but father."

Chinese duplicity appears to have made short work of the opium prohibition legislation, and from an account of the working of the scheme in Loobok China, published in the North China Daily News, it seems probable that the attempt to break the people of the opium habit will prove unavailing. Proclamations were issued by the district magistrate recently to close all opium dens, the keepers paid a bribe, put the lounges behind a screen and continued business as usual. A deputy official was appointed to look after the opium consumption and to register the dealers in opium and the smokers. The deputy and the district magistrate issued a joint proclamation saying that all smokers must be registered. A ticket would be issued to each free of charge, stating the amount of opium he was allowed to purchase each day. In three months' time new tickets will be issued reducing the original amount a little every three months, until zero is reached, when the smoker is not to get any more. The majority of smokers who register themselves at all register the amount from five to ten times more than they use, consequently it will take a long time before their amounts are reduced to what they actually use.

Herr Rudolf Emmerich, a Munich professor who for some time past has been engaged in research work in St. Petersburg cholera hospitals, has satisfied himself by chemical and spectroscopic analysis of the accuracy of the theory already propounded by him that the fatal agent in this dreaded Asiatic disease is free nitrous acid, the formation of which is rendered possible by the well-known action of bacilli transforming the nitrate of food into nitrate. The new knowledge," writes the professor in the article in which he announces his conclusions, "that cholera is nitrous acid

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.

Importance of Decision of Federal Judge in Indiana.

Wholesomeness in public life will be furthered by the decision of the federal court in the Indianapolis News case. The government was proposing to remove the owners of the News to Washington to stand trial for criticisms of Panama canal procedure. In his decision refusing the government's request Judge Anderson held that much latitude should be allowed in newspaper discussion of public questions and that the newspaper should not be compelled to defend itself at a distance from the place of publication.

Both points are reasonable and of prime importance to the public. Newspapers, of course, might readily enough refrain from discussing public questions or criticizing public officials—an outcome devoutly desired by seekers of special privileges. But the nation and every community in it is vitally interested in preserving the right of free discussion.

It would be possible for an unscrupulous administration to suppress criticism by forcing newspaper editors to go to trial in Washington for alleged libel, instead of at the place of publication. Such procedure would involve heavy expense to the newspaper concerned and might result in virtual immunity to the officials of the government.

Liberty of the press—an idea for which the founders of this government contended strenuously—has lost none of its importance in a country overrun by big interests asking for something for nothing.

THE TOQUE'S THE THING.

New York World. Farewell to the Merry Widow hat that stretched from shore to shore. Goodbye to the base peach basket hat. That looked like a grocery store. Profound tropics they've ceased to be. For the merry quip and cadence. And in place of their unbraced shapes is the twisted, turbaned toque.

The change Dame Fashion has decreed is hailed both near and far. As a boon to many especially him who rides in a bus or car. But what will the comic artist do when he feels inclined to pose. A little fun at woman's hat. And finds it is only a toque.

There's one best bet on this fashion thing. In the change that has taken place—A man won't have to stand on his head. To look at a woman's face. And he won't have to be a Sherlock Holmes. To know what it was that he saw. As she passed him minus her old disguise. Bedecked in a brimless toque.

But Hubby and Pa, where do they come in? Will they weep or smile or rejoice. When they note the price of the "sweet little thing." In the milliner's long invoice? Will they make their hearts or their pockets light. Or will they have to go 'brouque? In hats a penalty fit the crime? Will the bill shrink in size like the toque?

SAID IN FUN.

"I would like mighty to enjoy riches." "Then why don't you try to marry some?" "As I said, I want to enjoy 'em."—Kansas City Times.

"That parrot in the corner," remarked the dealer, "is almost human." "I'm sure he is," replied the customer. "It does a lot of talking without saying anything."—Chicago News.

"I wonder if there are any trees in the Arctic regions." "Of course not, silly. What kind of tree do you suppose would grow there?" "I thought there might be fir trees."—Baltimore American.

"What did people do before steel was invented?" asked the teacher. "The plinths of one groove were used to spread the plinths of another," answered the wise boy at the pedal extremity of the class.—Judge's Library.

"These jokes about going to sleep in church give me a pain." "Don't you ever sleep in church?" "Never!" "How do you keep awake?" "I never go to church, sir!"—Cleveland Leader.

"The multi-millionaire gets angry every time anybody applies to him for a little money." "It often happens that swollen fortunes are very sensitive to the touch."—Washington Star.

"My new hat is a dream," said the fashionable woman. "If you wouldn't walk in your sleep to do you shooing?" answered her husband.—Chicago Record-Herald.

"And what," asked the anxious parent, "would you advise in my daughter's case?" "She must stop all piano practices at once," said the physician firmly. "This seems a strange cure for a cold but it must be remembered that the doctor lived in the next flat."—Cleveland Leader.

"Why do you object so seriously to 'snatched portraits of yourself'?" "Because," answered Senator Borah, "they violate all recognized rules of procedure. What right has any photographer to take a man's picture without giving him the customary ten minutes' grace to fix his necktie, brush his hair and arrange a pleasant smile?"—Washington Star.

"Don't trust that man. He can't be sure." "Why can't he?" "Because he's a rouser."—Baltimore American.

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OVERCOATS

While different every year, of course, the overcoats show a decided change for this season. They are cut to cling more closely to the neck, with longer and narrower lapels, and a decided concave in the shoulder.

They are much fuller in the chest and smaller over the hips. The old driving coat effect is done away with, and the much trimmer coat of today is the latest fashion, both in this country and in England.

In our experience of a great many years we have never seen better looking overcoats than those we have put on the backs of satisfied customers so far this season.

They fit perfectly and have a style that is all their own. Fall and winter weights, \$15 to \$45. The range of fabrics is unlimited, and we have half a dozen styles that are, we think, exceptionally attractive.

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