

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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State of Nebraska—Dodge County, ss: I, George B. Tschuck, treasurer of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following is a true and correct copy of the circulation of the Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of November, 1909, as follows:

1. Total number of copies printed during the month of November, 1909, was as follows:

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Reform in Trading.

The executive heads of two of the leading trading firms on the Chicago Board of Trade were punished by suspension from the Board of Trade for one day. Their crime was the alleged manipulation of prices to suit their own ends. On the same day an expelled member of the New York Stock exchange began suit against the president of the exchange for reinstatement, alleging that he had been expelled because of unfounded charges affecting his integrity as a member of the organization.

The significance of these two news items will be apparent when the details are examined into a little more closely. In the case of the grainmen it was established that they controlled the supply of oats for September and that through trading between themselves they succeeded in running the price up to a fictitious point, at which they undertook to compel the victims of their manipulations to settle. The stock broker was found guilty of giving information to a rival stock exchange. The public interest in this consists largely of a desire to know how much of the retribution visited upon these offenders is founded on a real desire to purify the operations of the great trading boards involved, and how much is due merely to an effort on the part of the "squeezers" to get even with the "squeezed."

The great outcry of the public against the various trading exchanges of the world has been because of the well-established fact that prices have been manipulated and juggled for the benefit of shrewd and daring speculators who have found themselves temporarily in control. By these operations millions have been wrung through advancing prices from the public and landed in private pockets. Events of this nature raised a public clamor not so very long ago so insistent that reform was promised. Men most interested in the business insist that here, as elsewhere, reform should come from within, and that it left to work out their destiny the boards of trade and stock exchanges would as far as possible eliminate speculative dealings. If the suspension of two of the most prominent grain dealers should have an evidence of the sincerity of the promise of reform. Under modern conditions the great markets of the world cannot be properly conducted without the centralization of control. But this great power must be administered with great wisdom and prudence in order that it may be a blessing and not a menace to the public welfare. Gambling in foodstuffs and other necessities of life cannot longer be tolerated.

Related Attacks on the Canal.

Now that we are beginning to perceive the end of the Panama achievement, it is rather wearisome to behold the muck-rakers' own magazines reviving attacks on the canal, in the absence of later topics. Some of them are renewing prophecies of earthquake that shall swallow up our millions, while others are harking back to the cry already repudiated by the experts, that the lock canal is doomed to failure and that it should have been engineered at sea level.

These attacks are very much belated. The nation is committed to the construction of the canal along the lines that are now being pushed to such satisfactory completion. As for the plea of Rear Admiral Evans, that the canal be made absolutely free of traffic charges to all the world, that is a matter which can be adjusted, if it shall be found necessary, after its successful operation is begun. The Suez canal exacts charges to this day which enable its operators to pay large dividends, and no plausible reason for our sacrificing the legitimate revenues of the waterway have as yet been advanced. Let us finish the canal with no more bickering, and then if our initial rates need readjustment, that can follow. Under the Hay-Pauncefote treaty the rates to all nations must be equitable, which is the main point.

Educating for Practical Life.

We have been hearing a good deal lately of the cry, "back to the farm," with very little definite suggestion as to what was to draw the youth to agriculture save the visible rewards of the career itself. Secretary Wilson has shown that the farmer has demonstrated his to be the most independent and one of the most profitable of occupations, but to be successful according to the modern standard, up-to-date methods must be employed.

It has remained for President Waters of the Kansas Agricultural college to point a possible way for the spread of the gospel of agriculture among the youthful masses. Agriculture in the rural schools be regarded as the next great educational problem. The question is immediately before us, how to shape instruction in the unorganized, isolated and poorly equipped school so that the pupils may not lose sight of the farm, its life, its problems, its beauties and its profits. And he considers that the hope of these schools and of our entire system of public education lies, not in the abandonment of the country schools, nor in the attempt to substitute something else for them, but rather in making them serve their constituency better. He would weave the courses around the knowledge of the common phenomena of the world. His first step, that of teaching home economics and agriculture in the country schools, with the option, also, of taking up manual training, is part of his general scheme for preparing the pupils for practical as well as intellectual life.

So that the balance should be maintained, he recommends that in city schools home economics and manual training be taught, with the option of agriculture. The teaching of vocational studies in the common schools is not entirely a new thought, but President Waters has given a new twist to the proposal, and it may be that he will prove to have evolved a basis for definite undertakings toward putting into practice some of the sermons we are hearing preached on every hand for the preparation of our coming generations for the utilitarian work of mankind.

Safety in Coal Mining.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure today just as much as it was at any former time in the world's history, and this applies with such force to mining operations, as well as to other industrial activities, that it would seem to need no argument. Secretary Ballinger is now urging that rescue stations be established by the United States government at points central to the various coal fields of the country so that trained experts may be hurried to the scene of any possible disaster. This is, perhaps, well in its way, but it would be far better if steps were taken to compel mine owners to adopt modern appliances that would as far as possible prevent accidents. The fact that death from mine accidents in the United States is three or more times greater than in any other civilized country is not at all to our credit. It has been pointed out in connection with the St. Paul mine at Cherry, Ill., that the expenditure of a few hundred dollars in equipment would have saved the lives of all the men who were sacrificed in that latest terrible disaster. John Mitchell proposes that mines be equipped in their underground workings with telephone systems, with water pipes and other easily arranged appliances that would enable imprisoned men to communicate with the surface and to maintain themselves pending the arrival of rescue parties. Other suggestions of a similar practical nature have been made by men familiar with underground operations of the coal industry. No drastic legislation should be required, nor any unreasonable burdens laid upon the mine owners, but the responsibility to care for the safety of the men who work in the mines should be forced home absolutely to the men who own the mines.

Penalty or Protection.

Is the culprit sent to prison to be punished, or to be reformed? Does society, when sequestering a convicted criminal, do so for the purpose of ridding itself of his presence, or to provide that at the end of a reasonable time he shall be returned a useful member and not a perambulating threat? Is the object of the law to protect society by punishing the criminal or to work a reformation in the ways of one whose moral obligations have rendered him temporarily, at least, an undesirable? These questions are suggested by the recurrence of the discussion as to the efficacy of laws providing for parole or indeterminate sentences, and for other means of ameliorating the condition of the convicted culprit. It is admitted that our system of penalty is not perfect. Civilization has gone faster, perhaps, in the development of man's intellectual than of his moral nature. But with the extension in mental horizon has come a change in the attitude of society towards offenders against its established canons. Punishment is seldom, if ever, inflicted any more for purposes of vengeance, and only for the most aggravated of crimes is the extreme penalty exacted.

The humane theory on which the law is today administered is that in all natures some good exists, and, if given an opportunity, it will develop to a point where the apparent criminal may be made an honest and upright citizen. Just when this point is attained is not to be determined by a hard and fast rule. For this reason many efforts at reformation have proven apparent disappointments, yet the advocates of the doctrine that the law is administered not to punish, but to protect, to aid the offender rather than to visit on him the resentment of society, find encouragement in the fact that the list of second and third offenders and habitual criminals is growing constantly smaller. The impulses of the normal man or woman are for good, and if given proper encouragement the bent of the individual will be directed along the right lines.

Unselfishness in Public Office.

Some people believe in carrying the Christmas spirit into the conduct of real life throughout the year, and something of that nature may be credited as animating the health commissioner of Chicago, who has asked that his salary be cut 10 per cent so that the pay of his subordinates may be increased without seriously taxing the public. Such an attitude toward office-holding, makes the professional politician gasp, for it is a characteristic of no race or time to regard public office as a private gain. Indeed, the commissioner was immediately made the butt of jest and ridicule, which is an unworthy way of receiving a serious and well intentioned proposal. It is to be hoped that the city of Chicago will have the good sense and spirit to grant the health chief's request. It would be a mistake to interpret his suggestion merely as a bid for his helpers. If the city will accept the doctor's magnanimous offer, the jesters will be silenced, and the

Our National Song.

Much criticism of popular ignorance has been expressed of late because so many people unconsciously rise when they hear "America" played, and Britishers present have smiled at the tribute to the English air of "God Save the King," to which "My Country" is sung. It is only in recent years that the American has acquired the habit of standing out of respect for the national song, and there has been as yet, no definite agreement as to what that national song is. Every effort has been made to crystallize sentiment on "The Star-Spangled Banner," which is distinctly American in authorship, sentiment and atmosphere; it commemorates a definite and characteristic incident, and appeals throughout to patriotism. But while it is as spirited as one may wish when played by a brass band, still it is almost impossible to render it in song, especially when attempted by a mixed and untrained chorus. A voting contest just concluded under the auspices of the division of music of the library of congress, directed by Chief Sonneke, gives precedence to "Dixie" over "The Star-Spangled Banner," "Yankee Doodle" and "America." "Dixie" is a catchy and infectious tune, and when played by the orchestra or bands of the great resorts where people of all sections gather, it never fails of enthusiastic reception. But the same holds true of "Maryland, My Maryland," another dashing and fiery air that is alive with the martial spirit. Probably no one would deny either of these tunes because of its sectional origin, for the days of such sectionalism are past. But with all their merits they lack the grandeur and nobility that characterize the robust production of Francis Scott Key, and in spite of the triumph of "Dixie" in the voting contest, which at its best is an unsatisfactory test, "The Star-Spangled Banner" will hold its place as appealing to all the American people with force and exultant patriotism more thoroughly than any of its existing competitors.

Control of Wireless.

There appears to be good reason for the measure now before congress for the establishment of a wireless telegraph board whose duty it shall be to control the electric currents of the air, for, according to the evidence presented in connection with the resolution, the wireless service of both commerce and of the navy has at times been rendered useless by the interference of conscientious amateurs. One of the immediate results made necessary by the activities of irresponsible operators is the abandonment of the famous "C-Q-D" distress signal; and the development of the wireless as a toy has resulted in the sending broadcast of vile messages. Wireless telegraphy has become such an important institution that it is essential for the government to check the abuses that are already growing up to its discredit and to the destruction of its utility. If relief can be given by the establishing of an expert board with control of all mediums of wireless interchange, that would be a simple expedient. But if more drastic measures are necessary congress should not withhold its hand.

In spite of its enormously expensive filtration beds, Philadelphia finds its city water supply so vilely odorous that it cannot be used for drinking or cooking purposes, and is even offensive for bathing. The muckrakers will charge that it is the natural result of municipal corruption, but the matter has passed the joking stage, for the households are seriously confronted with a famine of potable water and the owners of springs and distilling outfits are reaping a harvest. It begins to look as though the city would have to follow the example of New York and build costly aqueducts into remote sources of supply instead of pumping from nearby rivers that, with the concentration of population, have become open sewers. Philadelphia's plight emphasizes the fact that water is the prime essential of all comfortable living, and that no precaution should be omitted to make its supply wholesome and safe.

We must not imagine that other countries are not up to snuff. London has a governmental school of instruction in the gentle art of being a colonist, which has elicited the admiration of visiting cowboys from the United States. There the English lad is taught how to rough it in the Australian bush and on the Canadian ranch, and the government's graduates are found to be fitter for the ordeal of emigration to the rough places of earth than are many of the boastful youth of our own land.

It is now in order to begin to charge the home storage batteries with a full quantity and prime quality of patience, for the census man is getting ready to come around with Uncle Sam's imperious questions. It will be harder to look pleasant than over the reception of those Christmas gifts that you didn't want, but more compulsory, for there are legal penalties attached. And remember that the census taker has the troubles of everyone in your block, while you have only your own. The moral hazard of the protective tariff is just now receiving a great deal of attention. It is hardly likely that smuggling operations are more extensive at present than formerly, but the reason for the apparent increase being the unusual efforts of the customs officials to detect and run down evaders of import duties. With the more energetic enforcement of the law is certain to come a greater respect for the law, and out of the activity of the customs officials will grow a condition where smuggling will become a lost art in the United States. Uncle Sam proposes now to insist on rigid honesty in the dealings between his nephews and nieces. The United States Steel corporation's offer to allow its employees to subscribe for a specified amount of its preferred stock, at the highest price that stock ever attained, is a doubtful privilege. The workmen employed by the company would, perhaps, enjoy some concessions of a more definite character. Profit-sharing is an excellent means for settling differences between labor and capital when it is placed on an equitable basis, but when it involves the venturing of the workman's hardy earned savings through investment in stock at a price never attained on the open market it loses much of its attractiveness. A good deal of prominence has been given to the fact that the ships bore a multitude of gifts from America to other lands, but it should be remembered that the joys over seas are only a fragment to the myriad happinesses borne to every part of our own land through the medium of the mails. The carriers staggering under their constant burden during the holiday weeks were a visible attestation of the national habit of gift-sending to distant friends. Santa Claus in the domestic mails is a vastly more prodigious personage than St. Nicholas across the seas. Why This Silence? Kansas City Times. "I told you so" is the purport of Commander Peary's comment on the Cook verdict. If this is true, why didn't he say so someone would hear him? Why didn't he mention the matter to the reporters? Stuffing Bill. Indianapolis News. Some additional economy might be effected in the government print shop if some way could be devised to prevent congressmen from introducing bills which they as well as every body else know will never get farther than the committee they are referred to. Surprising Railroad Mystery. New York World. A Nebraska man has figured out that it costs him \$2.50, less 25 per cent, to send a pony 30 miles by express, while a sack of the same weight can travel in comfort for \$19.50, less 25 per cent. The mystery of freight classification has ever been beyond the ordinary human intellect. An Overworked Industry. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. The five republics of Central America have an area of 176,000 square miles, a population of 3,000,000 and a coast line on the Atlantic and Pacific of 2,000 miles. But as long as their chief industry is revolution they will be a burden to themselves and a menace to other countries. Heroes of Civil Life. New York Tribune. That is a fine showing of practical and efficient heroism which is made in the report of the life saving service, telling of 1,778 marine disasters, imperiling the lives of 8,500 persons, with only thirty lives actually lost, and also of property worth \$13,316,815 saved. Of the exertions, perils and self-sacrifice of those who did the work no report could adequately tell. Bound for the Subcellar. Philadelphia Record. The immigration commission sent forth by congress has been hauling up and chewing over the results of scientific investigations of racial development and changes for the last hundred years and more. Then the commission has suddenly, and in many respects falsely, applied their results to the immigrants to the United States. The worst of it is that all of this stuff will be accumulated in several volumes by the public printer and then consigned to the subcellar of the national capital with the rest of the pile of waste paper. PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. It was the Danes, not Homer, who smote the blooming liar. Billing Christmas on a Saturday lends an aspect of delicious repose to the day after. The Hon. Knud Rasmussen has another guess coming. And there are a host of others. The sweet tooth of the Eskimos is in no danger of decay from excessive chewing of gumdrops. A St. Louis seer boldly declares that there will be no lawyers in heavens. That is to say, no St. Louis lawyers. The late Mr. Leopold of Belgium affected the beard of a patriarch, but it was not esteemed a serene sign in Paris or elsewhere. Dr. Cook "told it to the Danes" all right. And the Danes didn't do a thing to him, which shows the danger of responding to an encore. The marked activities of Americans in the Medicine Hat region of Canada may explain the premature scattering of frost in the adjacent territory. Enterprising brokers, appreciating the American hunger for pie, propose to register the foreign built confections and import them under the law admitting ancient works of art duty free. As it appears now the difference between Peary's and Cook's literary efforts is the difference between history and fiction. In popular estimation fiction beats history a mile. The social attitude of New York swells, as revealed in divorce courts, is measurable by the number of highballs and cocktails disposed of in a given day. Four cocktails in the morning are esteemed a fashionable eye-opener. The Milk trust of New York City, feeling annoyed by inquisitive state officials, cut short its acquaintance by moving into New Jersey. From the off side of the river the trust can milk the town in more artistic fashion. "Eskimos fields of purple snow," wrote Dr. Cook in describing the pole. "No life, no land, no spot to relieve the monotony of frosts." A slight change in the color scheme of the snows and the picture presents with photographic accuracy the doctor's present situation. Thomas V. Cooper, a state senator of Pennsylvania, met death as tragically as Congressman De Armond of Missouri. A nap on a couch, a lighted cigar, and inflammable draperies constituted his funeral pyre. Mr. Cooper was a civil war veteran, a newspaper man, and a stalwart pugnae politician.

commissoner's public-spirited stand will have the widespread good effect to which such generosity is entitled.

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