

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

Entered at Omaha postoffice as second-class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Bee (including Sunday), per week \$1.00.

Evening Bee (without Sunday) per week 50c.

Address all complaints of irregularities in delivery to City Circulation Department.

OFFICES. Omaha—The Bee Building, South Omaha—Twenty-fourth and N.

Washington—Fourteenth Street, N. W.

Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed: Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

REMITTANCES. Remit by draft, express or postal order payable to The Bee Publishing Company.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: George E. Tschetter, Treasurer of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full copies of the Omaha Daily Bee published during the month of November, 1909, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Circulation category, Number of copies, Total. Includes categories like 'Total', 'Net Total', 'Loss Average', etc.

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

Get ready to strike out one of the 98.

Cook's Wake is a vanishing trail; sufficiency.

Madrix starts in like a new broom with vacuum attachment.

Loose ends appear to be as troublesome in an airship as in affairs mundane.

Kansas is to have its first twelve-story building; the bleeding Sunflower state is looking up.

The whole country seems to be getting the kind of winter that grandfather used to tell about.

The cruiser Prairie, which came to a full stop in the Delaware, is content with a Colon in other waters.

A famous violinist has won a bride in three days. She probably could not resist the idea of always having a bow in the house.

Russia's rejection of the proposed battleship budget may have been inspired by recollections of how useless the old ones were.

The shipwrecked suffragette who was hauled ashore by the buoy came to the breeches at last. Perseverance conquers all things.

The widow of Frank Preston, the novelist, is to wed Frank Preston, a business man. The bride evidently has charmingly frank ways.

Gifford Pinchot was unable to reach New Rochelle from New York on account of the snow, and it's only "forty-five minutes from Broadway."

While Halley's comet will get here first, the stars of Arizona and New Mexico are traveling swiftly in their orbits toward a place in the flag.

If there is any coal man who has taken a page out of the sugar ring's book on how to run down the scales it is not too late for him to turn over a new leaf.

Can we believe that story about an alarm clock going off at the wrong time and saving a family from asphyxiation? Who ever let an alarm clock arouse him.

The president may define whisky absolutely, that the purchasing public may be able to know exactly what it is buying, but the bartender will still respond to the request, "The same, please."

The esteemed Lincoln Star is finding it difficult to keep its politics, or anything else, on straight these gladstone holiday times. About the only consistent thing the Star does is to persist in its abuse of Omaha.

May there not be danger in introducing the puckerless persimmon to the Southland? What if there should follow the fatless 'possum, the sugarless sweet-potato pie, and the flourless bean biscuit? This loosening of the 'case can be carried a bit too far.

It is only natural that the World-Herald should seek to make political capital out of the punishment by the supreme court of a contumacious attorney because the offender happened to be a democrat. Not only is everything a grist that comes to the World-Herald's mill, but it doesn't take much to start it grinding.

Reform in Postal Finances.

Mr. Hitchcock is following in the footsteps of his predecessors as postmaster general in putting upon second class matter the lion's share of the blame for the enormous deficit in his department. Without manifesting a disposition to shirk any of his responsibility toward this indispensable branch of the government service, the newspaper press of the country owes it to itself to make the public acquainted with some facts not visualized by the annual postal report.

Mr. Hitchcock calculates that the daily newspapers cost his department nearly 2 cents a pound to handle and transport, while the rate of postage paid upon them is 1 cent a pound. Incidentally bearing in mind that the publishers of newspapers themselves provide for the sorting, assembling and routing of this mail, and deliver it to the department in sacks ready for shipment, in many cases putting the sacks on the trains at the stations, it must be apparent that little of the expense of handling this class of mail is borne by the government except the actual transportation over the rails. The rate paid by the newspapers to the government is 1 cent a pound, and the express companies stand ready to take over this entire business at the same rate and make money on it. Mr. Hitchcock estimates the average cost to the government of handling and transporting the entire second class matter at more than 9 cents a pound, yet the express companies would add to their dividends by handling it at a rate approximating the 1 cent now collected by the government at such an apparent loss.

Railroads haul freight for eight-tenths of a cent per ton per mile, at a profit; they haul express cars free of charge, and pay the Pullman companies for the privilege of hauling parlor and sleeping cars. Yet they charge the government as much rental per year for postal cars as the original cost of the cars, and they draw from the postal department a greater revenue per pound for carrying second class mail than the government gets out of its postage. Manifestly there is a discrepancy somewhere; and before any attempt is made to charge higher rates upon any class of mail matter it would be well for congress to investigate thoroughly the whole subject of what the railroads are getting out of the postal service. This is the day of governmental adjustment of unfair discrimination of rates, and the place to begin would seem to be at home. For the rates of postal transportation have not been revised in many years, and now is the time for discovery of how great an excess of profit the railroads are exacting from the public mail service. Proper remedy effectually applied along this line would wipe out a large part of the existing deficit, if not eradicating it utterly.

As regards the franking privilege, that is entirely within the control of congress, which ought to use sufficient judgment to reduce the free service to the necessary minimum. In the matter of rural free delivery, that is a national blessing that is worth all that it costs, and more.

Fairness to Business.

President Taft's decision in the vexatious whisky controversy has a wider bearing than the mere interpretation of the pure food law as applied to the distilling interests, for it is a characteristic expression of his attitude toward the country's industries at large, and as such it will be found that he manifests the utmost fairness and justice toward all.

To a subject on which such variant expert opinion had been pronounced, Mr. Taft brought his judicial discernment and experience, and the result is a broad-minded view, logically and convincingly stated. The president finds that the evidence of square competition in the trade for a century past has been in favor of such a definition of whisky as he now renders, and he only requires of the makers that they shall label their products in accordance with the facts of manufacture.

The President and the Corporations.

Nothing official has come from the White House concerning the president's attitude toward additional legislation to regulate corporations since his message to congress on December 7, in which he said: "The jurisdiction of the general government over interstate commerce has led to the passage of the so-called, 'Sherman anti-trust law,' and the 'interstate commerce law' and its amendments. The development in the operation of those laws, as shown by indictments, trials, judicial decisions and other sources of information, calls for a discussion and some suggestions as to amendments. These I prefer to embody in a special message instead of including them in the present communication, and I shall avail myself of the first convenient opportunity to bring these subjects to the attention of congress."

While it has since been supposed that the president might possibly defer his recommendations concerning the Sherman law pending the final decision of the supreme court in the Standard Oil case, still it has been surmised that sundry other proposals, including a federal incorporation act, would be brought to the attention of congress early in the current session.

Now, however, it appears that some lawmakers at Washington are advising the executive to hold back all mes-

sages referring to corporation matters, for political reasons. To this there can be of course but the one answer, that the president is not a politician, nor does his oath of office require him to further the fortunes or suit the convenience of any political party or individual clique. He was elected as the executive of the whole people, regardless of partisanship, and as such he will unquestionably fulfill public interests by making to congress such recommendations as he deems the situation warrants. It is not for congress to advise him, but for him to advise congress; and when he has fearlessly done so, it will be up to the members of the national legislature to show where they stand on his proposals.

An American Interpreter.

In the death of Frederic Remington the country loses one of its most faithful interpreters of its native characteristics, for the Remington types were an international currency of American mintage. His stories of western life were the voice of experience and added the latest touch of conditions on the plains and in the hills to Mark Twain's "Roughing It" and Roosevelt's outdoor narratives.

But it was by his cowboy and Indian pictures that he will be best remembered, for it was these which gained the widest circulation, at home and abroad, depicting as they did with infinite fidelity and felicity, the actual scenes of American frontier and ranch conditions, so rapidly vanished. His redskins, his plainsmen, his horses, afford a faithful panorama in graphic outline and vivid color of the vigorous and full-blooded west ere the big cities crowded into the new country and the telephone and automobile covered the land.

The Cuban war afforded him scope in another field, giving the world his famous statues of "The Broncho Buster" and "The Wounded Buffalo," either of which would have made him a celebrity; but beside his later work his early pictures recording the retreat of the old conditions before the civilization of today, stand unrivaled.

The Garbage Question.

The city council should be very careful in dealing with the garbage question. At best, any ordinance it may adopt or any contract it may enter into will be merely a temporary expedient. The experience of Omaha with the garbage question from the beginning until the present has been most unfortunate. One experiment after another has followed in futile effort to discover some plan whereby household refuse may be gathered and disposed of without placing the charge directly on the city government. Ordinance after ordinance has been enacted, contract after contract entered into, suit after suit pushed through the courts, and always has the question come around to the starting point. Nothing has been discovered that will relieve the city of the responsibility or the householder of the inconvenience that grows out of any attempt that has been made to substitute for the natural plan some makeshift method of collecting and disposing of garbage. Until the matter is taken over by the city and properly controlled under supervision of the health department the question will be open always for discussion and the annoyances and inconveniences will continue.

The ordinance at present before the council is, perhaps, the best that can be had in the present emergency, but it does not meet the requirements of the situation. Its adoption may relieve existing conditions, but it is only a matter of time when something will arise which will overturn the new plan and make it necessary to adopt another. For this reason steps should be taken to the end that before this disturbance arises plans will have been matured for placing the entire garbage question beyond the realm of uncertainty. This can only be done by putting it entirely upon the city government.

Those who shake their heads sagely at Russia, Mexico and other "banighted and barbarous" lands may have overlooked the fact that it was in the United States of America and within the borders of the state sometimes called "The Mother of Presidents," that a mob lynched a man on merry Christmas eve. This was a fitting event to crown an unprecedented season of these violent interferences with the law, despite the incarceration of a sheriff at the instance of the supreme court, for permitting a prisoner to be taken from him, a lesson that appears to have passed unheeded. Wholesale respect for the law and obedience thereto is absolutely necessary if this government is to become a model for the nations.

The Lincoln Traction company is doing much to prevent stagnation in the public mind at the capital city. It may not be fulfilling its perfect mission, but the small service it affords as a topic for calorific discussion in the cold weather should certainly commend it to the people suffering through its shortcomings.

Republics in Iowa are getting closer together because they have discovered that the result of their internal division is the election of demagogues to office by republican votes. The same thing is true in Nebraska, and the lesson of the present state administration is one that should be always in mind.

A Saskatchewan farmer dropped into an American city a few days ago with \$100,000 in his jeans. When he left for home he still had his jeans, but in all other respects the annexation

of Canada as impersonated by the Saskatchewan representative was well under way.

Now that the Chinese and Japanese have discovered the possibilities of American foot ball, why not begeth the old rules to them and let them fight out the game for ultimate extinction, in Kilkenny cat style?

Is Another Apology Coming?

St. Louis Times. I. J. Dunn, who nominated W. J. Bryan at the last democratic national convention, has apologized, but it was for contempt of court and not for the nomination.

The Poor Thing!

Wall Street Journal. Standard Oil is so touchy! Will it never get over the kicking habit? Tax assessor at Bayonne, N. J., thinks the refining plant there is worth \$10,000,000, and a few odd dollars, while the trust says this is only \$2,500,000 too much. Frivolous.

Surgeons in Action.

Philadelphia Record. We may be thankful that it was our surgeons and not our marines who were called into action at Bluefields. Our war vessels arrived in Nicaraguan waters in time to give surgical aid to the wounded followers of Zelaya and Estrada, respectively.

Consider the Picture.

San Francisco Chronicle. Colonel Roosevelt, having been elected to associate membership in the French Academy of Moral and Political Sciences, will be entitled, when delivering lectures at the Sorbonne, to wear the plumed hat of an academician, a pearl-handled sword and a suit embroidered with green palms. The reader can finish the picture.

More Action Needed.

Cincinnati Enquirer. Despite the movement well under way from the cities to the farms, and the additional farm production resulting therefrom, despite the thousands of immigrants who have gone upon the lands to add their tribute of results to our aggregate of farm products, it is very evident that the country and the world require greater harvests than ever have been gathered in order to give food at reasonable prices to the constantly increasing population.

Our Latest Dreadnought.

Boston Transcript. With the launching of the Utah we have another dreadnought, a fact that should make those who have been reading alarmist literature and dreaming of invasion sleep a little more comfortably at night. When the Utah's sister ship, the Florida, goes into the water, the list of states available for naming vessels of this class will be pretty near exhausted. It is proposed to make room for Texas by changing the old Texas to the Dalais. The paint brush has made changes in the names of the states controlled by that language for a few states to be named in a battleship nomenclature.

THE RIGHT TO DRINK.

Some Remarks on Bryan's Projected Booseless Campaign. Brooklyn Eagle. Some details remain to be arranged, but otherwise the program for 1912 is settled as to essentials. This, with one exception. It is not yet known whether the prohibition convention will, as it were, take the wind out of the campaign by nominating Mr. Bryan first. An easy way out of the difficulty would be for the two conventions to be called to order at the same time and to keep in touch with each other, so that action would be simultaneous, to the preservation of the dignity of both.

Meanwhile, Mr. Bryan is banding the middle of the prohibition question. He wants to know whether personal liberty means that a person has a right to drink in any quantity, at any time, and in any place, to which question many answers have already been received, none of them conclusive. It has been said there was a man who could drink hantle, which is not forbidden by any law, organic or otherwise. And having accomplished this feat, his right to ask the way to the nearest saloon would hardly be disputed, but that is carrying personal liberty to excess.

Testimony from such a source would be inadmissible, if not incompetent. On the other hand, those who are extremists, who, being compelled to choose between carbolic acid and a dry Martini, would take the poison. Their evidence should also be excluded on the ground of prejudice, but fortunately there are plenty of other witnesses. And pending the settlement of this controversy, the unsolved problem, why a man who spins, might also reel a little of the attention its importance demands.

WHEN EVERYBODY IS NICE.

Cheery Influence of the Season on All Classes. San Francisco Chronicle. Has the observant reader taken note of the increase of politeness, of thoughtful attention, of the display of affection which the present month has ushered in? Why is it? Why is it that the bootblack says "good morning to me?" Why is it that the milkman is lavish with his cream? Why is it that the janitor turns on enough of steam? Why? Because Christmas is coming. Christmas, which means many things and works many marvels. As the days which intervene take their place one by one in the records of the past the small boy dies more and more promptly in the morning and is more polite at the table; the small girl busies herself about the house, helping mother, and plants kisses of unusual warmth on father's mouth when he comes back from the office.

OURS A POOR BOY'S COUNTRY.

Senator Dolliver's Conclusion and the Reason for It. Washington Post. Senator Dolliver has a mental reservation of large area as to ours being a poor man's government, but he says unqualifiedly that this is a poor boy's country. He pities the boy born rich. The reason the boy born with a silver spoon in his mouth has no chance in the struggle against the raggedly kid in that he begins too late; he never makes a start until he has to do something, and then it is too late; on the contrary, the poor boy has to hustle from the first from the time he is old enough to talk. His educational advantages are limited, but when he picks up in the school of practical knowledge is a better foundation for the employments and ambitions of his later years than that the pampered young derives from dawdling through college and sowing wild oats. Americans have not, up to this time, shown that they possess the power or gift to such a degree as foreigners, and only the French, in handing down from father to son the solid virtues as well as the higher mental processes that make for a successful career. Until this quality of heredity is attained, ours will continue to be a poor boy's country, and the rich boy an object of sympathy.

Our government cannot be called the poor man's government, observes Senator Dolliver, until some important questions are settled right. These should be taken up at once, and some legislative action determined upon and carried out. The rank politician have of stirring clear of problems of great moment was sharply commented on by Mr. Dolliver. Their solution probably would have to wait until the men and women of the country "reach that stage where they will have that insight into public questions so that they are able to prosecute the frauds that are practiced upon them." This time is near at hand—the day when it would not be a question of law or public policy, but whether a man can steal with impunity and immunity.

Senator Dolliver did not trace the other career of the poor boy, but left his hearers to infer that he never in his life became a trust promoter, a corporation lawyer, a great lawmaker, or the multimillionaire head of an oppressive monopoly in restraint of trade. A study of the careers of these capitalists of industry and of the rank politician would throw light on this interesting point, but, of course, there are exceptions to every general rule, and the exploitation of these exceptions would not swerve Senator Dolliver's opinion that this is a poor boy's country, whatever it may lack as the poor man's government.

Army Gossip

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

The quartermaster general of the army is receiving a constantly increasing number of applications for furnishing headstones for unmarked graves of soldiers, sailors and marines in the government cemeteries. The allotment by congress for this purpose for the last fiscal year amounted to \$60,000 and that for the present fiscal year is \$60,000. The increase of \$15,000 was found necessary in order to meet the demand for these headstones, due to the constantly increasing mortality among the veterans of civil and Spanish-American wars.

The recent hearing before the house military committee of the quartermaster general of the army was enlivened by a "dislosure" made by Representative Anthony of Kansas that the quartermaster's department had purchased 10,000 tons of hay for use in the Philippine islands at a cost of \$2 a ton, which, if the correct freight rate in the same place, could have been obtained for \$2 a ton, a transaction representing, according to his estimate, a loss of \$100,000. General Aleshire was able to promptly furnish the official statistics which showed that Mr. Anthony did not take into consideration the correct freight rate and a few other necessary details, all of which were so much in favor of the action taken by the quartermaster general's office in this matter that the net saving in favor of the hay bought in Seattle as against that not bought in Kansas amounted to \$22,500 on the 10,000 tons of hay.

The good people of Franklin, Tenn., propose to get all that is coming to them from the Navy department, provided it entails no draft upon the municipal treasury or scars the community by any spectacle of art unusual in the neighborhood expression of it. All of which is set forth in the following communication forwarded this week to the Navy department from the Puget Sound Navy yard:

FRANKLIN, TENN., Nov. 19, 1909.—Commandant, Navy Yard, Bremerton, Wash.: Dear Sir—We have received your favor of October 15 and in reply to inform you that we have never made any request for the loan of the Figure Head of the USS Tennessee, as we used in the funds appropriated for the purpose of paying freight on the same, we simply retained it. However, if the said figure head is that of a beautiful woman, we will be glad care of her if she is sent free of charge. But if it is a man, like a man, a maid or a sea serpent, we don't want her at all. Trusting this meets with your approval, I am yours, truly, E. M. PERKINS, Mayor.

Very little progress has been made by the quartermaster general's office in its investigation of the adaptability of aluminum to the use of china tableware for the army. It was suggested some time ago that a material saving could be made in the weight of such articles as are included in this class of military supply by the adoption of aluminum ware. A company in Pennsylvania, which manufactures aluminum articles, was, last August, asked to give some information on the practical and economical qualities of aluminum used in this way, together with prices. No report has come from the firm. The information possessed by the military authorities is to the effect that, while aluminum is extensively used by the general public, it has not been used to any extent for tableware. There is no question that it would be saving in weight to use aluminum tableware, but the cost may be prohibitive.

The suggestion has been made, notably by the major general of the army, and by Colonel G. P. Chase, inspector general of the Department of the Lakes, in favor of the War department taking advantage of an old law which provided the premium of \$2 to be paid any citizen, noncommissioned officer, or soldier for each accepted recruit he may bring to a recruiting rendezvous. It is imagined that this would have the effect of stimulating recruiting. This proposition was taken up a year or more ago by the military authorities in Washington and was thrown aside because it was determined that the premium would have no effect as increasing recruitment. It would simply add to the expense of recruiting, since it is safe to say that every recruit accepted would call for the payment of a premium, and the opportunity for irregularity would be in a measure equal beyond control. Recruiting for the army and navy is less productive in prosperous times than when there is less demand for labor. This is a condition which must be expected and is one not likely to be overcome by the payment of a premium.

Chivalry Blooms Gaily. Chicago Tribune. Who says that valor is dead? Who maintains that the days of chivalry are no more; that knights no longer live who pin their ladies' kerchiefs on their breasts and go forth to face dragons or the caltiff foe? If such there be, let them consider Slatter of Virginia, Christian name and postoffice unknown. He offers to marry Currier Nation. All other valiant deeds sink into insignificance beside this deed. Even the great faunal naturalist now tearing Naurobian lions limb from limb and eating them raw appears like an arrant coward compared with Slatter of Virginia.

THE OLDEST NATIONAL BANK IN NEBRASKA. Established in 1857 as Kountze Bros. Nationalized in 1863, Charter No. 209. One of the Safest Forms of Investment is a 3% Certificate of Deposit In This Bank, Which Has Over \$12,000,000 of Assets.

PERSONAL NOTES. Do not talk of a "dash to the South Pole." It is the alleged dash to the North Pole that is now being "dashed" all over the civilized world. Should Richard Parr recover a whole million dollars for his work in revealing the sugar frauds it may be that much harder for him to realize that virtue is its own reward. Jacob Vinegar, 22 years old, of New York City, found a girl willing to change her name for his, and accordingly he has taken out a marriage license. Her name is Gertrude Yankieliewics.

NEARING THE CLOSE. S. E. Kiser in the Record-Herald. The year is drawing to close. What of the many hopes you had? The plans you fashioned—what of those? Have you achieved one splendid thing since this eventful year began? Or are you merely dallying. The servant of some other man? A year ago you started out. Intending to deserve success. Have you succeeded in your work? Or are you one of those who sigh because their hopes have come to naught. Because they lacked the will to try? For prizes which their rivals got? The year is drawing to a close. What honors has it brought to you? Do you loom, as the old year goes. Among the envied, lucky few? What of the promises you made? Have you with manly courage won? Where others paused and were afraid? The way which we have come is strewn with wrecks where hopes were lost, alas! Beyond us lies a line that soon we shall cut, and upon it pass! The year is drawing to a close. Obey to nature's law; There's no use trying, I suppose. We'll simply have to let it draw.

Carrie ("Carrie Marry Harry") sung by Billy Murray. Victor Record 5758. One of the big hits of the season—a refreshing novelty amid the flood of commonplace songs now being turned out. The patter effects in the chorus are novel and striking—and sung as only Murray can sing them. This original song was written by Junie McCree and Albert Von Tilzer, and is published by The York Music Co. Out today with the January list of new Victor Records. Hear this record at any Victor dealer's, and ask him for a January supplement which gives a detailed description of each record. He will gladly play any Victor Records you want to hear, and demonstrate to you the wonderful advance in quality of tone due to our improved process of making records. And be sure to hear the Victrola (Victor Talking Machine Co., Camden, N.J.) to get best results, use only Victor needles on Victor Records. CARBON COAL, \$6.50 PER TON. It is excellent for cooking and heating—clean, quick and lasting. We have sold coal in Omaha twenty-five years, and we know this to be the BEST COAL ever offered here for the price. We also sell Ohio, Rock Springs, Hanna, Cherokee, Walnut Block, Coke, Wood, Kindling and Steam Coal. OUR HARD COAL is the D. L. & W. SCRANTON—the best coal mined. Also sell Arkansas Anthracite and Semi-Anthracite. 1408 FARNAM ST. Tel. Douglas 233. Ind. A-3530