

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss. George B. Tschuck, treasurer of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily Morning Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of December, 1909, was as follows:

1. Total number of copies printed 46,520

2. Total number of copies distributed 42,930

3. Total number of copies not distributed 3,590

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Honesty in Public Service.

Official announcement that Governor Hughes of New York positively will not accept a renomination, but has decided to return to private life and his law practice to recoup his personal fortunes, affords a striking reminder of the fact that under the American system of government honesty and fearlessness in public service are often their own and sole reward. It transpires that Mr. Hughes has spent each year not only his official salary, but also as much from his private funds in addition, in maintaining the executive mansion along lines commensurate with the dignity of his position. Not being a wealthy man, he naturally desires to make provision for his family during the short remaining term when his earning capacity is at its height. Personal necessities, therefore, take from the public service a man in whom the people have such confidence that without regard to political faith they desire to see him continue in office.

Such cases as that of Mr. Hughes illuminate the administration of affairs in this country against the occasional charge that public office is a private graft. Governor Hughes has been in the east what Governor Johnson was in the west, a type of sterling, though rugged, honesty, whose personal example in sacrificing some of the best of his years and energies to the people's cause cannot but stimulate the faith of the older generations and the ambition of the younger in the progress and permanency of the republican form of government in this union of states.

The Mother Country.

Commercial development of our country has had much to do with the lessening, if not the elimination, of old hostilities. A generation or two back every American schoolboy studying history felt it a part of his nature to voice a violent dislike against Great Britain, an attitude in which his elders rather encouraged him. But of late years so general has become the understanding of international trade relations that a more liberal national spirit toward our mother country has been defined, and without developing any antagonistic political alliance we have cemented relations along interdependent business lines that have enabled us to strengthen our position before the world.

This is manifested in a timely way by President Taft in his interpretation of his latest tariff order. The United Kingdom is shown to be by far our best market, and continuation of such satisfactory conditions is to be commended on both sides of the water, from selfishly economic motives. Britain needs our products, and we are glad of her custom. This commercial prestige gives us a peculiarly advantageous leverage in treating with France, Canada and Germany, but even without considering them we have in the case of the mother country a substantial basis for additional prosperity through the strengthening of the ties of kinship across the sea.

Aviators in Wall Street.

Recent events among some of the high-flying experimenters in the stock exchange, resulting, as in the case of the aviators at large, in some breakage through defects in the motive power or weaknesses of construction, suggest that the board of governors has not been thorough enough in its investigations or firm enough in its punishments to instill among its less responsible members proper respect for the rights of the general investors in securities.

Immediately after the suspension of offenders in the case of the Rock Island flurry they were reported as continuing their activities through reputable brokers, and then came the Columbus and Hocking break. Both of these instances were due to professional manipulation, based on no substantial foundation, and they certainly added nothing to public confidence in Wall street methods. Such unwarranted juggling calls for stricter action than the governors have thus far taken, or they may be confronted by federal investigation such as recently resulted in strong denunciation from Washington concerning the methods of dealing in cotton futures. Manifestation of a desire thoroughly to purge itself from undesirables would not be amiss on the part of the New York Stock exchange.

South American Possibilities.

While the revolution in Uruguay may turn out to be purely a local affair, still the peculiar situation of this, the smallest of the South American republics, makes plausible the report that Argentina is fostering the insurrection. Uruguay has given the southern continent as much trouble as some of the lesser countries of Central America have given the United States and Mexico, and she has been for nearly three centuries a shuttlecock between the interests now represented under the respective governments of Brazil and Argentina. With Argentina's rapidly growing importance in the international commercial world, she is naturally covetous of her little neighbor's territory across the bay, with its vast grazing area for the herds she desires to send to European markets and with her shipping front along the Rio de la Plata.

Brazil, a country which territorially rivals the United States in size, will hardly rest under any attempt to strengthen the vigor of Argentina, her progressive rival for the domination of South America, but it is certain that if Argentina can utilize the present rebellion to add Uruguay to her domain she will do it. For Argentina to

possess the port of Montevideo as well as Buenos Ayres would give her absolute command of a harbor that would rival that of Rio de Janeiro, and for Brazil to step in and control Montevideo would place Buenos Ayres at a tremendous disadvantage. It will be singular if the Uruguay situation does not develop a warfare of wits between the upper and the nether republics, and between the two Uruguay's independence may be ground to extinction.

What It's All About.

During the last year of the Roosevelt administration a terrific outcry was raised by the democrats in congress, assisted by some republicans, over the alleged lawless usurpation of the president in the Brownsville affair. Resolutions galore assailing Mr. Roosevelt and denouncing his action were introduced and a congressional committee of inquiry set in motion to ascertain and report upon the facts. The purpose of his enemies in forcing congressional participation in the Brownsville rumpus was to discredit President Roosevelt and to put an obstacle in the way of his renomination, which they then feared might be imminent. But when the president effaced himself as a presidential possibility Brownsville very quickly became a dim memory.

Whether or not there is any fire behind the smoke, the animus of the attacks aimed at President Taft, although hitting at Secretary Ballinger, is plainly of the same character. The purpose of the democrats is to discredit the republican president and, if possible, to cripple his administration by loading it down with a democratic horse during the second half of his term. The democrats are naturally hot to get something on Mr. Ballinger and thus indirectly besmirch the president, and in this effort they have the conscious or unconscious assistance of a few republicans.

What the democrats would like is to get an investigating committee on which they would have, at least, one or two members who could be depended on to bring in a minority report irrespective of the evidence. Democrats want to keep this controversy open for campaign purposes only, and no matter what the findings may be, will try to exaggerate them so far as they are adverse to Secretary Ballinger and will cry "whitewash" so far as they exonerate him.

It will be a good idea for the unprejudiced spectator to get the layout of the ground clearly in view while the preliminaries are in progress!

Talking down at Washington, Governor Shallenberger declares that he will call the legislature in extra session whenever a petition signed by a majority of the members of the legislature, embodying a pledge to enact an initiative and referendum bill, reaches him. The governor would like to throw the responsibility for convening the legislature upon the law-makers, yet that is not where the responsibility is placed by the constitution. It is up to the governor every time to decide whether an emergency exists demanding a special session, and a petition signed by a majority, or even by all, of the members of the legislature does not make the contemplated emergency.

The readiness of the American to seize on transitory phases for conspicuous recognition of a man is exemplified in the case of John Farson, who has just died in Chicago. Most people acquainted with him through the newspapers knew him only as the good-natured wearer of brilliant garments, and his red neckties were famous across the continent. Yet he was one of the most influential of western bankers, an enthusiast in the development of great industrial enterprises and his deeds as a philanthropist had made thousands happy. Sometimes a man uses these personal idiosyncrasies to hide his real nature and qualities.

Does not Dr. Spitzka, medical college brain specialist, announcing his belief in "justifiable suicide" fear he will have laid at his door such a chain of events as followed Rev. Mr. Talmage's discussion, "Is suicide a sin"? Dr. Spitzka even goes further and urges that there are occasions where "tactical murder" is to be condoned. Such opinions may be a sign of advanced thought, but there is grave danger in turning them loose upon the public, whose thought is not so far advanced.

Zeppelin's promise of a monster airship to carry 300 passengers reads as though the era of intercity aviation were at last in sight. But who will be the first, 300 to sail? The disastrous collapse of a similar unwieldy balloon is still fresh in memory. It is prudent and pleasant to watch these experiments still from terra firma, despite the marvelous progress in flight made by the experts.

If "Finny" Connors got \$3,000,000 in stock for floating an independent telephone franchise in Rochester, for which he paid nothing but his "influence," how much did the "influence" of the World-Herald bunch bring when the independent franchise game was played in Omaha?

The story of a newspaper man's receiving a medal for his heroism in saving a girl from drowning adds that "he does not need money," which raises the suspicion that he is not a really truly newspaper man.

Our distinguished fellow citizen, the Hon. John L. Webster, took advantage of the occasion of the meeting of Nebraska's State Historical society at Lincoln to tell the Lincolnites that we

ought to have a new \$5,000,000 state house and a new \$1,000,000 repository for our historical archives. Mr. Webster's generosity would be magnificent if the good people of Lincoln would only reciprocate.

Results of the Parliamentary election in England are coming in slowly because of delays due to collection of the returns from widely scattered districts. Here is a small measure of consolation for us who usually have to wait three and four days to make sure who won out in Nebraska whenever the contest is close.

It was away back in Ben Franklin's day that the cry, "Back to the farm," originated, as his pamphlet on "The Internal State of America" testifies. And the common-sense philosopher used fewer words in his argument than either James J. Hill or Secretary Wilcox.

If the Kansas City packers think that the workmen of their town cannot subsist, as they threaten, on a vegetarian diet, let them reflect on the case attested by Holy Writ of Nebuchadnezzar, who for seven years ate grass like a cow.

After digesting the testimony of Colonel Clowry, the man who sends a telegram costing him \$1 must feel like a stroke of pity to realize that the poor telegraph company makes only 3 1/2 cents on the message.

Still deadlocked on United States senator down in Mississippi. By the way, Mississippi is overwhelmingly democratic, so this variety of deadlock cannot be indigenous only in republican states.

New Englanders will note with relief the coroner's finding that the man who died after eating pie for breakfast showed the casualty to have been because of his deterioration, not the pie's.

Both Ends and the Middle.

Washington Post. Shoes are going up. Literally, it is now a case of higher prices from the crown of your head to the soles of your feet.

Almost "Out of Sight."

St. Louis Times. Americans have been pronounced the tallest people in the world; and yet they cannot look the present cost of living in the face.

"Alas, Poor Yorick."

Boston Globe. Mr. Bryan has arrived in Ecuador, in splendid health, and is going to visit the ruins of the Incas in Peru. He will, of course, be particularly interested in the silver mines.

Moving an Amendment.

Chicago Post. The Omaha Bee makes a great fuss about announcing that Mr. Bryan will be a presidential candidate in 1912. If a careless printer had only inserted the word "not" after the word "will," The Bee would seem to have a bit of real news.

More Speed Called For.

Indianapolis News. Whatever valuable information concerning the high cost of living may be obtained by the census takers, perhaps it would be just as well to take some other action in the meantime, as the census returns are sometimes a bit slow about coming in.

Publicity of Campaign Bills.

Philadelphia Bulletin. Mr. Taft's recommendation that the expenditure of congressional committees should be made public in the same way that those of national party committees are published after each quadrennial campaign, ought to result in a law that will make it the duty of every congressman and office-holder who has lately heard of the war of sections and are beginning to get mad enough almost to fight: "It strikes my commonplace imagination that an effectual test of the propriety of a statute to General Lee at the capitol is to be found in the question: 'What would man and Sherman have thought of it?' and adds, 'Could any modern Grand Army of the Republic commander answer that frankly and honestly and leave himself enough ammunition to damage the plan?'

AN HISTORIC FACT.

General Sherman and the South Thirty Years Ago.

Louisville Courier-Journal. A writer in the New York Evening Post, who signs himself "Northern Unionist," offers this to the groups of camp-followers and coffee-coolers, who have lately heard of the war of sections and are beginning to get mad enough almost to fight: "It strikes my commonplace imagination that an effectual test of the propriety of a statute to General Lee at the capitol is to be found in the question: 'What would man and Sherman have thought of it?' and adds, 'Could any modern Grand Army of the Republic commander answer that frankly and honestly and leave himself enough ammunition to damage the plan?'

In 1877, when the Hayes-Tilden contest was decided in favor of Hayes, General W. T. Sherman was so insistent that General Joseph E. Johnston should be secretary of war in the new cabinet, that Mr. Hayes consented. It was proposed to the nearest friends of General Johnston, who stated that if the offer were made, General Johnston would decline it. General Sherman expressed himself as greatly disappointed.

Subsequently, Judge Key, a confederate soldier and an original secessionist, was made postmaster general. To Grant and Sherman the war ended in 1865; to camp-followers and coffee-coolers, it would never end.

Our Birthday Book

January 21, 1910.

Theodore Starrett, a member of the building firm of Starrett & Thompson Co., which is putting up the new Brandeis theater building, was born at Lawrence, Kan., Jan. 21, 1865. He has been building skyscrapers since 1888 in nearly every big city in the country.

Conrad H. Young, who is a real estate man more widely known as Omaha's champion tennis player, is 36 years old today. "Con" Young was born in London, but came here when he was 12 years old, Jan. 21, 1874. He received his education at the Omaha High school. He manages the real estate in this country belonging to Sir Horace Plunkett.

Selwyn Doherty, who by strange coincidence is associated in partnership with "Con" Young, celebrates his birthday on the same day. Mr. Doherty is the son of Rev. Robert Doherty, formerly in charge of the Omaha High school. He was born in Omaha January 21, 1882 and worked a short time in the Burlington headquarters previous to taking to real estate and insurance.

Around New York

Shipping on the Current of Life as Seen in the Great American Metropolis from Day to Day.

A Wall street "killing" rivaling the shakedown of Heines, the copper plunger from Butte, two years ago, is the bear squeeze of Eugene P. Soles, the Texas cotton bull. Gene boosted cotton to the limit and was smothered in his product for about \$5,000,000. Mr. Brewster's pace as a spender bears as much resemblance to Soles' speed as that of a cripple to a Marathon winner. Last Christmas he stuffed the socks of his kinfolk with a total of \$1,200,000 of real money pulled out of the hides of the bears. A trifle of \$1,000,000 went to a sister. To a brother he came down the chimney with \$100,000. Relatives less favored all received visits and he added \$300,000 of gifts before the time for new resolutions came around. The \$5,000,000 exalted by the bears last week doubtless includes interest on their previous donations.

During the two weeks of his administration Mayor Gaynor has distributed nearly \$200,000 worth of patronage and issued orders that the distribution of hundreds of thousands more without giving Tammany so much as a "look-in." Out of thirty-five Tammany district leaders just one has got a job. Out of the long list of new commissioners appointed at salaries ranging from \$5,000 to \$7,500, just one is a Tammany man—Rhineclaire Wray, the Champlain commissioner. And the first thing Waldo did was to abolish the private stable the city has been maintaining for the commissioner. So elsewhere. Comptroller Prendergast announced on his first day of office that the subway was good enough for him. The mayor walks. If the city automobiles do not demonstrate their usefulness they and their chauffeurs and the chauffeurs' "joy riders" are all to go. Park Commissioner Higgins of the Bronx laid off 150 men in the first week. Water Commissioner Thompson has done away with overtime and Sunday pay. It looks very lean for the small fry. There is no sign, however, that the mayor will attempt to build up a rival political machine. There remain two positions to fill, which in the public eye bulk larger than any of the others—the commissioner of police and the commissioner of street cleaning. Both are now held by McClellan appointees.

It was reserved for the mothers and wives of Mount Vernon to discover the possibilities of the telephone as an electrifying implement. There was an election on Tuesday last affecting the location and control of an additional high school. Like other New York towns, Mount Vernon permits its women to vote on questions affecting the public schools. The heads of various women's clubs held a caucus conference on Monday. One bright president brought with her an idea. "I suggest," she said, "that each one of us go home, get a list of the members of her organization, and call each up by telephone, making her pledge herself to go to the polls and vote tomorrow."

"And also call up every woman she knows, whether a member or not," suggested another sister.

"We should give our cooks and servant girls an afternoon off," came from another, "provided they pledge themselves to go to the polls and vote for the school."

The telephone girls of Mount Vernon returned on Monday at midnight on the verge of nervous prostration. "The millinery lines," as the men called them, formed at the polls at an early hour, and flying detachments came all day. The women carried the day by a big majority; 90 per cent of the vote cast was theirs. And the telephone did it!

Times do change, and women reformers change with them. Mrs. Carrie Nation is evidently learning moderation in the days of semi-obscure into which she is entering. When a New York theatrical manager refused to pay her for a series of lectures, or, rather, offered her less than she claimed, she surveyed him with that suspicious smile that used to envelop her face before she produced her hatchet—and walked out of the room.

She did not return with an axe, as he expected, but sent a prosaic civil marshal in her stead. In other words, times and the prosaic east have so subdued her that she did just as a New England woman might do under the same circumstances—sued for her salary.

Two men who are well known in New York as the proprietors of an old-fashioned hotel, set a new fashion in progressive dinners the other night. They entertained a party of guests at a different hotel for each of the dinner. They began at their own hotel, the hosts provided the oysters, the party sitting down at a fully laid table. As soon as the bivalves were disposed of the party took two taxicabs and went to the next hotel on the list for soup. A waiter telephoned to the next stopping place, so that there was no delay. So it went through all the courses to coffee and liqueurs.

The proud parents of two little New York boys and their 4-year-old sister are anxious that the children should have means of knowing when they have grown up how smart they were in their nursery days, and with this in view the children have sung "spoke pieces" and held conversations before a talking machine. The records have been placed where they will not be injured, and the parents think that some day the children will value them highly. With the records there are descriptions of the children as they appeared to the father and a photograph of each.

The blizzard made New York a deal of trouble, but it was not without its good points. People who suffer from insomnia have been asking if it is not possible to keep the elevators and surface lines blanketed with snow the year round in order to muffle the noise. In Berlin, by the way, the racket of the elevated has been reduced to a minimum by scientific construction.

Sugar and Cheap Labor.

San Francisco Chronicle. The Hawaiian Sugar Planters' association, by investing in Philippine sugar lands, or proposing to, means to take advantage of the cheap labor of the Asiatic islands, thus enhancing its profits. Hawaii has had two sugar years in which 300,000 acres of land have yielded over \$25,000,000. In view of the rising sugar price a crop worth upward of \$50,000,000 is expected in 1910. Money is a drug in the market in Honolulu and there is plenty to spare for Philippine ventures.

Cold Comfort for Consumers.

Minneapolis Journal. People wonder at the price of eggs when so many people keep hens and when the hens put in such a long, busy summer. The reason is simple. According to the president of the American Warehouse Men's association, the price of \$200,000,000 eggs in cold storage in the United States on the first of last September, when they were held to force higher prices. Not the simple and useful hen, but the monopolist is to blame.

Left Handers

Anything for an Excuse.

Loop City Northwest: We do not know of any newspaper with seemingly a greater amount than the Lincoln Daily Star. A shadow of Senator Burket sends the Star off on a tangent, while the name of Vic Rosewater acts like the view of water to a hydrophobic canine. The star should seek to abstain from such querulousness.

Nothing Personal. Kearney Hub: The World-Herald has turned its attention to the demolition of the Rosewater-Hayward republican machine. It is not a matter personal with the W.-H. Its attitude would be just the same if Jones and Smith were national committeeman and national secretary in the republican organization. The machine would grow out of the pipe dream just as readily in either event.

Isn't It Truth?

Hastings Republican: In an interview in Washington Victor Rosewater, editor of The Omaha Bee, said that Nebraska was not an insular state in the same sense that Kansas, Iowa and Wisconsin are. He was nearer the truth when he said that he did not believe any Cannon congressman could be elected in Nebraska. He did not think, however, that the insurgent movement would be strong enough to completely wipe out republican control. Probably Mr. Rosewater, like some other republicans, is banking on