

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

OWNED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss. I, George B. Tschuck, of the said county, 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 February, 1910, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Number, Paid, Total. Rows 1-14 showing circulation figures for various days.

Total 1,159,970. Returned copies 9,290. Net total 1,150,680. Daily average 46,492.

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

Taken all in all, March 1910 goes out with a good character. If you see a hat on the sidewalk the way to find out whether it hides a villain is to kick it.

Over 200,000 people went to Atlantic City to spend Easter. Oh, what a military display was there!

No need to hunt for lawyers willing to go on the supreme bench without even inquiring as to the pay.

A New York preacher recently said, "Hell is right here." That evidently puts Texas down to second place.

A peculiar thing about the discovery that some buildings are freetraps is that the authorities too often discover it after the fire.

Omaha is booked to be a station on the transcontinental aeroplane highway. Pleased to have travelers drop in on us at any time.

If Omaha has a new policeman who can speak seven tongues it goes without saying that he can swear in seven different languages.

Do not worry if you find salt in your coffee and mustard on your bacon today. It is just All Fools' day, with chances that you are "it."

The Egyptians may not be sure whether Mr. Roosevelt pleased them or displeased them, but it is a safe guess that he had a "bully time."

Congressman Hobson's proposed automobile roads are to have a width of 1,430 feet—presumably to give the innocent pedestrian a chance to dodge.

That New York watchman who looted a home he was employed to guard missed his vocation. He should have run for the legislature at Albany.

If President Taft should look this way for material for the supreme court judgeship he would not find any of our lawyers dodging the judicial lightning.

Savings banks in the world hold on deposit \$15,000,000,000 in money and the United States has 40 per cent of it. Postal savings banks will make our percentage still larger.

While damage by prairie fire is always to be deplored the suggestion that Nebraska has had a \$1,000,000 prairie fire reads altogether too much like an exaggeration of prosperity.

Bribery trials in Mississippi will in all probability be staged in the near future. They are so dramatic and replete with climaxes as to make all sorts of spectacular effects possible.

From the fact that 3,000,000,000 packages of chewing gum were sold in the United States last year one might think that from being a habit gum chewing has become an industry.

If it be true that music will make hens lay more and larger eggs, the opera will next be transplanted to the chicken coop. Care should be taken, however, in selecting the themes, for comic opera might addle the eggs.

When Dahlman neglected to suggest a better location for the capital than Lincoln he disclosed what a clever head he had for calling the susceptible—Lincoln Blue.

Mayor "Jim" is evidently proceeding on the theory that any other location would be better than Lincoln.

Problem of the Platform.

The platform problem is not incidental to primaries or to conventions, but to the effort to fit the infinite variety of voter into one of two moulds. The problem will exist, platforms will be repudiated or adjusted out in bad faith, just so long as they are forced to carry a load not adapted to the functions of parties and platforms.

Whether under direct primary or convention system The Bee knows that though every party platform in the state espoused county opinion the Douglas county legislators would oppose it. The obvious way to solve the platform problem is to free parties from the necessity of dealing with special non-party issues, such as an issue as is now shattering party lines here.

There is also a further question constantly propounded as to how far the party platform concludes the candidates running for office under the party name. Does a national platform, for example, obligate a state officer, or a state legislator, to a secular line of action, or should the national platform confine itself to subjects of national policy?

We agree with the Journal, therefore, that "the obvious way to solve the platform problem is to free parties from dealing with special nonparty issues," and that the question of licensing or prohibition of the sale of liquor is, in fact, a local issue that should be fought out locally and should have no place in a state platform except of the prohibition party.

Last year when three judges of the supreme court and three university regents were to be elected, both democrats and republicans passed the liquor question by, believing that it did not belong in that campaign, and the republicans won out on a straight party lineup in spite of the pretense of non-partisanship with which the democrats tried to fool republican voters.

Halley's Comet. According to the computations of famous astronomers, Halley's comet will be careening around through the heavens, in a tramplike manner, during April and May of this year.

The reputation which Kansas City has long had for doing things is reinforced by the most recent example of its energy. Kansas City desires to develop a transportation service on the Missouri and in order to assure the project has pledged \$1,000,000 in stock subscriptions for a corporation organized to put boats on the river.

The example thus set by Kansas City has aroused St. Paul to discuss, seriously, a like campaign for the upper Mississippi. Interested men in that northern city have investigated the situation, comparing it with the conditions existent in Missouri and have decided that even a smaller effort could produce like great results for St. Paul.

Between the devil and the deep blue sea hardly describes the dilemma in which a man finds himself nowadays when driven to drink. On one side is a clamor for laws that will compel him to drink water, and on the other the testimony of experts that water is seldom fit to drink.

Our Birthday Book. April 1, 1910. Edwin A. Abbey, the famous American artist, was born April 1, 1862, at Philadelphia. He is now making his home in London.

Stronger Coaches Needed.

A brief review of railroad accidents for the last year indicates that the larger number of deaths and maimings thus caused occur in the coaches and smokers. The reason given for this is that the large, heavy steel sleeping cars, when an accident happens, plow through the lighter day coaches, which are largely made of wood, smashing them into splinters and at the same time crushing the passengers riding there.

During recent years most of the new sleeping cars have been constructed of steel. At first only the bed of the car and the framework were of that material, but more lately a number of all steel cars of the sleeper type have been placed in service. These are very heavy and solid and are an ample protection for the passengers they carry.

Several progressive railroads are installing steel car equipment for the ordinary passenger, with very satisfactory results, and others are to follow as rapidly as the shops can turn the cars out. It is to be hoped that the example thus set will be followed by other roads and that before long, for the safety of life and property, all the coaches used, whether sleepers, day coaches, smokers, baggage or postal, will be of this more substantial type.

Bribe-Giving Banks.

While the country in general has been shocked at the extent of the corruption exposed in municipal affairs in Pittsburg, yet the most serious aspect of it seems to have been the last to develop. The part played by the national and savings bank officers in bribing councilmen that their banks might profit from the city deposits is decidedly discreditable to a class supposed to be above such performances.

The question is, how could national banks pay out big chunks of bribe money and hide it from the national bank examiners? That crooked bank clerks can misappropriate the funds of the bank and sometimes escape detection by clever manipulation of the books is not so disquieting, but when the heads of the banks themselves are caught using the bank's money as bribes to buy business for private profit, a drastic remedy should be available.

In this instance not only are the bank officials party to the corruption, but they are prime factors in it, and the banks are the principal beneficiaries. To uphold the integrity of the national banking system it would be no more than right that banks conducted in such lawless manner should forfeit their charters to make sure against repetition of the offense. Such a punishment would be severe, but it would be an effective deterrent to future malpractice and corruption of the same sort.

Kansas City for River Traffic.

The reputation which Kansas City has long had for doing things is reinforced by the most recent example of its energy. Kansas City desires to develop a transportation service on the Missouri and in order to assure the project has pledged \$1,000,000 in stock subscriptions for a corporation organized to put boats on the river. A given time was set in which to raise the money and the enterprising citizens of that town went to work. A story of no little interest and significance.

But it was not very long before, with the right at certain popular manifestations of the period and settled back into what may be called, without stigma, a reactionary view. He thought he saw a great wave of paternalism engulfing the country and his opinions began to reveal very clearly the necessity which he felt himself under of combating that influence.

April 1, 1910. Edwin A. Abbey, the famous American artist, was born April 1, 1862, at Philadelphia. He is now making his home in London.

Around New York

Mayor Gaynor persists in knocking municipal customs and practices with much regularity as to provoke a succession of popular snubs among the beneficiaries. A score or more of barnacled practices reared in the days of political machines have felt the axe. Barnacled bureaus have been sent to political junk piles.

According to a physician's certificate filed in court one of the parties to a pending divorce suit is afflicted with "neuro psychasthenia," whatever that is. It is not specified in the status as a cause for divorce, but it must have been merely overlooked by the law-makers.

Of course every one knew that the announced candidacy of a certain congressman-editor for the United States senate was setting our Nebraska prairies on fire, but still no one expected the consuming flames to get beyond control and devastate the land.

A Vermont man has recently been mistaken for Uncle Joe Cannon and the people of his community are in doubt whether to put him out of the church or elect him to congress. At last accounts they were still divided on the matter.

After having rebuked Mr. Roosevelt congress is preparing to take it easy. It will be remembered in this connection that Mr. Roosevelt is nearing home and will land in this country in June and will land on it shortly thereafter.

Broaden Out.

The trouble is that so many statesmen are in favor of peace with honor, peace with justice, and peace with reservations, instead of peace with all men.

Giving Food Proper Age.

Food kept 3,000 years in an Egyptian tomb is declared to be as good as the cold-storage chicken that has spent three years on ice. People who tried to eat the chicken can easily believe this, though they might express it differently. They would probably consider it more specific to say that it could not be any worse.

Logic of the Situation.

Federal investigators in the western railroad demand for higher wages endorse the desired increase as justified by a 23 per cent increase in the cost of living in the last four years. The logic of the investigators cannot be questioned. Their decision will be quite as important as a president's edict in its immediate application to the railroad problem in hand.

Most Natural Thing to Do.

There is no discernible impropriety in the journey of the Hon. Oscar S. Straus from Constantinople to Cairo to meet his personal friend and former official chieftain, Colonel Roosevelt. On the contrary, it is natural that Mr. Straus should go. For the statements that the American ambassador was "amused" through his post by the remarks that the ambassador is neglecting his duties for the sake of Colonel Roosevelt's convenience of pleasure, and that the ambassador's journey to the Nile at the expense of almost \$100,000 is a waste of money, are entirely unwarranted. No sensible person will believe a word of all this.

A GREAT JUDGE.

A great judge, yes, but a judge whose life work falls into periods which may be clearly distinguished. It is not unlikely that history, taking his career in a large way, will write him down as the intellectual equal of almost all the great jurists on the supreme court bench. But his contemporaries, who recall his influence upon current events, will naturally think of him in three ways.

As a member of the supreme court of Kansas in the '90s, Judge Brewer set a remarkable pace. His opinions were the very front of the state tribunals. This is no mean tribute, for it must not be forgotten that the state courts of last resort affect social conditions and property rights more closely and at more points than the more august body at Washington. He who writes the opinions of the supreme court in the court house at Topeka will have a story of no little interest and significance.

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Shallowness of Jingoism.

On his return from abroad former Vice President Fairbanks utters words of truth and sobers about American relations with Japan. He is entirely right in declaring that no ground exists for inter-racial peace, and his utterances ought to be pondered by those whose ears are being tickled by the minkado's government by continually predicting it as inevitable.

Playing a Warty Game.

Not expecting to get any votes in Lincoln, Mayor Dahlman of Omaha did not run any great risk in proposing to move the capital away, but he refrained from saying where it should be located.

Smiling Lines.

"So you're going to marry an old man, dear, and what has he to recommend him besides his money?" "Heart disease, dear, awfully bad!"—Illustrated Bits.

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PERSONAL NOTES.

Once Pittsburg councilmen could command a price, but now they give themselves away. Now comes the story that science has produced wool-bearing poultry—the object, of course, being to enable their eggs to survive cold storage. Canada took from this country this year 86,688 valuable citizens. They knew that across the line lay the cheap steak zone.

UNCLE HIRAM'S VISIT.

Chicago Record-Herald. Yes, it's lively in the city, where they've got their electric lights. And the people soon have wrinkles from their study 'out of nights. They've got shows and things to keep 'em from 'gittin' lonesome there. And they look all-fired stylish in the costly clo's they wear.

SMILING LINES.

"So you're going to marry an old man, dear, and what has he to recommend him besides his money?" "Heart disease, dear, awfully bad!"—Illustrated Bits. "While I was engaged to her she made me give up drinking smoking and golf. Last of all she gave up something on my own account." "What was that?" "The girl."—Judge. "Zelava blames the United States for his downfall." "He isn't up to date, is he?" "Because if he was he would blame Uncle Joe."—Houston Post.

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