

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 21 day of May, 1910. P. WALKER, Notary Public.

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

The Hyde murder was most too novel to wear well.

Is it quite right to refer to the "recall" law as a pig-back?

Now, the dispute arises over who was the first member of the Ananias club. Look up the back files.

It may be worth noting that Spain has not yet sent an urgent invitation to Mr. Roosevelt to call around.

Wonder if those Omaha trade boosters whirling around the Dakotas frightened the comet's tail away?

The country has not had a democratic congress since 1893, but it has not been able to forget that experience.

Those London papers ought to have imported a few American reporters to handle Major Seth Bullock's line of talk.

Old Sol need not get miffed just because the comet happens to be receiving all the attention for the time being.

Coney Island has an alligator 160 years old which has been named Carrie Nation. Well, she is probably harmless by now.

President Taft regards Congressman Walter I. Smith as a useful member of the national legislative body and doesn't care who knows it.

New York, we observe, did nothing to stop young Mr. Heinze when he exclaimed, on emerging from the court room, "I am going back to Butte."

What are we going to kill when the colonel comes home? A fattened calf will look tame to him.—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

Then we'll make it two fattened calves.

Our only fear is that no one is conspiring right now to disfigure Omaha with another sky-scraper reaching over ten stories. But we may still live in hope.

Buffalo Bill gave his farewell salute to New York in the presence of 7,000 paid admissions, which must make the colonel feel a little doubtful of his own wisdom.

What is new in the idea of "peace if we have to fight for it" that is being imputed to Colonel Roosevelt? Has not all the peace the world ever enjoyed come by fighting for it?

The fact that the chaplain of the house of representatives offered up a prayer for the muckrakers shows their cause is not regarded as hopeless before the throne of grace, anyway.

If the searcher who speeds the street car water cart through our streets is not more careful about slowing down he may unwittingly sprinkle out enough water to lay the dust in spots.

It is all right about the good times Colonel Roosevelt has been having, but it is a 100 to 1 shot that when he met Seth Bullock in Dear Ole Lunnion there was some doing reminiscent of good old times.

The Catholic society under whose auspices Mr. Bryan spoke in Chicago would not have read what the official organ of the Catholic church here in Omaha, The True Voice, said about him a week or two ago.

What, is it All a Guess?

Here are explanations which three of the most famous astronomers of the country offer for miscalculations of the comet.

First—The curvature of the comet's tail, first discovered and noted by Prof. Barnard on Tuesday night, may have developed to a wholly unexpected degree, while the head of the comet has passed the earth on schedule.

Second—Like Borelli's comet of 1909 Halley's comet may have ceased its tail-making activity, cutting off the glowing fan that is now puzzling the scientists.

Third—It is possible that all calculations are wrong and that the comet has not yet passed the earth. The telescopes found the comet in the east at a time when the scientists had dogmatically determined that it was to be in the west, well on its way toward the Pacific slope.

What does it all mean? Have we poor, credulous laymen been simply toyed with by these savants? Have they had us losing sleep and gnawing our necks these nights, peering into the heavens and imagining that we were gazing into the face of Halley's comet when, in truth, the comet was not within range of our vision? We thought the celestial visitor had passed, when they tell us that perhaps it has not yet arrived.

But as a matter of fact these three "explanations" may explain nothing or everything, just as you wish to view it. They suggest an adroit method of letting erudite gentlemen out of a tight place as gracefully as possible. It really looks as if the joke were on the solemn scientists with their high, deep-furrowed brows. It looks as if they as well as the rest of us were laymen, sitting at the feet of nature, beseeching a crumb of knowledge about its deep-hidden mysteries.

At any rate it will be prudent for wise men to speak softly concerning comets till this one conforms to the charts that have been made for it.

Curing Leprosy.

Leprosy is one disease which in all the ages has been considered incurable. The ancients ostracized its victims who themselves repulsed inquiring friends with the doleful cry of "Unclean, unclean," but the state of Louisiana has demonstrated that this is another delusion which must give way under the test of science.

Louisiana maintains a home for lepers and the last biennial report shows seventy patients in the home, and it may be of interest to note that only fifteen of these are negroes. This is of moment here because the claim has been made that this and other scourges in the south are often traceable to the colored races whose irregular modes of living invite disease.

Thus far Louisiana's treatment of leprosy is chiefly in the experimental stage, but in the last two years the home has dismissed one person as positively cured. This of itself is all the justification needed for the hypothesis that restoration is possible.

Several in that same period have made remarkable improvement and only nine have died. The results certainly seem to warrant the effort Louisiana is making for the benefits are not to be confined to that home or that state; they are world-wide in the influence and will be handed down to posterity.

This home is already sending out demonstrations that have become valuable for the study of the disease in other parts of the world where it is more prevalent. Facilities used in Louisiana are being introduced elsewhere and medical men are being attracted to the study. What the results of this awakening will be no man can tell.

The Louisiana scientists are most hopeful. They believe that an anti-toxine serum will yet be discovered which will defeat the terrors of a plague that for thousands of years has haunted mankind wherever it existed. If this should be developed then its application in India and other countries of the far east where people die in thousands from leprosy may be made with practical results. The world already owes a large debt to the pioneer work Louisiana has begun.

Express Company Charges.

The demand of the National Manufacturers' association for an investigation of the rates of express companies will be strongly supported by popular sentiment. It is not only the rates of express companies against which the people have had occasion to complain, but poor service as well. In all the epidemic of investigations these corporations have escaped and their exemption seems to have made them indifferent to some of their obligations.

But it will require a studious inquiry to determine the fairness or unfairness of these rates. On their face they do not seem to be grossly wrong. It is coincidental that the matter of the "long and short haul" enters into this consideration and it is that key which unlocks the problem to a better understanding on the part of the people.

For short distances where the rate on a given article is 50 cents the express company will get a little more than 26 cents and the railroad a little less than 24 cents, and this division does not seem to be unfair since the express company collects the shipment at one end of the line and delivers it at the other, while the railroad hauls it but a short distance. But this same ratio—a little more and a little less than half—is maintained for long hauls as well, and there is where it is open to doubt. Yet the express companies argue that since they must assume responsibility for the safe delivery of the consigned commodity they should have more than half the cost

of its shipment, even where a railroad hauls it across the continent. That will be an interesting point for the Interstate Commerce commission to determine. This same article, which will say is hauled from New York to a town just a few miles away for 50 cents, will be hauled to San Francisco for \$14.50 and of this the express company gets \$7.58, while the railroad must accept only \$6.92.

Of course the shippers can have little interest in what the railroad gets, but if this is a fair rate to the railway, which does not seem to be aroused over the matter, the total rate looks too high, and manifestly the cut should be made against the express company. It is likely, though, that the people would be less inclined to attack the justness of express rates, if they could be assured of improved express service.

Withdrawal of Public Land.

One of the natural results of partisan agitation is to magnify alleged evils to the exclusion of real virtues. In the case of the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy, while the secretary of the interior has been viciously assailed in connection with certain coal land entries in Alaska, the people have lost sight of the fact, if indeed they ever knew, that in one week he withdrew from entry 13,500,000 acres of coal lands in Montana, which is twice as much as all the known fuel area of Alaska.

Without holding any brief for what was or was not done in Alaska, we might venture to assert that the government should have authority to hold onto this Montana land, said to be so prolific of fuel wealth. If the deposits are as rich as experts have declared, the extent of the area insures substantial replenishment against the heavy consumption of our domestic coal supply. Undoubtedly Alaska abounds in mineral wealth and probably has much good coal land, which the United States should look out for, but it must be obvious to all that the Montana fields, twice the area of the Alaska, are the more valuable by far because of their proximity to the market. Cost of producing coal in Montana will be materially less than in Alaska and the expense of getting it to the consumer is not to be compared with the transportation from Alaska.

Unkind.

The fire test of Mr. Bryan's insolvency is yet to come. When a democratic convention of Grover Cleveland postmasters was sitting upon the young Mr. Bryan some sixteen years ago he said something about serving his country "under another name." When machine methods were making Judge Parker the democratic nominee in 1904 Mr. Bryan did some talk convention insuring. Yet Mr. Bryan has never bolted a democratic candidate. The worst democrat has always bobbed up as better than the best republican. When the time comes to choose between a county option of initiative and referendum republican for legislator or governor and a democratic "representative of the liquor interests," then we shall know whether Mr. Bryan's insolvency is more than tongue deep.—Lincoln Journal.

We regret to note this unkind treatment by the Lincoln Journal of the distinguished citizen who is Lincoln's most valuable commercial asset. When The Bee recalled recently the fact that Mr. Bryan had two years ago publicly appealed to the people to vote for the three senators from Douglas county, whom he now reviles, knowing their unsavory reputations then as well as he knows now, he did not like it. Because these three disreputables happened to be running as democratic nominees on the same ticket with him he went good for them and pleaded with his friends to vote for the whole democratic crew from top to bottom. Some of these same members of the Douglas delegation to the late democratic legislature may be renominated this fall, and if so, will Mr. Bryan have aught to say against them? Mr. Bryan always wants the other fellow to ignore party lines, but proclaims it the duty of every democrat to vote the ticket straight.

Terrible, Terrible, Terrible!

It may be timely to remind the democrats, and other progressive citizens of Nebraska, that the main issue is still here and unsolved. Plutocracy and privilege are still levying their frightful toll. The tide of poverty is rising. The dangers against which we were warned are still real. The injustices against which we revolted have grown greater. The burden of oppression is heavier.—World-Herald.

Terrible! Terrible! Terrible! Must the people swallow this sort of stuff first in order to put their stomachs in condition to receive the democratic dose? Why should the citizens of Nebraska be reminded more particularly? Have they not been enjoying the doubtful benefits of democratic rule under a democratic governor and a democratic legislature?

If life is so unbearable in Nebraska because of these grievances, why have they not been abated by our democratic law-makers who promised if given the power that they would make this a land of milk and honey? If things are growing worse in Nebraska instead of better, then may it not be because of democratic misrule in the state house, and may not the remedy be to turn out the democrats and restore the republicans? The only real progressive legislation we ever had here in Nebraska has come from republican law-makers, and not from democratic law-makers.

So cheer up! Life is still worth living, even in Nebraska, because there is hope that we may be relieved of the democratic yoke and soon again enjoy the balm of republican sunshine.

Uncle Sam is getting ready to establish a postoffice substation and install electric delivery between the depots, postoffice and branch postoffices for Omaha notwithstanding the protests

that were registered against it by two Omaha newspapers bent on blocking this improvement.

The Lincoln Star virtually admits that it did not have its president and proprietor, D. E. Thompson, in mind when it said that no one connected with that paper is "permitted to promote the interests of any candidate for office," although it insists that Mr. Thompson is "out of politics." Mr. Thompson may be "out of politics" since he is out of office so far as being personally an office-seeker, but it is notorious that he established the Star for the special purpose of promoting the interests of his preferred candidates for office and opposing those he objected to. It can be proved, too, that he has endeavored to promote the interests of at least one candidate for office since he has been "out of politics." That is his privilege and right, but it does not comport with the Star's bold assertion that "no one connected with that paper" is "permitted to commit such a heinous offense."

According to the vivid picture drawn for the graduating class in medicine of the University of Nebraska the doctor of the future will be pretty much the whole thing, performing all sorts of duties from playing cook in the kitchen to sitting in judgment on criminals and from running the kindergartens and schools to preaching the true religion. It is plain that the only thing that will be left to the rest of us 100 years from now will be to become doctors or get off the earth.

Mr. Bryan is sure that the initiative and referendum is the most popular thing a-going because in Missouri two years ago the initiative and referendum proposition went 40,000 votes better than did Bryan for president. Still the conclusion is not logically inductive, nor is there any certainty that he will catch those 40,000 votes by hitching onto the initiative and referendum.

The announcement comes from New York that many theatrical managers have decided to eliminate the small town from their circuits. In which case the small town is the gainer, for, as a rule, the one-stand troupe that usually goes there ought to be kept off the stage entirely.

Speaker Cannon's cat is accused of looting the Department of Justice of its rubber bands. Still, since congress refused to pay for his automobile gasoline Uncle Joe ought not to be deprived of his faithful Tabby.

It is consoling to realize, however, that a few years ago Mr. Bryan could not have stood the stress of renting and paying for a hall in which to promulgate his political hobbies, brewery hall or what not.

They Pull Together.

Indianapolis News. What the railroads would like to know is how they are going to keep on increasing their dividends if they don't increase their freight rates.

Wisdom in the Spotlight.

Cleveland Plain Dealer. The mystery is solved. Says a Harvard astronomer of Halley's comet: "It is the nearest approach to nothing set in the middle of naught." It can harm no one because of its "vacuity." Oh, the greatness of wisdom!

Changing the Map.

Philadelphia Record. Under the new long-and-short-haul amendment of the railroad bill the geography of the country will be rectified and Denver, Omaha and the other interior cities will be hereafter no further from New York and Philadelphia than San Francisco is.

Don't Worry.

San Francisco Chronicle. Conservationists are asking the question, How will mankind get along when timber becomes so scarce that the supply of matches cannot be kept up? Probably they will do as the ancients did, unless in the meantime someone invents a substitute that will dispense with the use of wood, which is not at all improbable.

Prevision.

Collier's Weekly. Goethe foresaw many things. In 1827, discussing the importance of a canal across the Isthmus of Panama, he said he should be surprised if the Americans missed the chance of getting the work into their own hands, as "it is altogether essential for the United States to make the passage to the Pacific ocean, and I am convinced it will do it." It was the same poet, dramatist, critic, and man of science who forecasted that by the end of the nineteenth century the problems confronting mankind would be those growing out of the development of industry on the new scale made possible by progress in mechanics. No great man since Leonardo has had as many sides as Goethe.

Our Birthday Book

May 21, 1910.

Charles E. Bessey, professor of botany and several times acting chancellor of the University of Nebraska, was born May 21, 1865, at Milton, O. Dr. Bessey is one of the recognized authorities in botany, to which science he has made notable contributions. Edmund J. James, president of the University of Illinois, is 85 today. He was born in Jacksonville, Ill., and has had a varied career in educational circles as professor in the University of Pennsylvania, head of extension work in the University of Chicago, and president of Northwestern university before taking his present position.

Silas R. Barton, auditor of public accounts for the state of Nebraska, was born May 21, 1861, at New London, Ia. He held an important position with the Ancient Order of United Workmen previous to his election to public office two years ago, and will be a candidate for re-election on the republican ticket this year.

George A. Wilcox, treasurer of the Omaha Stove Repair works, is celebrating his fifty-fourth birthday. He was born at Glenwood, Ia., and was president of the German Mutual Fire Insurance company up to 1909, since which time he has been with the stove repair works in his present capacity.

In Other Lands

Side Lights on What is Transpiring Among the Wear and Tear Nations of the Earth.

The limitation of campaign expense in Great Britain is a legal force which candidates overlook at their peril. Two members of Parliament, Sir Christopher Furness and Captain Frederick Guest, both liberals, have been unseated for spending more money in the campaign than the law allows. Both are declared to be innocent victims of an excess of zeal on the part of their friends. Sir Christopher is the head of a large manufacturing concern and his opponents took an unfair part in his campaign. Without his knowledge or consent, so the court aver, his bosses, big and little, raised a boosting fund wherewith indifferent voters were hustled to the polls and some of the opposition persuaded to vote as they didn't think. This energetic hustle, supplementing the candidate's plan of campaign, resulted in a whopping majority. But the excessive sale of employes overboarded the legal "jackpot" and Sir Christopher was unseated. A similar painful operation was performed on Captain Guest. He, too, is a victim of one over-zealous friend, his father-in-law, Mr. Phipps of Pittsburgh. The latter merely provided the automobiles for the voters, regardless of expense, but his good intentions wrecked the victory won at the polls. In both cases the inquiry into the expense fund was conducted by courts, which impartially smote the home as well as the Pittsburgh innovation.

The report of Great Britain's agent-general in Egypt, Sir Eldon Gorst, furnishes an extended review of the conditions prevailing along the Nile and the official unrest which drew from Theodore Roosevelt severe condemnation in his Cairo address. The conclusion reached by the agent-general is that the greatest of all difficulties at the present time is the general lack of confidence in British intentions which prevails among the unofficial upper and middle classes. He attributes this to several causes: First, a great part of the press, native and English, frequently publishes articles calculated to stir up bad blood between the two races; secondly, the British are not actuated by disinterested motives in the exercise of control over Egypt; however, the consular general advises adherence to the present course. It remains, he thinks, for Great Britain to persevere along original lines; to insist that "British intervention in the affairs of Egypt is directed to the sole effort to introducing and maintaining a good administration, looking to gradually educating and accustoming the Egyptians to carry it on for themselves."

The last survivor of the tragedy, the Countess Miramon, has given to the Giornale d'Italia, an interview on the last days of the Mexican empire, in the course of which she says that, being in delicate health when her husband followed the emperor to Queretaro, she remained behind at the capital. "The city of Mexico was cut off from all communication," she says, and when my baby was only a few days old I learned that the city to which my husband had gone with his emperor had capitulated, and that the emperor and his family were prisoners. From General Porfirio Diaz I received a pass and traveled with my infant to see my husband in prison. I found the emperor calm and prepared for what was to come. "What have killed me morally," he said; "what more can be accomplished? When I was about to take my departure he gave me a gold medal, which he asked me to take to his mother. 'Tell her,' he said, 'that I was always a good Christian.' I hastened to San Luis to intervene for the prisoners, but there heard that they had already been executed. From those who witnessed the last scene I know that the emperor stood between my husband and Mejia, and that they fell when in the address which my husband delivered he came to the words: 'Long live Mexico!'"

While the French Transaharan railroad remains a pipe dream, the transmission of wireless messages across the great desert is approaching realization. Wireless messages are now exchanged between the Eiffel tower in Paris and the naval stations at Ouarzazat in Algeria and in the interior. Within a few months a new wireless station will be established at Timbuktu on the Niger, and messages from this post will be received and repeated to Paris by the Mediterranean stations. Messages from Port Etienne, 2,500 miles from Algiers, have already been handled successfully. Another station in the French system in Africa has already been opened at Dakar in Senegal. Experiments at Dakar and Port Etienne have proved that messages could be distinguished at distances exceeding 2,000 miles. In addition to these central stations a number of wireless telegraph posts are to be opened along the coast and in the interior of the French colonies in this part of Africa.

From no apparent cause, save perhaps the growth of a conviction that temperance is wisdom, than the going on in England a great reform in the drinking habits of the nation. Last year the expenditure for alcoholic drinks, malt liquor included, was \$25,000,000 less than for the year before. In the fashionable club as well as in the tenement, in the mansion, mess room and banquet hall the same process is going on. An increasing number of those who gather at public banquets abstain from wine.

JUSTICE TO COLORED SOLDIERS.

Re-Enlistment of Members of the Twenty-Fifth Infantry. Philadelphia Bulletin. Active measures have been taken by the War department at Washington for the re-enlistment of the members of the Twenty-fifth infantry, who were summarily discharged from the regular army service by President Roosevelt for no other reason than that they were connected with the battalion charged with shooting up Brownsville, Tex., and because they refused to give the names of comrades in arms who were believed to be implicated in the affair. These men were guilty of no infraction of the laws or of military regulations, but suffered solely because of the misdeeds of other persons, although exactly whose these were has never been satisfactorily determined, in spite of the long and tedious senate inquiry into the matter. Some of the innocent men had done valiant service in the Spanish war and wore medals for bravery; yet they were compelled to suffer the disgrace of discharge without honor. The fact that they are colored is, or should be, of no moment.

Now, under the provisions of the act put through congress by former Senator Foraker of Ohio, the guilty members of the battalion are to be accorded justice. They have been notified of their vindication by the War department and instructed to report to the nearest recruiting station. Upon re-enlistment they will be entitled to back pay and emoluments amounting to nearly \$1,000 each. Under the general regulations another soldier in the regular army, with the approval of the military authorities, may purchase his discharge by payment to the government of a sum ranging from \$20 after one year of service to \$300 after eleven years, and the "disgraced" veterans will be able to use a portion of their \$200 to retire, if they so desire and the authorities consent.

Time Certificates of Deposit \$2,034,278.61 3 1/2 % Interest paid on certificates running for twelve months. First National Bank of Omaha

POLITICAL DRIFT. Twenty-three persons were seated at the dinner tendered to Colonel Bryan in Chicago last Wednesday evening. Former Governor Rollins of New Hampshire expresses deep repentance for having monkeyed with the custom house business. Denver piled up a majority of 15,000 in favor of vocal irrigation. The belief that the town would go dry takes high rank as a sample of amusing optimism. Dr. Parkhurst qualifies his assertion that "hades is full of politicians" by announcing there are several annexes for other classes of people, so that the politicians will not be lonesome. Just how the D. D. secured the tip on the situation he refuses to say, possibly fearing he might incriminate himself. Cometary alarm among Indiana democrats was overwhelmed by the fear that William J. Bryan would strike the state during his flight from Fairview to Scotland. But his orbit touched the northern end of the state only, leaving a tail of locomotive smoke to mark his path. Hoosier dems are breathing naturally once more. The reward of a \$5,000 job given by the present mayor of Boston to his predecessor has been rejected by the civil service commission which passes upon the qualifications of certain municipal appointees. There was no question of the ability of the appointee. He was objectionable because he co-operated with the insurgent republicans in defeating the regular republican candidate for mayor. Party machinery got what its leaders bargained for. A Tammany politician on trial for violating the primary law enriched the political slang of the day with a phrase rivaling the "jackpot" contributed by Illinois. In his testimony he said he "voted a cannon," and when asked to explain gave this definition: "A cannon is a bundle of five or more ballots folded together one inside the other and ironed out with a hot iron until they are pressed down to look like one ordinary ballot folded in the usual way. The cannon is dropped through the slot into the ballot box. The box is then shaken up well and the ballots making up the cannon are shaken out so that they look as though they had been cast in the usual way."

Special Extraordinary \$375 buys a new \$500 Boudoir Size High Grade Player Piano \$25.00 worth of music included in price. Free exchange library of music rolls. Scarf and Bench Free. \$10.00 per month pays for it. A beautiful instrument, with the rich full tone of the larger pianos. Everybody can play it. Sold exclusively by A. Hospe Co. Omaha, Neb.

QUEST OF THE GOLDEN STEAK. Carlyle Smith in Harper's Weekly. I started out the other night To try and get a steak. I had a corking appetite With neither flav nor fake. I sort of felt a juicy slice Of good, red beef would be About the best and very nice— 'Tis thing there was for me. "I'll have a dollar's worth," said I Unto the Waiter-man. He gave a weary sort of sigh "A dollar's worth of steak, alas! 'Twill be so very small. You'll need a magnifying glass To see the thing at all. "Oh, well," said I, "if that's the case, Bring me two dollars' worth." And then he thus began, "Two dollars is the charge the cook Is authorized to make. Quoth me, 'to let a fellow look Upon a piece of steak." So hungry was I, I could not Resist its sharp appeal. "All right," said I, "guess I've got Enough to make a deal. Five dollars' worth I pray you bring." The waiter signed and said, "Will have it set within a ring Or on a golden chain." "Oh, dear!" quoth he, "I think, 'To let a customer be fed On steak we couldn't think We keep it in a crystal case And under lock and key— We really shouldn't have the face To use it wastefully." And so it was I gave it up, Of cased my hungry pain With one small five-dollar cup Of simple milk-and-rain.

Talks for people who sell things. Many a merchant knows that his goods are better, that his prices are fairer, but the man down the street gets the business while he stands still and thinks about it. You know these men—there are plenty of examples right here in Omaha, Mr. Stand Still and Mr. Go Ahead. Stand Still is pretty apt to claim that the other man "beat him out of his business," but don't you believe it. Mr. Go Ahead went after the business and got it. He told the people what he had to offer them, that his wares were good, that his prices were fair, that he wanted their custom and would take the trouble to get it. He told them this not once, but many times, is still telling them, every day, through the advertising columns of the papers. Now, Mr. Merchant, if you are an advertiser, or if you are a man who ought to advertise, we want your business and will go to some trouble to get it. We want to introduce you to our 150,000 readers. We want to and know we can help you to sell more goods. Moreover, we want to make our advertising columns so valuable to you that you will stay with us year after year.