

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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GEO. B. TSCHUCK, Treasurer. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 20th day of November, 1910. M. P. WALKER, Notary Public.

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

Dr. Cook at last has confessed, but Peary stands pat.

As the Nebraska farmer remarks, "The weather may be dry, but automobile is great."

Hackenschmidt finds lemons as numerous in America as Goch found them in England.

Chairman Knapp of the Interstate Commerce commission continues to make a fine witness for the railroads.

Tolstol may have been the father of insurgents, but Porfirio Diaz certainly is the granddaddy of stand-patters.

Just suppose Reuf and Schmidt of San Francisco had committed their crimes, as Crispin did, in England.

The diversion afforded by the late revolt may save President Diaz the trouble of taking a Christmas vacation.

Governor-elect Foss of Massachusetts ought not complain if they begin spelling his name with a "u" instead of an "o."

Bone grafting is regarded as one of the new discoveries. Pahaw, that is only a colloquialism. Sometimes it is called money.

The man with a full-grown grouch or grievance these days can market it at a fancy figure if he takes it to the right literary depot.

It looks like the omen of a better day when a Texas mob will wait twenty-four hours for a particular negro before lynching anybody.

Omaha doesn't get the opportunity of witnessing the consecration of a bishop very often, but when it does it gives the matter proper attention.

A man has been found who says he thinks Philadelphia is a rapid town, but as might be supposed, he is a Briton—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Or a Chicago Cub.

The Philadelphia Bulletin has discovered "one virtue of the motor-cycle." Probably that it kills a man outright, preventing long suffering.

If the east had not consumed most of its natural resources, perhaps it would never have learned how important it is for the west to conserve what it has.

That "death bed confession" of the British lords sounds like Pat Mulcahey's forgiveness of Mike Malone—it goes in case he dies, but "the Lord help him if I live."

Governor-elect Aldrich was given such a reception on his return home from Ohio as to forever quiet the campaign allegations that he is not popular with his neighbors.

Atlanta has gone batty on grand opera, apparently. The Journal of that city exclaims, "By all means let us have grand opera again, whether it comes from New York, Chicago or Milwaukee." Why not add, "or Houston?"

The Union Pacific fireman made the mistake of getting the pass before getting the marriage license. However, his experience will serve as a proof, if any were needed, that the railroad companies are trying to live up to the Hopburn law.

Rates and Watered Stock.

The last day of the eastern trunk line rate hearing before the Interstate Commerce commission was marked with some testimony of unusual significance. Commissioner-elect Thorne of Iowa struck one of the keynotes in this whole controversy when he pointed to the amazing overcapitalization of railroads as one barrier to determining the justness of rates.

No wonder, figuring on the basis of such fictitious capitalization, the railroads find present rates insufficient. They must not expect the rise in rates to keep pace with the arbitrary inflating of their stock. Let them wring the water out of this and get down to a legitimate basis of investment and income and then figure on their rates.

One thing is to be observed, that with all this railroad talk of rising expenses and falling revenues with a demand for higher tariffs, there has been no appreciable decline in stock values. They remain strong and inviting for investment. In some cases they have even advanced. Nor has railroad extension and improvement ceased as a result of this alleged condition.

It is surprising to me to find how extensive these rebate practices used to be when it was so hard then for us to find them.

Of course, it must not be supposed that the railroads were going to give up the information of such illegal practices as rebating, but they are no more insistent in their claims as to present rates, revenues and expenses than they were then that there was positively no rebating.

Not a Profligate People.

James J. Hill is out with another scolding of the American people for what he terms their spendthrift habits. He predicts hard times with thousands of idle men and women within a year unless we scotch ourselves in this mad race of extravagance.

Five years ago 8,000,000 persons had \$3,000,000,000 in the savings deposit banks of the United States. Today the number of depositors is more than 9,000,000 and the amount of their savings exceeds \$4,000,000,000. There is a gain of 1,000,000 depositors and \$1,000,000,000 of deposits in five years, which, on its face, makes a fairly good showing for economy.

To be sure, our people have lived well and some of them have lavished money on pleasure, but evidently they have not wasted it to the extent of bringing themselves to the brink of bankruptcy and hard times, which Mr. Hill believes. Evidently as a people they are not profligate. Of course, savings in these banks may not be the final test of a nation's prosperity or frugality, but it is a powerful argument against the assertion that it is a nation of reckless spendthrifts.

The Mark Twain Memorial.

The character of the men conspicuous in the Mark Twain memorial in New York was a powerful tribute to the stability of Samuel L. Clemens and his legacy to the world. Leaders in the business, political, religious, scientific realms were they; the giant of finance and the man of letters; the ecclesiastic, the statesman, the editor and the scientist alike came to honor a man who had given the best years of his life to making the world laugh. But his humor came from the depth of life's realities and had philosophy as well as wit in it. Life with him was not all a joke and, while he made the world laugh, he also made it think and think as it laughed about the best it contained.

Colonel Watterson, who knew Twain intimately and was related to him by marriage, said: "How much of melancholy lay hidden behind the mask of the humorist it would be hard to say. His griefs were tempered by a vein of philosophy. He was a medley of contradictions. Unconventional to the point of eccentricity, his sense of his own dignity was all-sufficient." This seems to tell it all. It is a great tribute, because it supplies an intelligent insight into the life and character of the man. It will help the world to appreciate its debt to Twain. A man who laughs and makes the world laugh in spite of personal grief and sorrow places the world vastly in his debt and leaves it a living philosophy when he passes on. It is easy for us to laugh when all goes well and we feel like doing nothing but laughing, but the test comes when things are going wrong. The man who can laugh then and cheer others is of more worth to humanity than he who is of his mirth mirthful and of his sorrow sorrowful. The all-sufficient dignity, to which Colonel Watterson alludes, was an

Warning to Autoists.

In Omaha a chauffeur has been convicted of manslaughter because the automobile he was running ran over and killed another man. In New York a prominent business man of great wealth whose auto ran over and killed a girl was tried for murder in the first degree and acquitted, very naturally, and has been brought up on a new charge that will come more nearly fitting the case.

Gradually the tide of public sentiment is rising against this reckless disregard for human life, or this criminal carelessness that has been displayed by too many persons who drive automobiles. It ought to be a warning in time. All people who run autos, of course, are not careless or indifferent to life, but too many are. These are the only ones to whom this warning can apply. They will make a grave mistake not to see in the steadily increasing number of prosecutions a growing determination to stop temporizing with them and go to punishing them. If this is the only way of compelling a due regard for the safety of others, then the sooner it becomes effective the better.

Omaha has been especially patient, too much so no doubt, with reckless autoists. If one man is compelled to serve a year or several years in the penitentiary for causing a death, while it can in no measure atone for the life destroyed, it may serve the purpose of making many other men so careful as to minimize the possibility of such casualties. It would be a good rule for every person driving an auto to remember that the pedestrian was on the public thoroughfares first and that his right to them is fairly well established. It is time to slow up and it is time for courts and juries to see we have no more travesties on justice where autoists refuse to slow up in time.

Exploring as a Business.

The world likely will accept Dr. Cook's admission that he never reached the North pole merely as a matter of fact, since it had arrived at the conclusion a long time ago. But if it accepts his explanation of his reason for believing that he had reached the pole, then it is likely to look with a little less credence upon the claims of Captain Peary. If, as Cook asserts, no man may be certain whether he reaches the pole or not, of course the world, if it coincides with this view, will suspect that there is room for doubt as to Peary's having reached it. It is not impossible that Dr. Cook is correct in saying that conditions forbid positive knowledge to any man who goes in quest of this goal.

Peary is said to have sold his "own story" for \$50,000, and now comes Cook bartering his to the same literary market place, supposedly for a like sum. Financially, then, both men must be said to have succeeded, though the world will scarcely be uncharitable enough to accuse either of having been inspired originally by the lure of money. They probably have done no more than the average man in their position would have done. Yet that cannot change the fact that exploring as a business pays.

It remains to be seen whether Cook's eleventh-hour confession and plea for mercy of the court of public criticism will serve to restore him to good standing with the people, who have felt themselves very much imposed upon by him.

The Garbage Question.

The city council in naming an arbitration committee to settle the garbage question is merely postponing again the decision that must be reached. The Bee has frequently urged that proper provision be made for the collection and disposal of household refuse by the city. So long as present methods prevail, no matter what the adjustment between the health department and the police authorities may be, the service will be incomplete and unsatisfactory. In addition to the annoyance resulting from the necessity of depending upon private service, the expense is continually greater than it would be if the matter were under public control.

While amendments are being prepared for the city charter, to be adopted by the incoming legislature, one should be added giving the city power to collect and dispose of all domestic refuse of whatever kind. The details for this are very easily worked out. The experience of other cities can be drawn upon and a comprehensive and satisfactory plan could be arranged with little difficulty. Omaha citizens have too long been subject to the annoyance and inconvenience of our inadequate method of handling the garbage question. The remedy can easily be applied, and now is the time to do it.

Our Birthday Book.

December 2, 1910. Nelson B. Updike, president of the Updike Grain company of Omaha and the Updike Commission company of Chicago, was born December 2, 1851. He is a native of New Jersey, but was raised and educated at Harvard. Neb. His first venture in the grain business was at Alderado in 1888, and he is now one of the king pins in the Omaha grain industry. Dr. Philip Ther, practicing physician, is just 23 today. He was born in Russia, coming to this country at the age of 9. He has been practicing medicine in Omaha since 1901. Linn P. Campbell, with the Byron Reed company, real estate, was born December 2, 1884, at Eomeyry Ia. He has been in his present business for five years. Ed Merritt, secretary of the Myers-Ellion Drug company, is 28. He was born here in Omaha and is a graduate of the Chicago College of Pharmacy. He was in the drug business for himself for many years before becoming a member of his present firm.

PEOPLE TALKED ABOUT.

A Parlatone, lately arrested for turning in a false alarm, presented the best excuse yet. She said, "My fiancée is a fireman, and I do so want to see him!"

The Twentieth Century club of Boston has made the suggestion that the portrait of Julia Ward Howe, painted by her son-in-law, John Elliott, be hung in Faneuil hall, "The cradle of Liberty."

By means of automobiles, bread, beer and newspapers, essentials for high living and right thinking, are delivered every morning for breakfast at Long Island homes. The Long Islanders are going some.

The latest phase of the "yellow peril" in the news from an American consul in China that two hundred thousand Koreans have lopped off their queues and that the price of "rats" and "puffs" for women's adornment will drop.

Again we have evidence that this is an age of substitution. When the bridegroom didn't appear at a Wisconsin wedding, the groom's young man volunteered to take his place, and the bride didn't insist on having the original. And at that, they may live happily ever afterward.

Charles Rann Kennedy, author of "The Servant in the House," has become an American citizen, having taken out his papers in New York in time to vote at the recent election. Mr. Kennedy is a believer in Christian socialism of the kind which he advocates in his book and is an active propagandist for universal brotherhood.

Sir Walter Raleigh's pipe is offered for sale in London. This pipe is the granddaddy of every British bulldog pipe which indicates the Englishman wherever it is. It is a small pipe, and is of a material which would like to own it may satisfy themselves with the thought that if they had saved all smoking has cost them they might have enough to buy it.

Annel Bradstreet of Freedom, Me., is being acclaimed the champion potato grower of Waldo county. His wife cooked two of the potatoes he raised this year and served them at dinner to seven men and women and four children. After each of the diners had helped themselves to all the potatoes he required there was still enough left of the two potatoes for a small hash for supper.

Major Church Howe, United States consul at Manchester, England, continues enjoying the fat of the land and incidental honors. Last month he was guest of honor of the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners in London, lunched in the house of commons and attended a banquet in the evening. The gustatory skill of the "Sage of Nemaha" is a source of envious wonder to foreign consuls.

RUBBISH FROM NOAH'S ARK.

One Court Cuts Loose from Tyranny of Precedent. Good for the supreme court of Oklahoma! It enjoys the inevitable advantage of a clean slate. In a recent case—we quote from "The Journal of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology"—the supreme court very sensibly refused to grant a new trial because a useless word had been omitted from an indictment.

The Oklahoma decision is in refreshing contrast to a recent Alabama decision which ordered a new trial because the indictment under which the prisoner was convicted simply charged him with stealing and did not specify whether it was a mule, goat, cow or sheep hide! The reports are full of cases like this, where the courts have ordered new trials upon the slightest of technicalities, the omission of a "the," "and" or "did" in an indictment, or the failure to describe a weapon with which an assault was committed any more specifically than as a "heavy stick."

An instance of technicalities which should be a classic is that referred to in the same journal. Two pianolas were stolen in South Carolina. The indictment in the case described them as "pianos." A retrial was ordered. On the next trial experts convinced the court that pianos and pianolas were the same thing, whereupon the court discharged the prisoner on the ground that he could not be tried twice for the same offense! Fortunate Oklahoma, where the courts mean not to permit themselves to be involved in the tangle of their own subtleties and where a foolish precedent established elsewhere may be treated with light-hearted contempt!

POSTOFFICE A PROSECUTOR.

Fighting the Mail Service of Dishonest Schemers. The arrest of a number of stock mongers for alleged fraudulent practices is of much interest from each of several points of view, but perhaps most of all for the manner in which, or the agency through which, it was effected. The honesty of some of the offerings was striking. The magnitude of the operations, in the number and distribution of victims and in the pecuniary proceeds, must be regarded as astounding. An impressive and depressing exhibition of human credulity and the influence of covetousness. But still more interesting and suggestive is the fact that the work of detection and seizure was performed by that department of government the fundamental function of which is merely the collection, conveyance and distribution of the mails. The postoffice played the part of prosecutor.

That was, of course, because of the wise provision of the law which forbids the use of the mails for fraudulent or immoral purposes. It was on that same principle that the notorious Louisiana state lottery was driven into exile. A state might permit and even license the existence and operation of a lottery, but if the federal government forbade it the use of the mails, through which the bulk of its patronage had to be bestowed, it was hopelessly hampered and driven out of business. So in the case of fraudulent stock schemes, State and municipal authorities might be indifferent or powerless. The operators might be shrewd enough to avoid culpability of which the police or the ordinary law could take cognizance. But the moment they used the mails for a nefarious purpose they made themselves subject to the penalties of a law and an administration which take no account of state boundaries or of municipal ordinances. It is an exceedingly gratifying and reassuring thing to have such functions performed by such an agency, and it is an instructive illustration of the contrasting

ROOM AT THE TOP.

It is said by some pessimists that there is no longer room at the top. They say that there is practically no chance for the poor boy to rise to the head of affairs because of the changed conditions of modern business. However, that has passed away in the death of Michael Cudahy.

From the most modest beginnings the poor Irish boy, who was later to become the influential manufacturer and merchant, triumphed over all obstacles in his way and set an example of success won without double dealing or unfair advantage over any man.

With none of the advantages open to the youths of today who can prepare for a business career as the sequel to a college education leading directly to it, and Mr. Cudahy applied to the tasks and problems he encountered a native, commercial sense which his perspicacity developed with years. He found the packing business of the west practically in its beginnings, a vast, untried field of commercial endeavor with no precedents to guide those engaged in it. He, Armour and a few others were nearly the only ones to perceive what great things its future held. To him, as much as to any other, is due the credit for the marvelous development of that industry which is now one of the world's wonders.

The success which he accomplished as an employer he bettered as an employer, and with the acquirement of power and position he never forgot those who worked as he once had—for a wage. Nor did he ignore the worthy claims which are made upon success. He held his wealth in trust for the good of his community. He bore himself towards society with consideration and a real sense of brotherhood. His life furnishes a good example to the rising generation as a business man and a citizen.

UTILITY OF WAR ALARMS.

Mighty Helpful in Fattening the Appropriation Bill. Major Charles Howe, United States consul at Manchester, England, continues enjoying the fat of the land and incidental honors.

The latest traveler to report war with Japan as imminent is the son of a Standard Oil magnate. He has been in Japan? Oh, dear, no. He has been hobnobbing with French and German army officers, and from them learns directly and certainly that Japan will attack us before the Panama canal is finished. Two hundred thousand troops are to be landed in San Francisco for the little island of Washington—by warship and balloon doubtless—and, of course, ruin and defeat will be the consequence. There is only one thing to do, avows this young militia captain, and that is to introduce at once a three years' compulsory army service law. It will save us from the Japanese. Of course, this captain, being of the infantry and very youthful, has doubtless not heard that there is a science of logistics. When he comes to study that phase of military education, he may perhaps ask himself, "where Japan could get the ships to move 200,000 men, their arms, ammunition and equipment, and then perhaps he will not be quite so frightened as today. But he is going to begin to get compulsory service at once. How? The way to get it is to kick your congressmen for saying he: "You can't get anything out of a congressman unless you kick him." There is still another way. Why not apply Standard Oil to him, and light a match?

LAST OF THE OLD GUARD.

Colonel Clowry's Retirement from Telegraph Management. The election of Theodore N. Vail as president of the Western Union Telegraph company, coming within a month of the re-election of R. C. Clowry to that office, has occasioned considerable surprise, but it was probably timed to occur just one year after the announcement of the practical amalgamation of the Western Union and the telephone company.

With the retirement of Colonel Clowry goes one of the Western Union management the last of the old guard of civil war telegraphers, men who were interested in the company before and during the war and have been kept in the management ever since. Colonel Clowry entered the telegraph employ as a messenger at the age of 15 and has been with the company ever since. His immediate predecessor as president was Major T. T. Eckert, who died only a few weeks ago. In the changes in the Western Union and its recent improvements too much credit cannot be given to Colonel Clowry, for it was his energetic management and control during the ten years of presidency which infused new blood into the concern, made the service more efficient in all the cities of the United States and saved it from being absorbed by its rival. That he is retired now is merely evidence that what was the smaller concern has become the greater, and the telephone company is the master of the two great concerns.

PASSING PLEASANTRIES.

"That man Higgins is away ahead of his time." "What's he doing now?" "He's working out a code of traffic ordinances for accepting drivers."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"I believe that old man really made ducks and drakes of his supposed fortune." "Then his credit must be the size of a wild goose chase."—Baltimore American.

"Tightwad—Don't you think that drinking impairs the memory?" "How many years ago was it that you bought me that last drink?"—Philadelphia Record.

Famous Painter (anxiously)—I hear, sir, that you're boasting that you studied art under me! Near Painter (calmly)—And so I did, sir, at did. Why, I occupied a room under your studio for nearly a month!—New Orleans Picayune.

"Old chap, what does 'exclamation' mean?" "And mirthless laughter, dear boy, mirth?" "Nothing, only I understand how what the papers insist when they said that my stories at the club banquet last night caused much exclamation!"—Chicago Tribune.

"Scientists have succeeded in compressing a square meter into the size of a soda cracker." "What's fine, but it is not exactly what the world is crying for." "Then what is?" "The world wants the price of a square meal compressed into a size the size of a quarter."—Houston Post.

Dashaway—You have splendid looking clothes, old man. Who is your tailor?" "What a question! The first man you see as you go out—Life."

At an aviation meet a spectator approached a policeman and inquired excitedly while he pointed at an aeroplane far, far up in the air. "Say, this is the altitude price they're trying to get for the first man you see as you go out—Life."

JUST FOR A CHANGE.

How often are we puzzled by Christmas thoughts like these: "What shall I give to Robert?" "What to my friend, Louise?" "And what to mother, sweet? These questions so perplex me I cannot sleep or eat."

Well, here's a scheme worth trying. Just plan your gifts this way: In making or in buying, be as careful as you can. But make the figures tally. If to meet you'd have both ends—Make a list of the things you like the same as the number of your friends.

Then wrap the gifts in tissue. With ribbon tag and seal, and go away and forget 'em. Take a wallet and a meal. When you return take out your list. And at random there address 'em! Don't feel the shape of the packages or try to guess 'em.

When father gets his kensington bag, and ma some good cigars; When brother gets his rocklax, and aunt your trolley car; When sister gets a shaving mug, and uncle a new hat, you'll have the jolliest Christmas. You ever had, I bet. Omaha.—RAYTROLL NE TREBLE.

To Peacock's For Holiday Gifts

There are a great many people in this part of the country and, indeed throughout the world, who when they think of purchasing any article of jewelry or silver or gold ware, think of Peacock's at the same moment.

And this is the result of these seventy-three years of giving real values, selling articles of jewelry at moderate prices, suggesting gifts that have been treasured for years for their superior excellence.

Whether or not you desire a silver purse, a bon-bon dish, a lognette, a diamond solitaire, you'll be surprised at our moderate price.

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Peacock's Royal Silver Polish is for sale in your city at 25c, 50c and 75c packages.

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