

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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Entered at Omaha postoffice as second-class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Sunday Bee, one year, \$2.00...

DELIVERED BY CARRIER. Evening Bee (without Sunday), per week...

OFFICES. Omaha—the Bee Building. South Omaha—28 North Twenty-fourth Street...

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

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss. George H. Eschbeck, treasurer of the Bee Publishing Co....

Net Total 1,205,454. Daily Average 48,615. GEO. H. ESCHBECK, Treasurer.

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

Santa Claus is one bill collector you cannot beat.

Battling Nelson is no longer battling in the 300 class.

Even Carrie Nation has never dared tackle those London suffragettes.

Thus far we have heard no concerted plan in congress to abolish the franking privilege.

Now let it be finally determined who saw it coming first, Senator Hale or Senator Aldrich.

You may just as well come to it first as last, for that Christmas shopping has to be done.

President Diaz has not yet given any official indication that he knew Brother Madero was revolting.

They do not "credit census men in Augusta," it is reported. They ought to make them pay cash in Omaha, too.

Pork was so high this last season that Houston folks could not afford bacon rind to rub on their chigre bites.

November was a very mild month, but it will never compare in history with December, which has five pay days.

President Diaz has started out on his second third of a century as Mexico's chief executive in the best of health.

It is getting near that time when you must sit down and figure out the list of those you think will send you presents.

Three women in the Colorado legislature. Now Oregon will have to take a back seat as the "best governed state in the union."

"Governors Have a Good Time." That made a good standing headline for the conference of the state executives at Louisville.

A few years ago it would not have been believed that Mr. Bryan could have so little to say upon the subject of a democratic victory.

Kansas City has abolished smoking on street cars, and if some other cities could abolish the rear-end orator it would be a good thing.

If they would make Mr. Depew ambassador to Mexico he would put an end to those revolts by holding the insurrectionists spellbound with his stories.

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."

The deputy attorney general has furnished the State Railway commission an opinion to the effect that mutual telephone companies are not subject to the Nebraska corporation law.

The government reports increased marketing of cattle and sheep during October and points to this as the reason for lower prices on packing house products.

Those Jolly Governors.

It is a good thing that no tangible results depended on the outcome of that governors' conference in Kentucky. As far as can be determined the nearest they came to transacting business was when they listened to Governor Hadley's speech on the employers' liability act.

In Louisville the colonels who had prepared the program did not know anything about the plan of transacting business, so when the ball finally broke up the governors found that speeches on which they had labored for weeks were still tucked away in their grips or pockets undelivered and not one thing that could, by any distorting of the imagination be called business, had been done.

Hereafter governors planning to discuss weighty matters of state will know better than to go to old "Kaintuck." It is the place to go when they want to be entertained in good old southern aristocracy fashion, as, of course, all these governors now know, even to the sedate Dr. Wilson. No wonder that in casting about for the place to hold their next meeting they chose a remote little nook in New Jersey, where pretty women and gallant men could not get at them so easily.

New Mexico's sane Constitution. The organic law which the constitutional convention of New Mexico has framed is based in the main on the broad lines of common sense and practical utility, excluding radical and fanatical provisions.

New Mexico's constitution-makers are mostly republicans, and the instrument was drawn under a warning of a republican congress against the blunders of Oklahoma. The convention was in session from October 3 to November 21, transacting its business with all possible dispatch.

The sisterhood of states will have cause to welcome New Mexico, for it comes with rich treasures to add to the national storehouse. It has vast resources discovered and in use, others more vast undeveloped and untold in extent. In the last decade New Mexico has made a population growth of 57 per cent, which is very near a record growth.

The first Friday in December is Arbor day in Georgia and this year all over the state people planted a tree wherever they could find a place to put it. That doubtless meant a vast number of trees for Georgia. If so, it meant new wealth as well as additional beauty. Georgia is taking the lead among southern states in building up her resources and she is led in this Arbor day tree planting by some of her progressive newspapers, which have wisely pointed out the splendid possibilities of providing for the future in just this way.

We make much of Arbor day sometimes, but it is a strange thing that as a people we do not make more of it. This is particularly true now that we have been so passionately stirred on the matter of conservation with special reference to our timber supply. It does seem that a lot of foolish talk has been wasted in this direction. To be sure, it is necessary to guard against deforestation, but a vast amount of raw timber must be cut every year and we know it. What, then, is to prevent a planting another vast amount?

The state of Nebraska presented a wonderful opportunity to the nation when it gave it Arbor day. But after all what was it that J. Sterling Morton and Dr. George L. Miller did more than simply to suggest what already everybody must have known? It was a mere matter of calling to the people's attention that it would be a good thing to plant trees. This state was then a sweep of prairie and it needed trees for shade, principally, but today it and other states need them for even more utilitarian purposes than shade. But it takes a great deal of reminding every year to get the people to see

the need and see how simple it may be supplied. Georgia newspapers do well to take up this crusade.

Not an Urban Nation Yet. The census figures show that the total population of all cities in this country of 25,000 or more is about 28,235,000, and that the largest percentage of population increase has been made in cities of less than 100,000. Counting that the nation's population will reach 90,000,000, this showing does not quite bear out the contention, so persistently urged in connection with our back-to-the-farm agitation, that as a nation we are becoming distinctly urban. We are not quite one-third urban, if we may consider the starting point as the city of 25,000.

Forty-seven cities have 100,000 or more population and of this number only eleven have risen to this class since 1900. The census bureau declines to make any advance statement of the entire population, but it is being generally estimated in the neighborhood of 90,000,000. Ten years ago it was 75,303,387. The percentage of urban population has not increased disproportionately. At least, the increase has not been such as should alarm us with relation to our farming communities. The fact is, as the census figures will show, that we are even more of an agricultural people today than we were a decade ago, judged on the basis of relative population. For the last ten years has witnessed this nation's most spirited settlement of new territory. It has been a period of empire building and this has all contributed to the suburban side of our life.

It is well enough that we continue in our efforts to lure people to the country, however, for the more we get there the more we shall have engaged in the primal occupations that produce new wealth and new sources of wealth and make room for greater national expansion.

Net Weight. A case has been commenced in the district court of Lancaster county for the purpose of testing one phase of the Nebraska pure food law. It is to determine the validity of the "net weight" clause. This has to do specifically with branding on the package within certain limitations, which should be clearly defined by the courts.

The Interstate Commerce Commission in its report of the result of railroad carnage for twelve months makes the following summary: Killed, 2,264; injured, 23,374. The Army and Navy Journal, noting the bloody aggregate, exclaims: "Such are the horrors of peace." In the wordy debate on "rates" between the carriers and shippers now going forward before the country there is no mention of the necessity of reducing this appalling death rate.

Postmaster General Hitchcock ventures to recommend to Congress that he will not interfere with the business of the express companies. He suggests that the rural free delivery service shall be so extended as to permit the delivery of parcels weighing eleven pounds. This innovation would be of great suburban and rural advantage, and the latter regarded as an instant popular demand for the wider delivery of parcels on all mail routes.

When hundreds of workmen are compelled to labor in such terrible ramshackle and oil-soaked fire traps as the Newark factory, where over a score last night lived amid horrible scenes, on Saturday last, the limit to capitalistic negligence or greed would seem to have been reached. If ordinary wages in ordinary industries have any rights at all which employers should respect, it is their right to have fairly safe places to work in. When such dreadful catastrophes as that in Newark occur, one is almost ready to say that wholesale murder has been committed. States laws and state inspection of factories, large and small, can hardly be too drastic, if the lives of the workers are to be given a decent measure of protection.

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The proposed reductions in Pullman sleeper rates were not sufficiently startling to cause a panic among the people who patronize that company. The privilege of breathing polluted air while lying on a shelf in a tossing car is too dear to be lightly estimated, and the company doesn't propose to affront its patrons by offering them decent accommodations at a reasonable rate.

Judge McHugh may not land on the supreme bench of the United States, but he is getting a nice little bit of publicity out of the rumor that he is to be appointed to that position. The judge has had some experience and knows how often the slip may come "twixt the cup and the lip."

Too many lawyers are likely to spoil the state's chances in the guaranty bank law case before the supreme court. The aspiring legal lights should get together and arbitrate their differences, and, falling in this, should shake dice for the privilege of addressing the court.

Now comes prospective Senator Hitchcock and modestly disclaims any intention of laying violent hands on the leadership of the democratic party in Nebraska. But Mr. Hitchcock does not suggest that he intends to follow the leadership of any other democrat in the state.

"rate war." It was settled, if you notice, by raising those rates that were lower than the maximum.

Several Omaha corporations have failed to get in under the wire with their corporation tax and will now be put to the expense of renewing their charters. It certainly pays to be prompt in settling with the tax collector.

A threatened passenger rate war has been averted by the simple expedient of permitting the lines that gave the lower rate to increase their tariff to the higher. Of course, the public will enjoy all the benefit of this.

Another argument against the monument-memorial-statue business has been offered in the proposal by friends of Stanford White, victim of Harry Thaw and friend of Evelyn, to erect a memorial to him.

Anyone with a weather eye out for the fine point might have noticed before this that Mr. Yim Hill's panic crier never hurt the stock of the Great Northern, Northern Pacific and Burlington railroads.

If the governors get through receiving that Kentucky hospitality in time they may attend to some of the business matters that called them together at Frankfort and Louisville.

If those St. Louis women continue their fad of butter milk churning they may increase their city's population by one, a certain ex-vice president now residing in Indiana.

A Sub and a Knave. Houston (Tex.) Post (dem.). The Commoner now speaks kindly of Jim Dahman. It is an impressive example of partisan benevolence to step up behind a democratic nominee and brain him, and afterward send a floral wreath for the funeral. Still, we must confess to a very slight understanding of the ethics of assassination.

The Executioner on Deck. Boston Transcript. "There is a move on foot, larger in proportion than the movement of 1904, to turn the democratic party over to the predatory interests. Mr. Bryan recognizes the real purpose of this movement and may be depended on to fight it." This is official, and indicates that Mr. Bryan will oppose any conservative candidate but Mr. Bryan himself.

A Point Overlooked. Philadelphia Record. The Interstate Commerce Commission in its report of the result of railroad carnage for twelve months makes the following summary: Killed, 2,264; injured, 23,374. The Army and Navy Journal, noting the bloody aggregate, exclaims: "Such are the horrors of peace." In the wordy debate on "rates" between the carriers and shippers now going forward before the country there is no mention of the necessity of reducing this appalling death rate.

Moving Toward Parcells Post. Philadelphia Record. Postmaster General Hitchcock ventures to recommend to Congress that he will not interfere with the business of the express companies. He suggests that the rural free delivery service shall be so extended as to permit the delivery of parcels weighing eleven pounds. This innovation would be of great suburban and rural advantage, and the latter regarded as an instant popular demand for the wider delivery of parcels on all mail routes.

Getting Something for Nothing. Philadelphia Ledger. Roids by postal officials have been followed by the revelation that scores of millions of dollars have been paid for worthless stocks, known by the purveyors to be worthless. Yet, after all, the disclosure merely accentuates a matter of common knowledge. People who are lured by florid advertisements to invest in trash are cheated by the ordinary industries to obtain something for nothing. This is accomplished only by the schemer at the other end of the transaction. So far as known, the ways of getting rich, rudely classified, include earning the money, inheriting it or stealing it. The first is difficult, and often impossible. The second is a matter hardly worthy of consideration. The last is precarious, and in the end of doubtful utility. There is no avoidance of the conclusion that some worthy people are destined to remain poor.

Our Birthday Book. December 3, 1910. General Green B. Rain, former commissioner of pensions, was born December 3, 1829, in Glendon, Ill., and died last year. He made a remarkable record in the civil war and was also the author of a number of books. John Bassett Moore, professor of international law in Columbia university, was born in Smyrna, Del., and was at one time assistant secretary of the United States. He is recognized now as the highest American authority on international diplomacy. Joseph Cullen Root, founder and sovereign commander of the Woodmen of the World, with headquarters here in Omaha, was born December 3, 184, in Chester, Mass. He was educated as a lawyer, but he devoted himself chiefly to fraternal insurance. He is also one of the board of Ak-Sar-Bon governors. Robert E. Lee Herdman, attorney-at-law and democratic politician, is 84. He was born in Jerseyville, Ill., and graduated from the law department of the University of Kansas, locating in Omaha in 1892. He was clerk of the supreme court for four years and also police commissioner for Omaha for a little while. W. M. McKay, secretary of Cole-McKay company, (federal directors, was born December 3, 1878, in Tipton, county, Indiana. He worked his way up in various occupations, learning by night study the profession which he has been pursuing for fifty-six years.

In Other Lands

Side Lights on What is Transpiring Among the Near and Far Nations of the Earth.

The campaign in Great Britain is moving with unexampled speed. Three weeks ago the failure of the constitutional conference was announced. A week later Parliament assembled. Dissolution followed on Monday in accordance with the plans previously announced by Prime Minister Asquith. Writs of election issued forthwith, and elections will take place in a score or more divisions today. Within the present month all members of the new Parliament called to meet January 21 will have been chosen. In sixty-four days from dissolution the election machinery of the United Kingdom will have performed its task of ascertaining the popular will and the new Parliament assembled to give effect to the decision of the electors. Nothing in the election machinery of the United States can approach it for celerity. The painfully short time between the call and the election to some extent explains the fierceness of the contest from the start. At the top of the ball last Monday every politician was off for the hustings. Accounts of the battle show increasing rancor as the struggle proceeds. Foul and scurrilous as lively as a college cane rush are a daily occurrence. Members of the ministry have to contend with the fighting suffragettes, with the "vegetables" great stumpers in the back benches, and with the Orangemen from Cork to Dublin, and the Orangemen of Belfast as on a vocal war footing. To Americans familiar with two to four months of political bombardment with only verbal scraps to relieve the monotony, the British contest affords a moving picture of vim, vigor and variety of political symbols surpassing any similar event pulled off in this country since the stirring days and nights of '68.

The contest is a genuine battle between progressives and standpatters. On the progressive side are ranged the liberal party and its allies, representing 90 per cent of the voters. On the other side is the unionist, or Tory party embracing the so-called conservative element of the country entrenched in the House of Lords. The issue is whether the peers shall exercise unchecked the right of veto over measures approved by the House of Commons. Under ordinary conditions, the two-chamber plan of government is esteemed the best system of representative government yet devised, but under the highly developed system of party government in the United Kingdom, the House of Commons only represents the will of the people expressed at the ballot box. When the liberals control that chamber every measure of reform is either amended to death or rejected by the lords. With the unionists in control, the lords become positive supporters of all ministerial measures. The fight against the lords is therefore a fight against party government permanently entrenched in the upper chamber. All liberal party legislation is deadlocked there. It was so with the Lloyd-George budget, which forced an appeal to the country a year ago. Every measure of genuine progress originating with a liberal ministry for generations past encountered the overwhelming opposition of the lords, and a blank in law there is the shadow of the originals.

Three ways of reforming the House of Lords are proposed, two by the lords themselves, the other by the ministry. What the lords promise to do with themselves is outlined in the Rosebery resolutions and the Lansdowne scheme. The latter regarded as a bit of campaign strategy. The Rosebery plan proposes the abolition of the hereditary privilege. No one could sit in the proposed House of Lords simply because he happened to be born to the peerage. The remodelled house would consist of first, a few members of the landed gentry, the latter elected by the whole body of the peers; second, peers who would sit by virtue of their tenure of office (including bishops and lay lords); and, third, peers chosen from outside in a manner to be determined. Lansdowne's proposal would abolish the vote of the lords as to finance bills, provided such bills did not contain legislative "riders." In event of a deadlock between the two houses on any measure, a joint sitting is proposed, with speaker of the House of Commons as chairman, the joint vote of both houses to settle the fate of the measure. Furthermore, the Lansdowne proposal reserves to the lords the right to refer any deadlocked measure to a vote of the people. Neither plan would afford an open thoroughfare for liberal party measures. Both preserve the present party control of the upper house. This is the power the progressives must restrict, if not overthrow, to effect their program of three reforms: first, the lords to have no control over finance bills; second, a measure passed by the House of Commons in three successive sessions of Parliament to become a law, regardless of the action of the lords, on royal approval being announced; and, finally, session of Parliament to be limited to five years.

The standing of the parties in the House of Commons just dissolved will be of interest for comparison as the results of the election come in. At the election held last January there were chosen 27 unionists, 25 liberals of all shades, forty laborites, seventy-one Irish nationalists, followers of Mr. Redmond, and eleven independent nationalists, followers of O'Brien and Healy. There have been twenty-one by-elections since then, which have resulted, however, in no change of party representation. Of the total of 696 members, then, 28 were needed for a bare majority, excluding the speaker, who is neutral. The unionists fell sixty-three short of a majority, and the liberals sixty-one short of it. But with the natural allies of the liberal party, the Irish nationalist majority was 151. With these three forces practically united, nothing short of a tory landslide will prevent a majority for the liberals and their allies in the new Parliament. There is at present no visible alliance for the unionists and their hope of success rests wholly on an overturn of the country, of which the signs are visible. Both sides are abundantly supplied with the sinews of political war. Among the unionists money is so object with the political life of the country as a whole, but the liberal coffers are equally well filled. The London correspondent of the New York Tribune says that aspirants for the peerage are so confident of liberal success that they readily honor the campaign grants of the party, assured of being remembered when the shaves are gathered in. Money is easy to get when peerages are passed in the political game.

In regard to the tory outbreak against "American dollars" and "American paymasters" the Tribune correspondent says: "The masses of American dollars collected by Mr. Redmond in a hollow campaign device. Every one knows that the nationalist leader is fighting for his political life in Ireland, where Mr. O'Brien, strongly supported by unionist peers and Ulster protestants, challenges his equality and is making strenuous effort to divide the home rule party into two equally powerful factions. The Redmondites hope to regain the eleven seats captured by the O'Brienists at the last election and return to Westminster with a united party. The money

POLITICAL DRIFT.

The question of calling a constitutional convention in Iowa was moved under by 30,000 votes.

Governor-elect Johnson of California declines to attach inaugural ball frolics to his administration. Too much head work in sight.

Official returns of the vote cast in Ohio show a falling off of 24,300 compared with the vote cast two years ago. No one supposed the growth was so extensive.

In Missouri amendments granting pensions to school teachers and policemen, and increasing the pay of members of the legislature, were ruthlessly smothered by the voters of the state. The law makers payroll got the worst beating of all, which is considered a fine exhibit of the sense of discrimination.

The late George Frederick Seward was a strong man, but not as suave as his famous uncle. Having been approached by an intermediary of a New York legislator, who was "willing for \$10,000 to kill a strike insurance bill, he dictated this telegram in reply to the proposition: 'Mr. Seward says you can go to—'

Beginning at the east end of the senate press gallery the images of former vice presidents will be ranged in the niches provided for them in the senate chamber. In the order of their seniority, beginning with that of John Adams. After filling all available spaces in the senate chamber in this way it was found to be necessary to provide for the figures of the vice presidents from Levi P. Morton down to the present time in the south senate corridor. In this gallery will be Morton, Stevenson, Hobart, Roosevelt, Fairbanks and Vice President Sherman. Space has been reserved for Vice President Sherman at the east end of the corridor.

Probability of Legislative Action on the Amendment. Minneapolis Journal.

With the legislative open season approaching in many states there is sure to be a recrudescence of interest in the income tax amendment to the federal constitution. This amendment has been adopted in eight states thus far, and must be approved by the legislatures of twenty-seven more to become effective.

The effect of the election of democratic legislatures in several states heretofore republican is problematical. The traditional democratic attitude is in favor of the income tax, as one means of escape from a protective tariff. But tradition does not count so heavily with the democracy as it once did. The party has been a party of opposition and opportunism so long that its traditions are largely forgotten. Indeed, opposition to the amendment has developed in several southern states, and in two, Georgia and Virginia, the legislatures declined to approve. In New York, however, there is likely to be a reversal. The last legislature, being republican, tried to approve the amendment, but the vote failed in the senate by a narrow margin. The New York democrats, however, put a blank in their platform calling for the adoption of the amendment, and the presumption is that the new legislature, being democratic, will approve it. It is a curious fact that when a state once votes "yes" on an amendment the fact becomes fixed and irrevocable. But when it votes "no" attempts to reverse the verdict may be made, and if one is successful the "no" is overturned. This is the judicial ruling, well understood. Minnesota has not yet voted, and the legislature will doubtless be called upon to register this state's vote. Thus far, however, there has been almost no discussion of the question, and very few members appear to have given it any attention.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER. Absolutely Pure. The only baking powder made from Royal Grape Cream of Tartar. No Alum, No Lime Phosphate.

CHERRY CHAFF. The plutocrat and the socialist confronted each other in determined opposition. "It was different with me," remarked the politician, "am fighting for my interest."—Baltimore American.

Edith—Merry! Here's a telegram from Jack. He's been hurt in the foot ball game. Edith—What does he say? Edith—He says: "Nose broken. How do you prefer it set—Greek or Roman?"—Boston Transcript.

GET BUSY. Oh, say. This very day. Get the hop. For the shop. And don't stop. Till you feel like dropping. Dead in your tracks. And then All the clerks, women and men. Will rise up and call you blessed. And you, with your shopping done. Will sit down and wonder Where in thunder Do people find Christmas fun. —New York Tribune.

MODERN STATESMANSHIP. Denver Republican. He called on our prime minister— "I, you suffragettes; "E was nursing a black eye sinister— "I, you suffragettes; "E was met by brunettes and blondes and roans Who played at cricket with 'is poor bones 'is talk is sandwiched between' deep groans— "I, you suffragettes. He called on a member of Parliament, "I, you suffragettes; "E beckoned me in when my card is sent, "I, you suffragettes; "E 'tokes me down through a hiron door "I, you suffragettes; "To 'a fortified room beneath the floor, "Cause 'e darnt't live upstairs no more— "I, you suffragettes. The 'Ouse of Lords is a 'orspawl— "I, you suffragettes; Men walk on crutches, or limp or crawl— "I, you suffragettes; You can 'ear the crack of the stout oak staff On the 'eads of lawmakers, great and grave, And statesmanship is for the brave— "I, you suffragettes.

\$4.98 For this mellow toned, full sized, American built Mandolin. We were fortunate enough to purchase a lot of fifty at an underprice—just in time for an extraordinary Christmas special—it's a sparkling chance for you. The mandolins are made with 20 rosewood ribs; are exquisitely ornamented with pearl; have ebony finger boards; and for a very little more will be sold complete with a leather bound canvas case and an extra set of strings at no extra charge. Mail orders will be filled if orders arrive before the lot has been sold. Pay for it in three easy payments, before Christmas, if you wish. The A. Hospe Co. 1513-1515 Douglas Street OMAHA - NEBRASKA

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