

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 12th day of December, 1910.

ROBERT J. INGLE, Notary Public.

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

Welcome to the Land show.

Is it time to say that Governor Dix is in a fix?

Evidently the Bailey party is backing the Harmon party.

Another bailout is to try to cross the Atlantic. They are all in the air.

It's up to Nebraska's solons to hammer down a few tacks for the income tax.

'New spurious \$10 note out.' Keeps a fellow constantly counting his money.

'Big Tim' Sullivan wants the women to vote. Ah, quit your 'ticking,' Tim.

Lobbyists for armor plate and big gun manufacturers continue to see war with Japan just ahead.

Omaha is again the residence of a United States senator. It remains to be seen what we get along with it.

Cy Sulloway stole an awful march on J. Warren Keifer in the introduction of that \$45,000,000 pension bill.

The difficulty besetting Omaha policemen is to watch the lid-lifters and the purse-lifters at one and the same time.

A citizen of Spain cheered the American flag by mistake and then committed suicide. Hurrah for Old Glory!

'Why do women marry?' asks an eastern contemporary. We'll take just one guess: Because they are asked to.

Let congress not forget that little matter of curbing the rapacity of the express companies by establishing the parcels post.

Dr. Wiley's contention that our leather is 'loaded,' otherwise chemically impure, may account for shoes being called 'kicks.'

Speaking of economical railroad management, we recall that the Illinois Central used to be held up a few years ago as the model.

Owing to the form of citizenship oath in Washington, where women are now enfranchised, 4,000 of them have sworn that they are men. Oh, tut, tut!

Anybody who could not see harmony of ideas and concert of action in that democratic Jacksonian gathering at Baltimore must have been blind.

That sultan of Sulu is a good fellow, all right. He writes back that we are the finest folks he has struck and he is coming again. Welcome, sultan.

Dr. Woodrow Wilson's private secretary is named 'Tumulty.' We may expect to hear a good deal of things being 'Tumulty' in New Jersey in the next two years.

Just as a reminder, Theodore N. Bell of California served notice on the feasting democrats not to forget that William J. Bryan still lives. Talk about the hand upon the wall at the feast of Belshazzar.

Monetary Legislation Prospects.

The report of the monetary commission recommending a plan for complete reorganization of our currency system and readjustment of the relation of the national banks to the government reminds us that this big unsolved problem is still ahead of us.

The particular plan recommended by the monetary commission will have to pass through the crucible of criticism and debate and inasmuch as it can hardly secure the attention of congress at the present session, it is pretty certain to go over to the next congress and leave ample time for discussion.

The fact that the report emanates from the commission of which Senator Aldrich is the head will be used to prejudice it before the public, and, in truth, is already being so used. But opinions ventured on such a comprehensive proposal, without first studying it in its details, are not worth much. There are admittedly serious defects in our present currency system which need revision to fit in with modern business methods. Carefully thought out suggestions for relief should have our earnest attention, and their endorsement by Senator Aldrich and his associates of the Monetary commission entitle them to a fair hearing even by those, like us, who have not been predisposed toward either asset currency or a central bank.

The Babel and the Feast.

That democratic wine supper at Baltimore seems to have resembled the Babel of tongues and the feast of Belshazzar all in one with the confusion of ideas as to paramount issues and party policies about as complete as that of the tongues. Leather-junged orators of the Bailey and Blackburn type lost their voices in the din of disorder. But the excuse that poor acoustics were to blame will not go. For although last on the program, one man, Theodore N. Bell of California, made himself heard as the champion of the absent Mr. Bryan with this reminder:

No matter how much you may be attracted toward gentlemen from Ohio and New Jersey in connection with leadership in 1912, you must not forget that the affections of millions of people still cluster about the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bryan.

Whether the hilarious lords of democracy were or were not 'seized with consternation at the handwriting upon the wall,' it is evident that they beheld the writing. The public is asked to attach no political significance to this gathering and it probably would not, but for this one utterance which alone seems to have been sufficiently coherent to bear the attachment of weighty political significance. The one serious moment, then, in all this long-heralded jubilee came when the sponsor of Mr. Bryan, who was not specially urged to the feast, spoke out his discordant note.

The Bee, it will be remembered, has insisted all along that Mr. Bryan must be reckoned with in any plan of organization or reorganization the democrats may undertake. In spite of repeated declarations that he is no longer a force, they will find out better when they begin to line up for the battle in 1912. Thus far the anti-Bryan faction has made poor headway toward supplanting the Nebraskan Senator Bailey of Texas, who took pains to slight Dr. Wilson by praising Governor Harmon, declared his opposition to Champ Clark's tariff revision ideas, disclosing the house and senate leaders at odds to begin with on one important issue of the coming campaign. If there is no more coherency in the determination of policies within the party than there was coherency of speech or ideas in that Baltimore scramble, Henry Watterson and George Harvey are right in declaring that the time has not yet arrived for the democrats to celebrate triumphs.

Woodrow Wilson's Reforms.

It is a full grown man's job Governor Wilson sets himself in New Jersey. He challenges little dispute in declaring that his state has been too free in granting charters to corporations. That part of his inaugural address invites concord everywhere. New Jersey's generosity in this way has long since become notorious. It is because of such laxity that we find so many of the questionable corporations doing business in other states to have been incorporated in New Jersey. It is encouraging for the general trend of national and state legislation to have the new governor's promise that he will endeavor to change conditions that make it too easy to incorporate any kind of venture under the laws of that state. But he has a task upon his hands that will call for sturdy effort.

Dr. Wilson adds: A corporation exists only by license of law, and the law is responsible for what it creates. It can never rightly authorize any kind of fraud or imposition. It cannot rightfully allow the setting up of a business which has no sound basis or which follows methods which in any way outrage justice or fair dealing or the principles of honest industry. The law cannot give its license to things of that kind. It thereby authenticates what it ought to forbid.

The tenor of his whole address, distinguished for its literary merit, is for corporation reform. It becomes a matter of much general concern, since certain large interests not commonly identified with reform politics, betrayed such friendly feelings for the Princeton scholar before and after his nomination. His attitude upon these questions attracts more attention because of his possibility as a presidential candidate.

But Dr. Wilson holds a restraining hand upon his reform ideas, asserting that he is not for the 'foolish ardor of too sanguine or too radical reform.' He hits on some needed legislation and yet stops short of what might be regarded as too radical reform. New Jersey needs a shaking up in its corporation laws and methods of administering them, but even his most ardent admirers will do well not to expect too much of Governor Wilson's ability to make all the changes necessary. The current of reform in New Jersey is very sluggish, and there is no positive evidence that the incoming administration is going to prove entirely equal to all the demands upon it.

Senator Hitchcock.

The announcement in joint session of the result of the ballot on United States senator is the last of the series of steps which began with the primary nominations last August giving a commission to Gilbert M. Hitchcock to represent Nebraska in the United States senate for six years, beginning with the fourth day of March. This election by the legislature is merely a postscript to the expression of preference recorded at the polls in November.

Immediately after the result of the election was known The Bee said, "Congressman Hitchcock may well congratulate himself on his decisive majority, and yet he should not flatter himself too much that it is a personal tribute or a vindication of his public record." In this connection we will now add that Mr. Hitchcock's future course and work in the senate will determine the people of Nebraska in their judgment as to whether they have acted wisely and to their best interests.

The promotion of Mr. Hitchcock brings the senatorship back to Omaha at the same time that it passes it over to a democrat, being thus a sort of retribution to the republicans, who, four years ago, deprived Omaha of the representation it had had continuously since statehood was attained. It also gives us our first native-born senator from Nebraska and marks the maturity of the state in possessing a rising generation of its own, which will from now on take a more leading part in our public affairs.

While The Bee politically is, and will doubtless continue to be, in disagreement with Senator Hitchcock, it extends congratulations to him as a fellow townsman and as a fellow member of the newspaper profession.

Judge Smith.

The appointment by the president of Walter J. Smith, now congressman from the Ninth Iowa district, to the place on the bench of the circuit court of appeals, made vacant by the promotion of Judge Vandevanter to the supreme bench, will unquestionably add strength to that tribunal. Judge Smith's legal attainments and judicial qualifications are not open to question, and if this important place were not come to Nebraska we know of no one among the candidates from other states more acceptable to our people than Judge Smith will be. In fact, Judge Smith is as close to Nebraska as an outsider can come, having been born and raised, and still residing, in Council Bluffs, within sight of Nebraska soil.

The real question the president had to solve as to Judge Smith's eligibility arose from the fact that he is a leader of the republican side in the house and one of the few men of commanding ability re-elected to the next house. His promotion to the bench, therefore, removes him from the legislative forum, where his services would be most useful and highly desirable, if not almost indispensable. The president seems to have decided in favor of the claims of the judiciary and been content to let the question of house leadership take care of itself. He has at the same time declined to involve a judicial appointment in a controversy between insurgents and regulars, being guided by his knowledge of the man and his qualifications for judicial service.

While we congratulate Iowa and Judge Smith in landing the prize, we hope for better consideration soon for Nebraska.

The Land Show.

The Omaha Land show comes into being under most favorable circumstances. It belongs to no single city, state or community of interest, except that of the great transmississippi country, which it mirrors. It has the active support of the leading men and interests of the west. Its one mission is to show what the west is and is to become; to exploit its resources and invite their development.

In this enterprise, therefore, every man, woman and child interested in the growth and welfare of the west should find a personal concern. Private and public influences are coming to the climax of their power and energy in working out the destiny of this vast empire of agricultural and mineral wealth. This land of opportunity is just upon the threshold, so to speak, of its future possibilities. So this exhibit of western land products is introduced at the most opportune time. It should be a tremendous stimulant to the agencies at work to spread the gospel of intelligent effort applied to western soil.

The Anti-Saloon reformers in our little suburb of Benson are prosecuting the licensed liquor dealers charged with selling out of hours. Why this discrimination as between Benson and Omaha? In Omaha,

Washington Life

Some Interesting Phases and Conditions Observed at the Nation's Capital.

A vigorous protest, sure to grow in volume as the country is heard from, meets the project of the commissioners of the District of Columbia to establish a reformatory for criminals at Belvoir, on the Potomac, a short distance from Mount Vernon. In a circular, calling attention to the threatened profanation of a locality rich in the tenderest of patriotic memories, the Mount Vernon Ladies' association says:

The association, representing as it does every citizen of the nation, can best voice the indignant protests of their millions of constituents against such flagrant desecration as that proposed.

This they do with emphasis by appealing to the senate and house of representatives to stop this project before it is too late. They fully understand that the price and accessory of every such reformatory is the desire to acquire this property for the purpose named, but it is no excuse for their utter disregard of not only our objection founded on sentiment, but also of the fact that the entire neighborhood of Belvoir will be menaced by the presence of a horde of criminals, the escape of whom is possibly always calculated to fill us with uneasiness.

That prisoners from the work house at Occoquan (where the commissioners are supposed to safely incarcerate them) have broken their bounds shows what might occur at Belvoir.

Therefore, of these two very serious objections, our association reiterates its protest against this so-called reformatory being established at Belvoir, and hopes that congress, by proper legislation if needed, will compel the District of Columbia commissioners to locate their reformatory elsewhere.

William E. Tuttle, Jr., a democrat of Westfield, who is to succeed Congressman Charles N. Fowler in the next congress, was in Washington the other day, when a friend who was piloting him around espied Uncle Joe Cannon and steered Tuttle into the presence of the speaker.

"Mr. Speaker, I want to introduce you to Mr. Tuttle, one of the congressmen-elect from Jersey," said the guide.

"Here, very glad to meet you," said Uncle Joe brusquely and started to pass on.

"But come back a moment, Uncle Joe. I want to explain," insisted Mr. Tuttle's friend. "Why don't you know that Mr. Tuttle is to take Charlie Fowler's place?"

"Grabbing Tuttle by both hands in a viselike grip, Uncle Joe exclaimed: "Congratulations, my friend! I'm glad to meet you. I'm willing to shake hands fifty times a day with the fellow who is to take Fowler's place, even if he be a democrat."

The officials of the government who pursue law breaking trusts say that the most effective way to curb the public, as soon as the word is sent broadcast that a certain trust is violating the statutes, it sends its ways and scatters off to safety. Commissioner of Corporations Smith has had some funny experience with quick reforms following publicity.

"We reported on a system of railway rebates several years ago," he said. "That system covered a large part of the country and inside of three months after our report the railroad had canceled all the rebates or discriminatory rates that had been criticized as illegal in that report. But the publicity did the business, because the rebate system is in all inside of three months was stopped."

"We made a report on the cotton exchange, and inside of a year the New Orleans cotton exchange changed its system and practically adopted the reforms which we recommended and has been working under them with great satisfaction since then. We also published a report on the tobacco combinations from small tobacco manufacturers that they felt as though they have 'gotten out of prison' as they say. Some of them declare if it had not been for the exposure of oppressive methods, due to that publicity, they could not have continued in business."

"The independent oil men have said the same things. We make reports that cover from 300 to 500 or 600 printed pages, but the summary of each report when it is given out must in every case go into two or two and a half columns of a newspaper and be put in such a shape that the paper will print it. We recognize the fact that there is just one real means of publicity, and that is the newspaper, and we adapt our summaries for that purpose."

John Dwight, republican whip of the house, was on his way from a wobbly district in New York of which he was a resident to Washington for the opening of congress. In the smoking compartment in the train he met a group of Washington correspondents. After mournfully relating the slaughter among the regulars at the recent election the correspondents turned their attention to the success of the insurgents.

"You newspaper men," said Mr. Dwight, "are doing a terrific injustice to one insurgent in the house. One morning some months ago he happened to think of an important letter he'd neglected to write. He rushed out of the senate chamber into the first committee room he came to and appealed to the man at the nearest typewriter to help him out. When the letter was finished the senator wanted to pay for the stenographic work, but the stenographer, who was also one of the insurgents, declined to take anything. Every time the senator has met the man since he has spoken of the favor with as much sense of gratitude as if the stenographer had lent him money to set himself up in business."

Giving Truth an Airing. Baltimore American.

If the truth were told sensible democrats would concede that in every way President Taft is an acceptable executive and that there is no logic in even the contemplation of a change. Furthermore there won't be any.

Senator Jeff Davis of Arkansas is a great man to appreciate a favor, no matter how trifling. One morning some months ago he happened to think of an important letter he'd neglected to write. He rushed out of the senate chamber into the first committee room he came to and appealed to the man at the nearest typewriter to help him out. When the letter was finished the senator wanted to pay for the stenographic work, but the stenographer, who was also one of the insurgents, declined to take anything. Every time the senator has met the man since he has spoken of the favor with as much sense of gratitude as if the stenographer had lent him money to set himself up in business.

People Talked About

Colonel John Harper of LeRoy, Ill., is 78 years old and boasts of having been the father of 156 newspapers scattered in many towns in six western cities.

A Cleveland burglar is said to use the card index system for the purpose of keeping himself informed as to the identity of private who it is worth while to burglarize.

The lawyers are still piling into the United States senate. Johnson of Maine, McLean of Connecticut, Pomeroy of Ohio, Kern of Indiana and Works of California, are members of the bar. And there will be others, when the senatorial elections are ended.

Elihu Leavenworth, defeated by the Waterbury, Conn., city farmers in his purpose to perpetuate the memory of Benjamin Franklin by the erection of a monument to Franklin's memory on the public square, left \$15,000 in his will for this purpose.

To save time and facilitate business, the Mississippi supreme court has stopped reading judicial opinions. What happens now is that when the court is ready to announce decisions a bare announcement is made as to which side wins. The court's reasons are to be printed, however, for the benefit of the bar.

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The Bee's Letter Box

Contributions on Timely Subjects Not Exceeding Two Hundred Words Are Invited from Our Readers.

Fortify the Panama Canal. OMAHA, Jan. 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: In the discussion as to fortifying the Panama canal, I have been impressed with the argument that it is not a business proposition to invest so many millions of dollars in any enterprise possible of attack from the outside without taking advantage of every means of defense and protection. Our nonresistance friends tell us that the unfortified canal would be far less likely to danger for the reason that the Hague tribunal would attack upon unfortified property. That is well enough as a theory, but when nations are in the war mood, even the Hague tribunal is no sure guarantor of peace. We know that treaties between nations have not invariably prevented war. What is the Hague tribunal after all, but a "gentleman's agreement"? It would be ideal if all we needed to prevent war was the peace of nations, but nevertheless, what nation has as yet destroyed its munitions of war because of the Hague tribunal? Back of this tribunal of international arbitration we find the power to enforce it. What is that power? The military arms of the nations.

It strikes me that fortification of the Panama canal by the United States, not only is desirable, but is indispensable and was so ordained in the final treaty negotiated between the United States and England by Secretary Hay and Lord Pauncefote. Make it neutral. That is all right. But neutralization is no argument against, but rather an argument in favor of fortification. LESTER Q. MACSWEENEY.

Beauty of Cold Storage.

EN ROUTE, Jan. 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: I call attention to your editorial this morning entitled "Cleaning Out Cold Storage Plants," in which you speak of the "avalanche of food articles, some of which have been in keeping five years."

I am much surprised that a publication of standing should promulgate a statement misleading to the layman. In cold storage matters, when accurate information is so easily obtained. The publication of such statements tends to discredit cold storage and food articles in the minds of the consumer, and thus deprive the producer of the great benefit accorded to him from the facility afforded of holding a portion of his products through the season of extreme low prices. The cold storage houses are also of the greatest benefit to the consumer because they enable him to obtain food articles during the season of over production at reasonable prices.

There have been many experiments made in the holding of food products for a number of years, but no sane man would ever consider holding any quantity of such articles for five years or anything like it. If he carried such things over one year he would be expected to give the season's produce to the birds. Every sane man who produces and any man who makes a study of economic conditions will realize this is true. The American Association of Refrigeration, 315 Dearborn street, Chicago, will be glad at any time to furnish the facts and you will benefit your readers by publishing them. A. N. PILSBRY.

Where is the Policeman?

OMAHA, Jan. 18.—To the Editor of The Bee: While we talk about "The City Beautiful" we in Omaha are tolerating things that no live, up-to-date village would stand for. Here are our telegraph poles, fences and vacant buildings plastered over with advertising posters that most disgust every stranger who sees them.

I thought there was a law against this. Where are the police? Why don't they tear down these hand bills and arrest a few of the culprits. KICKER.

A GREAT IOWA IDEA.

Efficiency of the Road Roller Spurns Action Elsewhere. Washington Post.

The state of Iowa claims to have discovered the solution of the "good roads problem." Some philanthropist out there, who is also a genius, conceived the plan of making a good country road by the "dragging" process. A large tree is felled and a log taken from the butt, severed in twain by wedge or saw, and on the first side of the two beams are nailed cross-pieces diagonally, and when thus fastened the two timbers are joined together in the shape of a flatiron. To this harrow is hitched horses or mules, and the road is "dragged" when it is wet from rain.

All Iowa is praising the great success.

The Soldier of Fortune.

Arthur Chapman in Denver Republican. We didn't think so much of Jim when he lived in our town. Just sort of worthless—that was him—'Was alius loafin' round?' 'Tut, tut, to work