

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss: Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, deposes that the average daily circulation, less spoiled, unsold and returned copies, for the month of February, 1911, was 47,621.

Subscribed in my presence and aware to before me this 1st day of March, 1911. Notary Public.

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

To the retailers: Come again, and come often.

Now, you kicker, what have you to say about the weather?

Lucky Baldwin's will is adjudged valid. Lucky even in death.

Some of those lame ducks will have to paddle about very lively now for a while.

Even retired to private life, Chauncey M. Depew should remain among our best story tellers.

Mr. Sheehan insists he will remain "my party's candidate." Wonder if Mr. Murphy is the party.

It is easily believable that Mrs. Belmont's suffragette farm is an attractive place for passing farmers.

Miss Jane Addams says she never spends more than \$10 for a hat. Still, more than double the average price of a man's hat.

Dr. Woods Hutchinson says early rising shortens life. Possibly, but it lengthens out that day to beat the band.

Lent seems to be generally observed by those who should observe it, but the Stork apparently has not quit the job.

Governor Dix is not even taken seriously by Boss Murphy. Why should he be, after consorting all the while with him?

A correspondent wants to know whether Senator Bailey's resignation became effective. No, we regret to say, it did not.

Uncle Joe Cannon lost \$5 he had bet that he extra session would be called. It is to be hoped he was not foolish enough to bet with Mr. Taft.

If Omaha is ready to settle with the water company and take the plant, the thing to do is to settle without any overhanging law suits or perpetual lawyers' fees.

Mr. Bryan says he gets more satisfaction in seeing his policies endorsed than he would in being president. Tell that to the ruling power of Denmark, colonel.

Wonderful as is the age in which we live, and marvelous as is its speed, we cannot hope to move fast enough to see a revision of the tariff that satisfies everybody.

The British officer, General MacDonald, who was reported to have killed himself, is now drilling troops in China, which, perhaps, is nearly the same thing.

Congressman Lobeck is not expressing his views very loudly on impending subjects of national legislation. He will get his cue only after he reaches Washington.

Rev. Dr. Aked, in leaving the Rockefeller church of New York to fly to more congenial fields in San Francisco, bears somewhat of a relation to Dan Matthews of novel fame.

Congressional constituencies have always been jealous of the wit of their representatives, manifesting a preference to keep it for home consumption whenever it became too prominent at Washington.

Here's hoping that our Fort Omaha and Fort Crook soldiers return in due time without having had to serve as targets for any Mexican marksmen, even though the risk of being hit would be slight.

Mr. Bryan is quoted as saying that his advocacy of any measure before the present legislature would, in his opinion, be calculated to induce the democratic majority to do precisely the opposite. Still, if so, that is no necessary reflection on Mr. Bryan.

Democrats and the Tariff.

Three courses of procedure by which the democrats may deal with the tariff in the extra session of congress are suggested by the Houston Post, one of our party organs: First, the tariff revision legislation, and then tariff revision; second, reciprocity, and then tariff revision; third, tariff revision legislation incorporating the reciprocity bill as a part thereof.

But the Post does not pretend to say which course shall be selected. Neither does any other democratic organ or leader. None of them knows. The party is thus far at sea on that proposition, important as it is. The first thing to be done, therefore, is to decide which route to take before starting upon the journey. Nor is it certain that the selection will be made promptly or without more or less internal discord, not conducive to ultimate profit to the party or the country.

Some democratic papers incline to the belief that the house will decide to attach the reciprocity plan to the plan of tariff revision, which augurs none too bright a prospect for Mr. Taft's reciprocity measure. One thing is all but certain—if the majority becomes entangled in a party dispute over whether to revise the tariff by schedules or by throwing it open to general overhauling it will be late in the session before anything is done and reciprocity may, after all, be accorded only secondary consideration.

Appeals of party organs to the democratic majority to realize the gravity of its position are being made. On the results of the extra and regular sessions of the Sixty-second congress, these papers concede, will depend largely the results in 1912. Evidently they believe in the necessity for such appeals and the need for a steady influence. They must quake as they think of entrusting the party's fate to the hands of leaders as fitful as Champ Clark and Joe Bailey.

Already some democratic papers are beginning to eliminate Clark from view as the head of the party and are crowding forward Underwood of Alabama, the chairman of the ways and means committee. He is being hailed as a steady force and he will have charge of the tariff legislation. Perhaps he is steeper than the Missouri speaker-to-be. But his and all the other ballast available will be required.

System in the Army.

The abruptness of the order and the spectacle itself of the government's mobilizing 22,000 troops on the Mexican border are both interesting and impressive, but aside from these the ease and facility with which the great task is being accomplished is most admirable. Fragments of the army have been assembled from widely separated parts in every direction with as much order and as little confusion as if all the soldiers and the accoutrements of war had been taken from one depot.

Early Bird Vardaman.

James K. Vardaman, who as governor of Mississippi embarrassed the whole south by his radical acts and violent utterances, is out a year and half ahead of time for senator to succeed Senator Percy, whose term expires in 1913. Vardaman was defeated for Senator Money's place by John Sharp Williams. He is apparently making a lively campaign this time and receiving considerable support. Friendly newspapers are printing double-headed, double column booms of his meetings. People are falling over each other to attend them and cheer on the dauntless hero. For instance, at Jackson, Miss., the chairman of the meeting sounded the keynote of the multitude's enthusiasm thus:

What means this sea of upturned faces? It means that the people of this city are for James K. Vardaman and against abuse and personal politics.

Later Vardaman was clasped with the great men Mississippi had produced. He was the governor who bade President Roosevelt to avoid Mississippi in one of his southern tours, where he was greeted with universal good cheer. He belongs to the school of reaction when it comes to the old questions that mark divisions between north and south and he would undoubtedly wield an unprofitable influence of this sort in the senate. He is a more forcible character than Jeff Davis of Arkansas, about as forcible as Tillman was in his prime, but Mississippi should have men better adapted to the needs and the conditions of the times to send to the United States senate.

Vindication of John Mitchell.

It is not fair to organized labor in general, or even to the whole of the United Mine Workers' union, that John Mitchell's enforced retirement from the Civic Federation be charged up to it. The blame belongs, and should be placed, on the socialist or radical element, which, for the time, holds control of the mine workers' organization. Mr. Mitchell was made the victim of certain trumped-up charges and given his choice of quitting one or other of the organizations. He has quit the Civic Federation, where, as head of the labor department, he was in a way to be of great service to employer and employe alike in promoting peaceful relations.

The circumstances of this action by the mine workers seem to be all to their discredit. Mitchell was denied a hearing before the convention or in the official journal. He probably will get a hearing in the latter, however, since the management of the paper is to change. He is now free to fight out this issue and the best interests of organized labor, as well as industrialism, would be benefited by his vindication, if not his restoration to his former position with the Civic Federation.

This case serves to emphasize the need of level-headed leaders in organized labor. It would be a bad day for all concerned to have the reins fall into the hands of such men as have deposed Mitchell. Such men as John Mitchell are creditable products of unionism which both unionism and nonunionism cannot afford to sacrifice. He is just the man for the position he

held, sort of official mediator between the employed and the employer. Mr. Mitchell has conducted himself with patience and dignity, reflecting great credit and honor upon the cause of union labor. But those who have forced his concession stand in no such enviable light.

Playing Politics.

Notwithstanding the admonition of Governor Aldrich in his inaugural, the democratic majority of both houses of the legislature are evincing the same disposition to play politics as did the last democratic legislature, which by so doing involved itself in odium. Just as the legislature two years ago had for its chief object the creation of appointive offices to be filled by democrats, and the transfer of patronage from republicans in other parts of the state house to the democratic incumbent of the governor's office, so this year the democrats seem to be hunting for ways to manufacture political capital and put republicans in the hole on all sorts of legislation.

All The Bee wants to do at this time is to warn the republicans in the legislature not to let themselves be used as catapaws to pull democratic chestnuts out of the fire. The people of the state are in less humor for these smart performances at playing politics than they ever were. They do not expect much from the democrats in the legislature, but they do expect the republicans to stand up straight, to let the democrats have a monopoly on jobbery and trickery and to devote themselves to making a record for honest, economical and conscientious public service.

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Indianapolis News. Perhaps the members of congress who are disappointed about their summer outing plans can cheer up on the thought that there are thousands of other men in the country with jobs just as numerous who won't even get a look-in on a vacation.

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Baltimore American. The students of a well-known women's college will probably be thrown into spasms of indignation by the statement of one of them that plain girls go to college to try to compete with rivals more endowed with natural gifts in the matrimonial market—that pretty and attractive girls do not need college training to secure husbands. This frank confession will not help to popularize college education, nor the exponents, either, of such startling and candid theories.

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Facts Wanted.

A movement is on foot down at Lincoln to inaugurate the double-shift system for the fire department in that city, and Omaha is cited as the object lesson city where the double-shift has been successfully established. So far as Omaha having the double-shift in its fire department is concerned, that is a matter of record. The experiment was begun more than three years ago, and in that time it ought to have demonstrated whether it is an improvement or not. The precise operation of the double-shift, how much it has cost the city over and above what the outlay would have been under the old plan, whether this additional cost is money well invested or money wasted, whether the firemen as a whole prefer the double-shift or would rather have continued as before and receive the added cost of the department in the form of increased salaries, are all questions in which we are still very much in the dark.

As Omaha is, as we understand it, the only city in the country of similar size and pretensions in which the double-shift for firemen prevails, it would certainly be interesting, as well as instructive, to have the facts as to this unique experiment fully developed and disclosed, not only for our own benefit, but for the benefit of other cities which might be influenced by them. An official report on this subject reflecting it from all angles in the light of nearly four years' experience would be most timely.

According to "Chris" Gruenther the "criminal joker" in the initiative and referendum has been reduced from a felony to a misdemeanor by raising the referendum percentage from 5 per cent to 10 per cent. Never mind, after the names of 5 per cent of the voters have been obtained on the petition the other 5 per cent will come like rolling off a log.

The president of the Water board declares that in the beginning the board had three options it might pursue, first, to construct a new water works; second, to purchase the existing plant under the contract, and third, to acquire by eminent domain. In this he is mistaken, as under the

Washington Life

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Beatrice Express: The "Jim Crow" bill has received its quietus and nothing further will be heard of it at the present session. This is as it should be. Nebraska was one of the first, if not the first, to pass resolutions back in slavery times, against holding the black men in bondage, and it should never place a bill on its statutes which would discriminate against the negro. There is no race question in Nebraska, and there never should be one.

Alma Record: Upon the recommendation of Congressman George W. Norris, A. F. Buecher, editor of the Grand Island Independent, has been appointed postmaster of that city. It seems the administration is slowly but surely recognizing Congressman Norris' endorsements for postmasters. Thus far there has been no appointment made at this point and the patrons of the office are anxiously waiting to see whether the administration or Norris will have the say in the matter.

Kearney Hub: For many years the placing of notices of constitutional amendments was a piece of patronage belonging to the secretary of state. Two years ago Senator Tanner succeeded in having it transferred to the governor, who was then democratic in order that democratic newspapers should get it. The republicans took their democratic medicine with scarce a whimper. Tanner is in the senate again and there is a republican governor, the secretary of state being also a republican, and now he proposes that the amendment shall be printed in two newspapers in each county—one republican and one democratic—and that the legal fee shall be divided between them. And what do you think of that?

Lines to a Laugh.

"Do you know what to do when a lad swoons?" "I have a faint idea."—Baltimore American.

"I understand you look that crippled chaffeur into your office." "Yes, but I had to let him go again." "Why?" "He went joy riding in the elevator."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"What in the world do you want with so many garden seeds?" inquired the patient member of congress. "You surely don't plant all of them?" "No," replied the constituent. "We put a little milk and sugar on them and use them for breakfast food."—Washington Star.

"We dined out last evening. Pa disgraced us, as usual." "As to how?" "Got to the end of the dinner with three forks and two spoons still unused."—Washington Herald.

"That horrid prosecuting attorney charged the man who stole Fido merely with dog stealing." "What charge did you wish brought against him?" "I wanted him tried for kidnaping."—Chicago Post.

"There's something wrong about that new car you sold me," says the man with the exuberant ears to the automobile agent. "How's that?" asked the agent. "I drove it 200 miles yesterday and didn't have any trouble at all with it."—Judge.

"What do you think happened?" "Tell it." "Conductor saw me running after that car, and he held it till I caught it. What do you think of that?" "What do I think of it? Why, I think it's the most original lie I've heard for a

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