

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of March, 1911. (Seal) ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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

Insurgents there are even among the suffragettes.

Assessors often have a keener sense of property than propriety.

"Terrible Landslide on Mount Vesuvius." Democratic or republican?

Shirking responsibilities never made a great world power out of any nation.

Manhattan, Nev., is to have a frog farm. It cannot touch Reno's lobster ranch.

According to all reports, those Seeing-Omaha excursions are eye-openers.

"The geese are flying high yet."—News item. No thrust at the aviators, we trust.

Mexico is under martial law, which is doubtless not noticeable to the oldest inhabitants.

President Diaz seems to grow more healthy as the smell of powder becomes stronger.

Evidently the commission form of city government is a good thing, but not for the Water board.

It must be hard on Attorney General-For-a-Little-While Arthur Mullen to find himself out of print.

Perhaps that \$10,000,000 Mr. Carnegie gave was a sort of peace bond under which he placed the nations.

Those who propose to wipe out all party lines should be careful not to run us into a barbed wire fence by mistake.

The colonel is beginning to feel the exhilarating effect of that fine old western ozone. He is calling them by name now.

All Americans in Mexican prisons, our friends assure us, are perfectly safe. Surely no one had thought to question that.

Miss Helen Gould is suggested as president of Wellesley college. Is Wellesley seeking to make a big endowment haul?

It is too bad that Germany does not look with favor on Uncle Sam's Mexican policy, but then even Uncle Sam cannot please everybody.

Perhaps the president simply proposed to follow the plan of the base ball magnates and send his army south for a spring training.

If the harem skirt ever really became a menace the surest way to abolish it would be to enact a law compelling every woman to wear one.

When the legislature gets through with that commission form measure it will be so improved that John Paul Breen will not recognize his offspring.

It is recalled that ex-Congressman Tawney was born on the Gettysburg battlefield, which might explain his belligerent attitude in the late congress.

The exemption of the costly Water board from the provisions of the commission form of government bill is not especially calculated to make it more popular.

The feminine devotee of the cigarette might cite as an additional argument the case of Aunt Nancy Shepard, the Virginia negress, who died recently at the age of 112 and had been an inveterate smoker all her life.

St. Louis is pronounced by Census Director Durand the most normal city, that is, the one with the largest American-born population, as the Kerry Patches, old French Market and the preponderating German population might readily indicate.

Extra Session Prospects.

Congressman Rucker of Missouri is quoted as saying that tariff revision will be the first order of business by the democrats in the house at the coming extra session; that it will precede action on Canadian reciprocity, for which the extra session was specially called.

As Mr. Rucker is serving his seventh term in the house and is one of the leading members, his words are to be taken seriously. Undoubtedly the democrats will attempt a considerable revision of the tariff and in doing so are sure to play a good deal at politics, although they stand to lose in such a game.

The consensus of public opinion is that the session should be brief, but already there are indications that it will not be. Aside from the probable squabble over the tariff, the democrats are talking of investigating charges of republican extravagance.

It is up to the democrats in congress to assert themselves in positive action—they can not rely on their old policy of negation.

Mr. Bryan and the Newspapers. Mr. Bryan has broken out in another tirade against the newspapers, denouncing them as a whole as dishonest and commercialistic.

It was only about fifteen years ago that Mr. Bryan, himself, was one of these hired men, compelled thus to make a living because he found his profession of law inadequate.

In his latest outburst Mr. Bryan says it was not what the newspapers had done "for" him, but "to" him, that gave him his impressions. Still, if any man in the country ought to feel grateful to the newspapers it is Mr. Bryan, for more than any other public man, they have made him True, he has been an excellent source of news, but when the newspapers took him up he was a struggling wage earner and now he is wealthy and owns a publication that might, by a strained construction, be classed as a newspaper, itself.

One thing Mr. Bryan has never learned is to believe that an individual or a newspaper that disagrees with him can do so and yet be either honest or right. Of course, if the majority of newspapers had agreed with him and endorsed all his political vagaries they would be applauded by him as honest and able tribunes of the people.

Anti-Trust Law Pioneers. Some of the strongest, if not the most conspicuous and pivotal, of what might be called our anti-trust laws came to us from statesmen who never would be placed in the spectacular or anti-corporation class.

So an explanation should be made for the Sherman anti-trust law. The measure enacted into law was introduced not by Senator Sherman, but by Senator Hoar of Massachusetts. Senator Sherman had for years been working out the principle involved in this measure and, after thirty-four years of consecutive service in the senate, he introduced senate bill No. 1 in the Fifty-first congress on December 4, 1889. It was entitled "A bill to declare unlawful trusts and combinations in restraint of trade and productions." But his bill met defeat

because the great Ohio statesman was in advance of his time.

But Senator Sherman had aroused congress and the country and, after a powerful plea for the passage of his bill, he took up and led to a successful issue a substitute measure prepared by Senator Hoar, which became a law in the summer of 1890. Inasmuch as Senator Sherman was the originator of the legislation and its leading advocate, Senator Hoar, himself, proposed that his bill be known as the Sherman law and so we come by the Sherman anti-trust act. The Hoar bill was much more elaborate and comprehensive than the original Sherman bill, but based upon the latter.

Demands of Insurrectos.

If the rebel forces stand out for a concession to their original demand, that President Diaz declare his seat vacant and submit to a re-election, an early termination of hostilities may not be looked for, but some of their demands do not appear unreasonable, and at least one, that affecting land distribution, seems already to have been favorably considered by the chief executive.

These are the terms laid down by the insurrecto leaders: Abolition of the re-election of president. Election of the governor in a state instead of a federal appointment.

Curtailment of the powers of the jefe politico, or mayors of cities, and provision for their selection by popular vote instead of by appointment by the governor of a state.

Reforms of the land laws so that plantations now as extensive as from 1,000,000 to 10,000,000 acres may be divided and distributed, or sold in small lots to the people. Free ballots in all elections and preservation of individual rights under the constitution.

Extension of the school system. President Diaz is quoted as saying that he will take steps to destroy the last vestige of the old feudal system by providing a way to parcel out the vast estates. That being one of the vital issues, it would seem that wise statesmanship might reach an agreement on the other terms until the matter of the presidency is reached.

The insurrectos contend that Diaz could never win on a free ballot. That is a moot question, but whether he could or not, Porfirio Diaz is scarcely to be expected to make that concession, although possibly a compromise on that point might be made if the other essential parts of the treaty were met.

But if these were the only conditions of peace the insurrectos would not appear in such bad light. Their demands all look in the direction of representative government. Who that believes in that could object to the election of executive officers instead of appointment? To abolition of the feudal system? To free elections? To popular education? Those are vital principles, and whether they triumph in this revolution or not, they will eventually. They ignore, however, the unpreparedness of the great body of Mexicans for the exercise of self-government and the need of developing qualities of citizenship as a foundation for stable government.

A Chance to Do Something.

Our do-nothing Water board has been trying hard for some time to make the public believe it is desperate to do something. The letter of President Woodbury of the water company renewing the offer of the company, originally made five years ago, to build the much needed main from the Florence pumping station, gives the Water board a chance to get busy. Heretofore this proposition from the water company has received no consideration whatever from the Water board, but if the Water board is now really in earnest in its expressed desire to relieve the situation and to provide additional water supply and improved fire protection it will start to do it, "not next month, or next year, but now."

Despite previous denials, the Water board now admits that the second main from Florence is absolutely imperative, and its construction is included in the estimate for which it is figuring on an issue of \$5,250,000 of bonds. If the Water board gets down to business right away this main could probably be laid and put into service within ninety days, whereas if the board waits until the bonds are voted and issued and the city actually gets possession of the plant before even advertising for bids, the quickest we could expect would put completion off another year.

At last the Water board can do something, and do it now—but will it?

Patching it Up.

The commission form of government bill, fathered by the Ad club, is apparently being patched up to plug the holes as far as possible, which The Bee has pointed out, and it may eventually be whipped into workable shape. In one respect the exclusion of the Water board from the commission plan is a distinct step backward. There is absolutely no more reason why the Water board should be thus excluded and privileged than the Police board, the Park board or the Library board. The potent argument for the commission plan is that it does away with all such boards and centralizes power and responsibility in one group of commissioners, who can be held accountable because subject to recall. If the Water board is to be retained we suggest still a further amendment to section 21 of the bill so that the recall may be applied to members of the Water board as well as to councilmen. If the recall is a good thing for the councilmen, it cer-

tainly must be equally good for Water board members.

The University of Nebraska is losing the dean of the engineering school to the University of Illinois. Our refusal to let members of the teaching staff be eligible to the Carnegie pension fund the same as professors in other institutions is bound to be more or less costly, even though only by indirect influence.

The initiative and referendum bill still contains the "criminal joker" as a "misdemeanor" instead of a "felony." A little thing like that, however, will not faze either "Chris" Gruenther or the World-Herald.

If the conferences over the gas claims were only held in the evening instead of in the day time, enough gas could be burned to make the gas company whole on any kind of a settlement.

"The town has the aspect of a city preparing for war," observes a typewriter scout, speaking of El Paso. Evidently some humorist has found his way to the front.

The prisoners of war down in Mexico will be fed regularly, providing anything is left over from the soldiers' meals, the reports say. It's a gay life, this war business.

Omaha is getting to be quite a Mecca for Nebraska postmasters. First they come here to hold political meetings, and then they come again to explain them.

The Resort Courtneys.

According to Mr. Roosevelt all that the United States demands of Mexico is justice and good order. Isn't there danger of Mexico replying that a little more justice and good order in the United States wouldn't hurt?

Will They Smash Tradition?

The democrats have two weeks more, after this one, in which to frame up a program that will have in it something that looks to national rather than party benefit. If they do, however, they will rudely shatter a democratic tradition.

Grab Route to Reform.

If men are what they eat, as some theorists claim, perhaps the pure food laws are really responsible for the present outbreak against political bribery and corruption, and the warfare against cold-storage eggs may be the cause of the demand for more official purity.

Cutting the Express Meles.

Radical action from the Interstate Commerce commission in respect to express company rates is announced as an early probability. These rates need an overhauling, and it is high time they were setting it. But the one effective way to go about the solution of the express monopoly problem is to compel the railroads to assume the business directly.

Unloading on the Public.

Scientific Stock Watering a Modern Development. New York Financial World. When we were younger, more modest and conservative, we capitalized our enterprises more on the basis of intrinsic value. But in recent years, the tendency has been the other way, since we have come to realize the advantages of water, scientifically applied, to financing.

Little drops of water, scattered over trade names, good will, patent rights, onto the appraisals of real estate, equipment, and so forth, pretty soon swell out a table of assets into great and greater proportions. Eventually the assets appreciate so much that the owners of the business see a way of capitalizing the earning possibilities of their corporation.

Then they issue enough preferred stock to cover not only their investment in the business, but all the liabilities and frequently include a good profit likewise. This accomplished, the public is invited to take the preferred stock. All this is modern financial magic by which the public reimburses the owners of the business for their investments, pay their obligations and still maintain them in control of the business, through their ownership of the common stock, at fat salaries.

The principle may be all right as long as everything goes well, but we often wonder what would happen if something went wrong and the little drops of water had to be squeezed out by a receivership.

Political Drift

The cost of Chicago's first primary foetus up the enormous sum of \$98,000, or about \$3 for every vote cast.

Just to show that the "dry" lobby got something for its money, the Missouri legislature passed an anti-treating bill with the usual penalties. Missouri could have had a similar law from Nebraska for the asking.

Owing to the financial crisis in the political affairs in Danville, Ill., only half the usual vote was cast at last Tuesday's municipal election. There wasn't enough money in sight to keep a single ward patriot awake.

Financing the rebuilding of Missouri's state capitol at Jefferson City goes to the voters in two propositions. The first calls for \$3,000,000 in bonds, to be voted on at a special election in August, when a two-thirds vote is necessary to carry. Should this fail, a \$5,000,000 proposition goes to the voters at the regular election in November, when a majority vote wins.

Senator Halley is quite offended because some of the Jackpot inquirers insist on putting him on the "business stand" to explain why the Holstian bank deposit slip disappeared from his hands in the senate. The disappearance of the slip after Halley pronounced it a forgery in the senate is one of many highly moral specimens of smooth work with which the Lorimer case reeks.

If you are in doubt about the meaning of Colonel Roosevelt's present trip, read what he says about it and be as happy as you can. He said long and made up his mind that after coming back from his trip in Africa and Europe I wanted to have a chance to go around the country and, if possible, speak in each state and to say "Howdy" and "Thank you." For any man who has been made president of the United States by the American people, it is a pretty good thing for the councilmen, it cer-

In Other Lands

Side Lights on What is Transpiring Among the Bear and Fox Nations of the North

A rare specimen of sardonic humor linked with a clever bit of political fencing forms the introductory note of the parliamentary bill limiting the power of the British House of Lords. Before the constitutional issue went to the electorate for decision last fall the ministry as well as the liberal party were not in agreement as to the length to which the proposed reform should go. The laborite and nationalist divisions of the coalition favored total abolition of the second chamber. A majority of the ministers was of like mind. But it was doubtful if the electors were ready for so radical an operation, for with all his faults Britishers "dearly love a lord."

"Whereas," reads the preamble, "it is intended to substitute for the House of Lords as it at present exists a second chamber constituted on a popular instead of a hereditary basis, but such substitution cannot be immediately brought into operation; and whereas, provision will require hereafter to be made by parliament in a more effective manner for the purpose of limiting and defining the powers of the new second chamber, but it is expedient to make such provision as in this act appears for restricting the existing powers of the House of Lords."

The declaration satisfies both radical and conservative liberals. The second chamber is preserved as an ornamental fixture in the British system. A clear avenue is opened for reform legislation, and a platform pledge, handy to get in on, becomes the executioner's letter of introduction to the peers. British humor is not as dull as it is commonly pictured.

The provisional government of the republic of Portugal has fixed upon April 30 next as the date for the election of members of the constituent assembly, the source of legislative power of the country. Hitherto the body which overthrew the monarchy conducted affairs as President Braza and his cabinet would. The self-constituted rulers now have affairs so well in hand that they feel safe in going to the electors for approval. A program of radical reforms, which forms the basis of the republican campaign, include complete separation of church and state, compulsory universal education, free and universal suffrage, and national economy. President Braza is extremely optimistic of the future of the republic. "Portugal," he is quoted as saying, "will show the world a true republic based on the rectitude of the national conscience. It will restore the glorious traditions of this great people and inaugurate a new era of prosperity by land and sea."

Little substance. An English correspondent who has been investigating conditions in Portugal says that the country is truly sick and its greatest danger is that the present leaders of opinion actually believe that words nostrums will cure it. At this moment, he says, 90 per cent of the soil of the country is uncultivated and 75 per cent of the inhabitants are illiterate. The national debt has increased outrageously, trade is hampered by petty restrictions and a fiscal system which he compares to China's liks.

All doubts regarding the ability of the young Turks party to rise to a high level of statecraft may be put aside. The young Turks are progressing at a pace that puts them neck and neck with the "Mother of Parliaments," or the American congress. During a recent session of the Ottoman chamber of deputies one of the heated deputies to emphasize his point, caught the Grand Vizier by the beard, and with the other hand slapped him in the face. Under the regime of Abdul succ in insult meant death. Under the spell of progress and modern notions all ruffianly tempers, in the "Mother of Parliaments" ebullitions of temper rarely rise to the high level of the bearded slams. Members threatened, but failed to execute. Regrettably so. For what could have been more interesting as a spectacle of a news leader than to throw the Irish Nationalists out of the chamber. Possibly the vanishing of such a vision into thin air inspired the poetic exclamation, slightly amended: "For of all sad wars of tongue or pen The saddest are these: What might have been."

The full returns of the census of Austria, taken in December, 1910, are expected to be published about May of the present year. The population of Vienna is already computed, the city numbering on December 31, last, 2,068,291 civilians and 26,548 military, a total of 2,094,839. This is a gain of 10 per cent of 200,877 over the census of 1900 of 1,993,962 civilians and a decrease of seventy-nine military. In 1890 the civilian inhabitants numbered 1,541,897. The district of Floridsdorf, with a population of 71,24, was annexed to the city during the census period.

Wealth is supposed to be more equitably distributed in France than in most other commercial nations; yet the death duty returns for 1909 show that fifty-eight millionaires died during the year, two of whom left estates in excess of \$10,000,000. No less than 96 per cent of the total number of decedent estates arising in the course of the year were of a value less than \$10,000, but the aggregate value was only about 21 per cent of the total value of all decedent estates. The average value per estate was only \$2,800, and the tax collections amounted to above \$52,000,000. This was considerably more than 21 per cent of living population.

EDITORIAL SNAPSHOTS.

Indianapolis News: Buffalo Bill for the senate? Oh, well—when you come to think of the senate—why not.

Washington Post: Buffalo Bill's candidacy for the senate may have a tendency to reconcile Mr. Bailey to the recall.

St. Louis Times: When all those soldiers come north again there will be great difficulty in supplying the demand for chile con carne.

Kansas City Times: It would be a fine thing if those Mexican revolutionists could shoot the J out of the Spanish language and inject the h.

Wall Street Journal: A Broadway jeweler has failed with liabilities of \$25,000 and assets of \$5,000. Financial genius like that is wasted in a humble retail business.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: Whatever may be the conflicting reports from Washington, there is no doubt about "Camel Crockett's" being the real thing. Missouri mules have begun to arrive there.

Boston Transcript: The United States supreme court has decided that the pure food law applies to eggs in interstate commerce so long as they are in the original package. "This is a warning for the hens to make note of."

Advertisement for ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO. featuring the slogan "Makes the most nutritious food and the most dainty and delicious." and "Absolutely Pure".

The Bee's Letter Box. Contributions on Timely Subjects Not Exceeding Two Hundred Words Are Invited From Our Readers.

A Misleading Question. NORTH PLATTE, Neb., March 15.—To the Editor of The Bee: On March 1 you published an article stating that Representative Ben H. Johnson of Kentucky made the assertion in the house of representatives that a resident of Washington whose name had represented himself to him as other congressman as able through the Knights of Columbus, to deliver, for a suitable consideration, Catholic votes in large blocks in various districts throughout the country.

Lines to a Laugh. "Do you use condensed milk at your house?" "I guess so. We order a quart a day, and the milkman squeezes it into a can that holds about a pint."—Toledo Blade.

Advertisement for A. HOSPEL CO. featuring the slogan "Prize for All Piano Contest Winners" and "We congratulate every winner in any piano contest, no matter by whom conducted."