

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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APRIL CIRCULATION: 48,106

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss: Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the average daily circulation, for the month of April, 1911, was 48,106.

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

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

Hard times or not, the railroads continue to order equipment.

The ice trust will quit the state of New York. Frozen out at last!

If caterpillars stop a train in Oklahoma, trains must run very slow down there.

Echoes of the civil war are apparently dying out everywhere but in New England.

This kidnapping stunt must be catching. A Kansas girl is now doing the heroine act in it.

Senator Frye is no longer leader of the senate, but a lot of smaller fry would like to be.

Delaware is the faster American battleship. Good thing the state leads in something.

Still, Milwaukee has spoiled no records in making a failure of its experiment with socialism.

Does anybody know whether Leo O'Neill Browne made a trip over to Ohio during the winter?

Dealers who have been carrying over fruit jars from year to year ought to unload this time.

Mayor Gaynor insists whiskers are no disgrace. No, a man's Hyde is often tougher than his beard.

The democrats have split in only three different parts over the woolen schedule. But give them time.

One useful thing to learn is where to "head in" and, having located the place, take a long slide forward.

Folks will soon be able to talk from Omaha to New York, but it will take them some time to get the habit.

"Anglo-Japanese Treaty Ratified." Headline. Then the United States is safe at last; it will not get that licking.

Representative Longworth objects to the obscure wording of the free list bill. He wants nothing but the bald facts.

Russia is said to favor woman's rights. That is news, since "it" appeared she favored none but the czar's.

It is to be observed that President Diaz did not send any delegates to the third annual Peace conference at Baltimore.

If the Washington ball team is wise it will take immediate precautions to have the extra session run along indefinitely.

Note—Colonel Roosevelt and Dr. Wilson both oppose the recall for judges. There are radicals and radicals, you know.

"Shall the democratic party be Aldrichized?" is Mr. Bryan's question. "Shall the democratic party be Bryanized?" is the echo.

What a bully time they are having out in Seattle over that recall. The mayor who "got the hook" is now trying to hook a judge.

A recent report of moral crusaders finds that "many New York gamblers are dishonest." This looks as if it might be surrendering to the enemy.

An indignant friend of the Wells-Fargo writes to say, "Just suppose we did not have any express companies, then what?" Then the Wells-Fargo would have no 110 per cent dividends, that's what.

According to the supreme court of Nebraska a chiropractor doing business in this state is not violating the law requiring those who practice medicine to be licensed. Look it up in the dictionary.

An Exposition Monument.

During the past week the cornerstone of the Jefferson Memorial building was laid with impressive ceremonies at the main entrance to Forest park in St. Louis where the great Louisiana Purchase exposition was held of which it is to be a permanent monument. From the sketch which has been made public it is plain that the memorial building is to be a structure commensurate in artistic beauty and imposing stability with the wonderful world's fair that it is intended to recall.

We direct attention to what St. Louis is doing in this connection as a reminder to the people of Omaha that we have as yet no permanent monument to our Trans-Mississippi exposition, although we have greater right to be proud of it, and to point back to its shining success, than have other cities that have held similar expositions before and after, with fewer obstacles to surmount and smaller returns to their credit. When the Omaha exposition was in course of construction it was urged by The Bee, and particularly by its then editor, who was one of the exposition managers, that the Arch of States be built of stone contributed by the various trans-Mississippi states participating so that it might survive the evanescent glories of the lagoon city. This suggestion was not adopted and carried out at the time only because of the limited resources of the exposition promoters, and the necessity of using every dollar for the immediate indispensable necessities of the occasion.

The hope and wish, however, is still cherished by many who appreciate the Omaha exposition more as it fades further in the background that this Arch of States or the Administration arch may some day, in the not too distant future, be reproduced in enduring materials and serve as a permanent monument. This purpose should not be allowed to lapse, nor the idea be abandoned, and some day Omaha will point out to visiting strangers an appropriate Trans-Mississippi exposition memorial the same as St. Louis, Chicago and other cities will be doing for theirs.

The advent of the automobile as a funeral conveyance is being heralded, and to those who occasionally have to experience the ordeal of attending burials the automobile funeral holds forth promise of change for the better. As a funeral conveyance the automobile is far ahead of the carriage, its ease and speed of movement being especially desirable at a time when mourners are overwrought and severely tried by the stress and strain. If the long, wearisome jog to and from the cemetery in jolting carriages can be softened and shortened by the automobile it will be a blessing and a boon to the heart-sick and the grief-stricken.

But the automobile funeral under present conditions would make the burial still more costly than it now is. Conveyance by automobile is for the rich, and not for the poor. Yet the poor in the house of mourning feel their loss just as deeply, and suffer from our barbarous funeral customs just as keenly. In some places the street car funeral has been worked out to answer the same demand for the poor that the automobile funeral will answer for the rich. The funeral car attractively constructed with catalpa and mourners' compartment does the work. It travels quickly and provides every reasonable comfort and accommodation. The street car funeral ought to be a move in the direction of cheaper funerals; it has already found favor in cities abroad that have stronger traditions and more tenacious customs to overcome, and it should easily find an opening here.

British Ban on Hobble Skirts. What would the fashionable women of our country think if a high government authority should decree that no woman wearing a hobble skirt might appear at a certain public function? It would surely raise some feminine tempers, but would it not also establish a precedent amounting to a practical doom of the hobble skirt, which no woman of social ambition would care or dare to oppose? If she might not go in the most select circles with the hobble skirt, would she not discard the skirt instead of the select circles? But no such thing is likely to happen in the United States, although it has occurred in England. The lord chamberlain has levied an embargo upon this garment by barring it from court functions at the coronation. Now it may be assumed that even the peeresses of England have been wearing hobble skirts; of course they have, for they keep up with the styles. What, then, will the women of noble blood think of this mandate? Undoubtedly they will regard it as a wanton invasion of their exclusive womanly rights. Let them so regard it; the mandate stands and they will comply with it. No lord chamberlain could hold his job and back up on a proposition of that sort. This decree doubtless will prove to be the boldest assumption of royal prerogative for many, many years and by all odds the most far-reaching, for styles of feminine dress are not limited by national boundaries and the effect of this edict will be felt wherever Dame Fashion assumes to hold her imperial sway. We may expect a fierce bearing of the hobble skirt market as a direct result of this ukase. Not that our American women care a fig about

royalty or what royalty wears, but the very instinct of fashion will revolt at the thought of wearing anything that has fallen under a ban so conspicuous.

Yet who can tell but this very intrusion of masculine power may fire woman with a zeal to maintain her own rights. Ah, it is in England, even in London, where the belligerent forces of womankind are just now mobilized. Suffragetteism has not gone in strong for the hobble or the harm or other devices of that kind, but it may see the blow dealt woman by this iron hand of mighty man.

World Peace by the Money Route.

Apparently the most tangible product of the third National Peace conference comes from the suggestion of James Speyer, the New York banker, to stop citizens and subjects of the nations from raising or negotiating loans to other nations to carry on war. The conference approved the suggestion and resolved to call on the United States government to recommend it as a part of the program of the third Hague tribunal.

The financial side of war is the vital side today. Not many wars could be promoted without money. When it becomes impossible to finance wars it will become impossible to have them. So, as we have said before, world peace, when it is reached, is likely to be reached by the money route. Nations have always been able to endure affronts to their sovereign dignity when they have not had the cash wherewith to resent them. It is not a sentimental matter, at least, it is not to be settled by appealing to sentiment alone.

It is a great thing for the cause of world peace to enlist the co-operation of such men as Mr. Speyer and Mr. Carnegie, whose whole life training has brought them to see things from the money point of view. Perhaps the Speyer proposition may be considered as the corollary of Mr. Carnegie's scheme of giving \$10,000,000 to promote peace. Certainly it will be bottling up war very effectively when millions are available to prevent war, and none may be had for carrying it on. That is doubling the resources of the dollar in the interest of international amity.

If the United States includes this proposition in its recommendations to The Hague—and there is no reason to suppose it will not—and it is favorably received by this tribunal, it will carry the world a long way toward the goal of arbitration instead of arms.

The Charm of Reminiscence.

To many people, most, perhaps, reminiscence holds a power of irresistible fascination. Habitually vivid comparisons are made between the past and present. It is partly boastfulness, for most men like to imagine that they have done deeds worth relating. Then, it is proof that "distance lends enchantment," for surely not always were the days of yesterday better than those of now. Yet it is something more, something better. Childhood in its listless fancy looks out on life through clearer visions than does maturity. Care-free, it sees only the brightness, the cheerfulness, the joy. The problems and perplexities come just outside its view-line. Impressions are made which the blighting year of passing years filled with care and anxieties cannot efface. In old age memory's eye turns back upon scenes and friends endeared in youth to find a superior charm in them.

There is no reason why such illusions should be dispelled, for life is barren enough at times of imagery. What if reflection is distorted by the mirage of time, the kindly sentiment stays to minister still its balm of satisfaction. The unctious of fate may in such case be indulged with full pardon. But, of course, it is well not to let our love for the old blind us completely to the good of the new. The gilded haze of youth's happy visions are brightest when they throw out their rays far enough ahead to illumine life as it unfolds each day. Living in the past alone will not suffice, but even magnifying the old may help, if at the same time one exalts the present.

Uniform Divorce Law.

The increasing prevalence of divorce has revived agitation for a uniform state or national law for dealing with the evil. But how to proceed to bring about such a regulation is the question first to be determined. Congress has no power to enact a law affecting marriage and divorce except after constitutional amendment, and that is a very difficult end to achieve. Most of those who have advocated uniformity in divorce laws have favored enactment of a model law for all the states, but they have not gone far enough with their plans even to agree on a model statute. There is a wide divergence between the state laws now in operation. In South Carolina, for instance, divorce is not permitted under any circumstances, while in Nevada, and a few other states it is permitted for almost any reason or excuse, the main condition being a mere form of residence for a brief period. Here we have the extremes of the case. In Massachusetts divorces by collusion are not permissible, and for no reason except that which may be construed as humane.

It is not certain, however, that the state laws are tending more toward diversity, though it is a fact that divorces are increasing in number every year. One thing is admitted by all, who care to protect the home against this insidious evil, and that is that

more salutary restriction is necessary and should not be delayed longer.

Simplicity of Speech.

Whether or not the traveler is right who contends that fifty words are enough for man's practical needs, his theory of an abridged vocabulary for every-day use is in line with the tendency of speech in this country. We are simplifying the language to the extent of preferring the simpler forms of expression, both in our writing and our speaking. It is purifying our speech and improving our diction. The master of simple English, who can write or speak in terms of the most commonplace language, is the most effective. Even eloquence may be well defined as simplicity.

A great New York minister has recently published a series of discourses in book form and one may read half way through the volume before he comes upon a word that is not common to the simplest speech. Yet the book in its diction is powerful. There is such a thing as working for the language, and such a thing as letting the language work for you. The master of English does the latter.

There is a virtue in a simple style of language apart from its relation to literature; it avoids the superlative degree, tempers not only speech, but thought and deed as well. It lessens the likelihood of exaggeration, a common and evil habit. In literature use of the superlative, or even the comparative, where the positive degree will answer, tends to undermine and exhaust the force of the language, so the moral effect of exaggeration is similarly debilitating.

The Comfort of Conceit.

There is a certain sort of comfort in conceit—that is, to the conceited man, himself, not to those who have to deal with him. A person completely satisfied with his own attainments is usually a very comfortable person. Unattractive though he may be to others, he is a real joy unto No. 1. As the old homely adage puts it, "Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise." What cares the conceited man for the opinions of his friends, even if such opinions ever reach him? "Wrapt in the solitude of his own originality," he is an opinion in himself and needs not desires others. He will brook no disturbing of the equilibrium of his self-complacency.

Yet one must regard with a measure of pity the person who has come to this status of self-adulation. He is denying himself the wholesomeness and helpfulness that interested friendship can give, repelling friends by his selfish arrogance. Self-esteem and a certain amount of self-confidence are indispensable factors of success, but there is a marked difference between this element of character and that which claims for itself a monopoly of every desirable trait. Forbidding boorishness is unlikely to accomplish a great deal of useful service in the world.

Restoration, Not Revolution.

Governor Woodrow Wilson, of Kansas, strikes a popular chord in his Kansas City speech, asserting that we are in the midst of an era of reform, but he throws out a suggestion that is worth heeding, namely, that our reform work should aim at restoration, not revolution. It would be a great thing for the country if all the leaders in this campaign of reform would take similar ground and see that their efforts are directed toward construction and not destruction. Merely to bring about changes for changes' sake is not enough, will not do. All changes in modes and methods of government made even during eras of reform are not necessarily improvement or progress.

What both democratic and republican parties need to keep constantly before them is the supreme importance of selecting wise, safe and honest leaders for carrying out these great plans of reform. It would be fatal to commit tasks so grave to incompetent or unfaithful leadership. If it were possible to secure leaders who could put their own fortunes below real patriotism the country would be much more likely to secure the reform and changes it actually needed without injury to its future.

It is to be noted that in his attitude toward the recall Governor Wilson coincides with Colonel Roosevelt that this experimental principle should not be applied to the judiciary, but only to those who make or administer laws. We believe this will come to be a more generally accepted view by the more radical of the recall exponents. Where Governor Wilson gets down to party politics, while he admits that neither great party has a monopoly on the reforms or reformers, he claims for the democratic party the advantage in being freer from influences that would retard progressive policies than the republican party. In which, of course, there is nothing that need occasion any special discussion. Governor Wilson is a democrat, holding high office as such and a possible presidential candidate for that party. But the country will be inclined to the view that the party through which all the great constructive work of the government that is worth while has been achieved is able still to accomplish other great things and is entitled to be commissioned for that service rather than the party that has failed signally whenever entrusted with control and responsibility.

The farmers' free list bill will save consumers more than \$30,000,000 annually "if the bill becomes a law and prices settle down in time as some of the advocates of the measure believe

they will." We could prove that the moon is made of green cheese if we could only get a piece of it for a taste.

A French aviator has been killed by a fall while exhibiting at Shanghai. A few more experiments of this kind in various corners of the globe will doubtless convince that air climbing is equally dangerous wherever attempted.

Five more hydrant rental judgments aggregating a trifle over \$260,000, and bearing interest at 7 per cent, are handed down against the city. Rather costly this Water board of ours.

What a jarring sound that news note from Germany about Emperor William's 100,000-strong maneuvers must have had on the peace conference harmony.

Feasting Blocks a Fight. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

It frequently happens that a banquet can do more to keep down international hostilities than a battleship. The bubble convivial is more to be desired than the bauble heroic.

Justice Overreached Itself. St. Paul Pioneer Press.

The wearer of a hobble skirt was given five minutes by an Omaha judge to get out of town. The sentence was unjust and unfair. The woman would have to take ten or fifteen minutes to get out of the skirt before she could start toward getting out of town.

Persistence Gives Vitality. Pittsburg Dispatch.

President Taft's declaration that annexation talk is "boosh" was regarded as indisputable. But sometimes boosh is persisted in long enough to give it some tenacity. The talk of taking the Philippines was also boosh, as most people now recognize, but we have the white man's burden there just the same.

Spare Change for Decorations. Chicago Inter Ocean.

Notwithstanding the fact that the financial situation does not suit everybody we do not seem to be actually suffering for spare change. We spent last year for jewelry bought in this country \$900,000, for gum, \$5,000,000; for candy \$7,000,000 and for soft drinks over the soda water counters \$200,000,000.

Was it a Jap Rauc? New York Post.

The Japanese Antarctic expedition has abandoned its dash for the south pole. Strange as it may seem even a Japanese expedition cannot discover a pole without sledges, dogs and provisions. Unless, as Captain Hobson may point out, the whole expedition was a ruse and was really intended to attack San Francisco by way of the Antarctic circle.

Shutting Out Professionals. Pittsburg Dispatch.

It is announced that the comptroller of the currency has ordered that hereafter no consideration will be given to any application for the chartering of a national bank that is being organized by professional bank promoters. As the chartering of a national bank is an operation under state law this seems to call for a legal definition of "professional bank promoters."

Coming of the Income Tax. Springfield Republican.

Ratification of the federal income tax amendment is regarded by the National City Bank officials of New York as a certainty by next year if not this year. They say also in their circular for May that congress may be expected to impose such a tax as soon as this authority is given, to take the place of remitted tariff taxes. Those who are antagonistic ratification, chiefly for the purpose of saving wealth from bearing its due share of the national tax burden, have lost their fight. It is now in order for them to admit it.

Can We Lose the Middleman? Philadelphia Record.

Middlemen are being squeezed out in various directions. Trade customs will not save them. So far as they perform a necessary function they will survive, but the room for them is being steadily curbed. Some recent changes in the method of handling the business of saving wealth from bearing its due share of the national tax burden, have lost their fight. It is now in order for them to admit it.

SENSE OF HUMOR NEEDED.

Hackneyed Misrepresentation of Race Types on the Stage. New York Tribune.

The American consul general at London has good humoredly suggested to the dramatic profession in that city the desirability of abandoning the conventional caricatures of the typical American on the English stage, a caricature which seems much like a survival from the pages of Martin Chuzzlewit with adornments by Mrs. Trollope; and we are told that some leading English actors agree with him. We have hitherto heard similar suggestions—perhaps rather appeals and demands—from other sources. Irishmen have been particularly strong in their insistence on the suppression of the Irishman of the stage and also of the comic papers, while Jews have been second and Germans probably third in their utterances. We do not know that members of any other race have made such demands, at least to any such extent, though we are not sure that the Africans have not had about as much ground for complaint as any, while Englishmen are by no means immune.

There can be no doubt of the grossness of the caricatures. The typical Irishman is not a gorilla-faced ruffian with red whiskers, a clay pipe in his husband and his speech punctuated with "The jabbers!" and "Be gorra!" The typical Jew, German, Scandinavian and Arabian are not what the burlesque stage or even the high-class "legitimate" depicts them. Neither is it truthful to portray the typical Englishman as wearing a monocle and an air of vacuity, with speech consisting chiefly of "Aw, really, don't you know?" or the American as a swart, tobacco-chewer and expatriator, ejaculating "Waal, I swan!" The fact is that a better sense of humor is needed to abate what has become a nuisance. And it is needed not so much in those who object to these things as in those who perpetrate them. A sense of humor may well restrain men from dignifying such lampoons by getting angry at them, but it should certainly much more restrain them from resorting to such hackneyed misrepresentations. For if there ever was anything really humorous in these caricatures, it has long ago died of overwork, or else of inanition and old age. The sense of humor which would banish these things from the stage and from the cartoon would be superior to that which giggles over them.

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SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT. Washington Post.—The average man with \$50.00 has no use for a Bible. Chicago Record-Herald: A Philadelphia preacher announces that summer resorts are the starting places of disagreements leading to divorce. It is not likely that his declaration will have a serious effect upon the summer resort business. Pittsburg Dispatch: It seems that Canon Douglas' new version of the ten commandments does not cut any of them out, but simply reduces them to a brevity of expression that is extreme. No loophole is offered for the toleration of favorite vices—and judging from the general state of society in christendom, none is needed. Baltimore American: The fact was emphasized in the Mothers' Congress in Washington that while missionaries are working energetically in foreign lands, over 4,000,000 children at home are lacking educational facilities. It is the old story over of "the Greeks at our own door." The congress will do lasting good if it impresses permanently the great lesson in regard to child welfare that charity begins at home, and that its practice there aids greatly in spreading it abroad. New York Sun: Not so many years ago Pope Leo XIII was obliged to issue directions about the use of bicycles by priests; where are those bicycles now? Pope Pius X shows greater willingness to accept progress in the matter of the automobile. The (Irre-convertible) curia of the cardinal driving through Rome in emerald coaches drawn by black horses had fallen into abeyance, according to the Tablet; they had taken to hiring vehicles from lively stables instead, when they were embarrassed by a strike of the drivers? They, therefore, were obliged to turn to motor cabs, for it is contrary to etiquette for a cardinal to appear on foot in the Eternal City, and the holy father approved heartily the change.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTIES. Architect (showing plans)—This room will be your library. Mr. Newberry—My library? Oh, yes, of course, I must have a place to smoke—Boston Transcript.

EXPRESS TOLLS EXCESSIVE. Pertinent Facts Revealed by Minnesota Investigation. Chicago News.

Some very pertinent facts bearing on the reasons for the high rates paid in this country for the transmission of packages and parcels were brought out last week before the Minnesota railroad and warehouse commission in St. Paul. It was revealed, for example, that the Wells-Fargo Express company, by capitalizing its vast earning power, had increased its capital stock from \$5,000,000 to \$24,000,000. It gave a bonus of \$1,000,000 in stock to a single railroad company. The company, after paying very considerable annual dividends for sixteen years, had so large a surplus that in 1906 a dividend of 20 per cent was declared. Yet it now has an annual income of 7 per cent on its capital stock from investments of its surplus plus stock from the physical property valuation of companies like the Wells-Fargo may fall much below their total capitalization. An immense amount of the capital might be charged up to good will or to contracts with railroads whereby the latter are paid from 40 per cent to 55 per cent of the gross receipts of express companies for transporting packages. Practical people might regard much of the large returns paid to the railroads as a rakeoff at the public's expense. In any event the American people are paying much too heavily for having their goods transported by express. Relief from national and state commissions and from the courts is hoped for. There must be, however, supplemental legislation in some states in order that greater power may be given to regulate agencies such as the Illinois railroad and warehouse commission. The most effective way to put an end to excessive express rates is to establish a parcel post. The demand for this important benefit is certain to grow to overwhelming proportions unless relief comes soon from agencies already established.

THE RECALL. John Kendrick Banes in Harper's Weekly. I would that there might be Two lives on earth. For those of us who see Too late its worth. The first, a study hour To comprehend the power Of passing days; To find life's deepest reach— The things that give The Soul its strength, and teach Us how to live. The second, that the Soul May nobly rise, Prepared to win the goal Where Honor lies. What joy to know mid all Life's stress and pain We but await the call To try again!

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