

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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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, less spoiled, unused and returned copies, for the month of April, 1911, was 48,106.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 15th day of May, 1911. ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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No one can say by now that this wool question is not a yard wide.

Why will newspapers ask foolish questions like, "Will Bryan retire?"

Will the "spirit of 1876" animate our American visitors to the coronation?

"Peace Talk Fills the Air" on the border. Still, mere talk is better than bullets.

Standard Oil would doubtless like to have a recall on the judges of the supreme court right now.

The Houston Post is trying to coax a fight out of Deacon Hemphill by saying he is supporting Bryan.

Mr. Bryan's free wool ultimatum was expected to finish the job in the house, but it evidently has not.

Reports say outlaws are now running wild in Madero's army. Dias probably would not appreciate the distinctions.

Former Senator Hanbrough of North Dakota has gone to writing novels. Possibly got the fiction habit while "a member."

Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison will not have to go to jail for contempt of court. Still, they are advised not to do it again.

The English Lutherans have been absorbed by the German Lutherans. But no one will raise the question of illegal combination there.

As long as relations between Madero and Navarro proceed on the Alphonso-Gaston basis the war cannot be so bad as she is painted.

Congressman Victor Berger has generously given the senate an extension of time, allowing it will not die out completely for ten years yet.

As a center of musical culture Omaha is also making progress when it can fill the big Auditorium for a festival of choral and orchestral music.

It is gratifying to know that President Diaz is worth \$20,000,000 and will not suffer personal hardship if he should relinquish his present position.

Orisco now assures Madero that he is "the apple of my eye." Why is it that ever since Adam and Eve the apple has been the favorite fruit of the devil?

If those highwaymen would only confine themselves to holding up the auto speeders their efforts would be better appreciated by the rest of the community.

W. E. Curtis advises us that Newport, R. I., is the richest town in the United States. Of course, he means financially. Still, Reno is a scandalously rich town.

Lincoln has reconsidered its intention to try to stop treating in saloons for the present. After the long drouth the temptation to have one on the other fellow must be too strong to be resisted.

It is authentically related that a Texas man accidentally dropped a \$5 gold piece in the church collection plate for a nickel and fainted before he could recover it. "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver."

The highwayman situation in Omaha has again reached the stage where there are always two bandits, and one of them taller than the other. Has anyone here seen the long man and the short man?

Hereafter, when Bailey's critics demand to know what he has done for the country, his friends may reply that after six years' patient effort he has had the senate's convening hour changed from noon to 2 p. m.

An Epochal Decision.

The supreme court decision ordering the dissolution of the Standard Oil will be epochal, although the outcome of the case has probably been largely discounted so far as its effect on business and industry is concerned, because it was foreshadowed by previous decisions of the supreme court, and a different order would have been surprising.

The decision is epochal, not because of any new principle announced, but rather because it furnishes proof that in this country no aggregation of wealth is so powerful as to be permanent above the law. That the greatest business organization the world has ever known can, and will, be made to keep within the limitations which the law-makers have set for one and all must tend to restore confidence in the integrity of our courts and the impartiality of the judges unswayed by the influence or wealth of the individuals or interests involved.

Only one point of the opinion is likely to arouse criticism, and that is the so-called hook thrown out as a saving clause to big business in the intimation that only "unreasonable" restraint of trade is unlawful. If the court proceeds upon this definition it will make unnecessary the amendment to the Sherman law, which has been demanded to limit the offense to "reasonable" restraint, and at the same time will make the judges in each case the final arbiters as to what is or is not "unreasonable." This would seem to be an invitation to constant litigation to try out the temper of the court and leave much to the changing personality of its membership. The Standard Oil, itself, might dissolve and reorganize, and go up again to the supreme court to ascertain whether in its new form it would be adjudged a combination in "unreasonable" restraint of trade.

If this view is correct, then it will still be necessary to enact laws that will draw more sharply the line between lawful and unlawful industrial combinations so that the hazards of business may be reduced as much as possible.

How Serious Is It?

After Secretary Dickinson had written his letter of resignation to the president, he wrote a second note offering to remain at the head of the War department in view of developments in the Mexican situation. It is true, the president advised Mr. Dickinson of his willingness to accept his resignation, but the correspondence showed very clearly that the official view in Washington of the Mexican situation is much more serious than the generally accepted view of the public.

It seems no longer possible for Washington to conceal its anxiety over Mexico. Our government has maintained the most impartial attitude toward the belligerents and may be expected to continue to do so, but that the ultimate necessity of intervention is apprehended is not to be denied. Senator Stone may have been a bit precipitate in his insistent demands upon congress for authority to the president to intervene, but he evidently has more to justify his theory of possible trouble. The developments following the fall of Juarez have not been satisfying to those who hoped that it might lead to a solution of the difficulties. The Diaz government has been scarcely moved by what Madero chose to regard as a pivotal triumph. Peace talk continues with fine assurances of early results, but it is plain on every hand that even if peace did issue from present negotiations it would be no guarantee against further disturbance, for the eccentric circles of discord appear to be weaving themselves within factions of the rebel forces.

Congress and the Chautauqua.

Now comes the report that congress may adjourn by June 15, and the reason given is the approaching hot weather. Everybody who knows Washington knows the atmosphere heats up there during the months of July and August. Yet this reason is not quite acceptable. Would a democratic majority in the house and a good-sized democratic minority in the senate, eager to make campaign thunder, so readily surrender the opportunity involved in those thirty investigations "started"? Anyone knows that thirty such urgent investigations as have been ordered could never be completed between this and the middle of June. To compensate for a recession from this splendid advanced position, any statesman must find a better reason than simply warm weather. What will the country say if Champ Clark and his friends forsake it just when they had promised full relief from every industrial and governmental oppression by means of these investigations?

Ah, the Chautauqua lecture bureau calls. It is a pleading, persistent, importunate call that goes up to Washington for senators or representatives, any and all, who are willing to take the platform at so much per take. What statesman must turn a deaf ear to the call of the wild when it comes with its merry Chautauqua jingle? What of investigations? What of tariff revisions? What of even campaign thunder at such a time? Would this nation be so penurious, so play-unish as to hold a statesman to his job in torrid old Washington when he might be out in the cool, refreshing atmosphere of some tent with a temperature of not more than 110, saving his fellowmen at from \$60 to \$200 a clip? Of course if congress only took a recess until the first of September,

that might be a little different, and that would enable the downtrodden servants of the people to gather in the Chautauqua harvest and get the cool, invigorating air which the balmy breezes blow.

City Improvement.

These city plan conventions, such as the one now in session at Philadelphia, ought to be productive of much good to the country as a whole. This one, for instance, brings together in one body for several days, city officials and experts from 100 towns in the United States, to give and exchange ideas, formulate plans and preparations for civic improvement. Some of them go back to their home cities and put these schemes into operation, and some of them are brought to practical fruition. All this, theoretically at least, is helpful. How better may American cities devise methods for improvement than by utilizing the experience of other cities?

It is in the air, this project of civic improvement, both in political reform and physical beautification. But when we get down to brass tacks in a great many cases the obstacle that blocks progress is the inferior character of city officials to whom this important work must be entrusted. Before ever American cities may hope to achieve anything like what is possible in this line, they will have to be more careful in the selection of the right sort of material for municipal government. Electing a man to an office involving large tasks, calling for large powers and tried experience, who has neither, is no way to make a city ideal. To be sure, many cities have finally awakened to this fact and are going about to remedy the defect. All cities that want to occupy the front rank of modern progress will have to follow suit.

Law Reform.

Men flippantly trip from their lips expressions about the "greatest problem before this country," but not many have mentioned a problem which President Taft holds to be paramount in importance and which, upon sober second thought, must strike people as so. That problem is making justice surer and less costly. It formed the keynote of the president's address at the Columbia university conference on law reform. It needs to be emphasized all over the United States, for there has been for years a noticeable falling short from this ideal.

To make justice surer and less costly, we must make our court procedure simpler. We must make less of technicality and more of the patent purpose of evidence and the law, itself. It was agreed at this conference that both in civil and criminal practice the power and privilege of appeal must be limited. The extent to which courts now tolerate the privilege of appeal often makes a farce of the trial and a travesty of law, to say nothing of the unfavorable light it reflects upon the sharp practitioners, lured on by the prospect of a large fee.

Courts are quick to resent what they term contempt for them and lawyers rise upon their dignity in defense of the solemn ethics of their profession. But if they would only see what the laity sees, that it is the way the law is abused in its administration, which brings the contempt and reproach, perhaps they might be more ready to co-operate toward the end sought by those high in the councils of the profession who have determined to effect reforms in law.

The Water board is now deferring its \$5,250,000 issue of water bonds on the proposed \$250,000 issue of court house bonds. It is assumed that an additional \$250,000 will be needed to finish and equip the new court house, but no estimate has ever been given out to show that any such amount will be required. If the county board wants to submit a court house bond proposition it would be a good plan for it to first trim its estimates down to actualities.

The democratic leaders in congress seem particularly anxious to capture the Ninth Iowa district formerly represented in the house by Judge Walter I. Smith. That district has not been represented in congress by a democrat since old Grover Cleveland days, and if it sends a democrat this time it will be only because the republicans do not come out and vote.

According to official returns the Omaha Street Railway company charged off \$240,000 to depreciation last year, while the Lincoln street railway company charged off nothing at all. Anyone can see where these two corporations will be on that basis, relatively speaking, when their franchise terms expire.

Miss Ida Tarbell addressed the young women at Wellesley college and then the young women of Wellesley college expressed their disapproval of her college accepting a gift of \$150,000 from John D. Rockefeller. Talk about weak-voiced woman having no influence.

A grandson of King Menelik has been proclaimed emperor of Abyssinia. If he has as many lives as his illustrious ancestor he ought to be able to keep the Menelik family on the job for at least 100 years.

Several plausible reasons are given for the withdrawal of that application for an electric lighting franchise in Omaha, but not a word about the real reason, which was a requirement to put up or shut up.

THE CABINET CHANGE.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: Secretary Dickinson has made a good, though not brilliant record as head of the War department. He has done all that could be expected of him in these trying times of peace.

Chicago Record-Herald: In Mr. Stimson, a younger man than the retiring secretary, but a man of considerable legal and political experience, of sound education, firmness and progressive views, the president has presumably found a fit successor to Mr. Dickinson.

Washington Post: The republican party of the state of New York should find itself in better shape through the appointment of Mr. Stimson. The president has paid a high compliment to that state, and has opened a way for conspicuous service by the candidate for governor.

Philadelphia Bulletin: Mr. Taft's own qualifications in this respect are not as marked as they should be for the success of his administration, and in the appointment of Stimson, as in such appointments heretofore as those of Ballinger and Dickinson, he does not show a practical perception of the value of a cabinet as a source of political or popular strength.

St. Louis Republic: In view of the possibility of serious trouble with Mexico, Secretary Dickinson's resignation brings irresistibly to mind the advice of Secretary of War Alger to Chauncey M. Depew, as reported, in the summer of 1887, by the veracious Mr. Martin Dooly of the "Army and Navy": "'O Chance,' says he, 'be Secretly 'I War,' says he, 'but don't never be Secretly 'I War'!"

SOUND AND COURAGEOUS.

President Taft's Defense of Canadian Reciprocity.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican. President Taft's talk to the protesting stranger delegation on Canadian reciprocity Monday was full of good sense and courageous, enlightened statesmanship. He is convinced that the farmers are unreasonably alarmed over the consequences of reciprocity to them; but in any event he believes that this policy will be of great benefit to the country as a whole, and there lies his duty as chief executive and as president. He will be followed regardless of consequences in the way of a better knowledge of the situation than do the protesting strangers. They say that if reciprocity goes through "we must take less for our wheat and less for our products, and that means a halt in the improvement of our homes and in the education of our children." But the president says: "If we take down that (tariff) wall, we will benefit by it, for we shall sell more agricultural products to Canada that it will sell to us. We do now and we shall sell it even more now. The treaty goes into effect. That is my judgment. And Mr. Sherman is saying that we already sell more agricultural products to Canada than Canada does to us. Mr. Shackelford of Missouri, a member of the house ways and means committee, has prepared a statement of fact in support of this matter. It gives the sales of leading agricultural products between Canada and the United States for the five years ending June 30 last:

Table with 2 columns: Product, Value. Rows include Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Meat and dairy products, Breadstuffs, and various agricultural products.

Will the protesting strangers please inform a serious country how this can be if their prices are so much better than Canadian agricultural prices? Their position is absurd.

Time to Drop Out.

Springfield Republican. The National Monetary commission has so far expended \$300,000, and it is now announced that more money is needed. It should not be allowed. The commission should dissolve. The only plan of currency reform which is likely to come out of it has already been reported by Mr. Aldrich and is now before the country for consideration. Debate, in other words, has passed beyond the bounds of this highly paid refuge for broken down statesmen.

Big Army Dream.

Philadelphia Bulletin. General Wood says the country needs an available army of half a million men. But the national authorities cannot keep the regular army up to its present enlisted quota of less than 100,000 men, and the ranks of the National Guard are far from full. General Wood's plan means conscription, and this nation is not likely to welcome that.

People Talked About

William George-Hake, who recently celebrated his 100th birthday anniversary in London, is said to be the only English lawyer who ever lived to be 100 years old. He was admitted to the bar in 1833.

Major General Leonard Wood told the house committee on military affairs that the disarmament of nations was nothing but a dream. There happened to be no one present to prove to him that all the great dreams of the human race come true.

John A. Brown has annexed to himself almost all the salaried jobs in Glen Ridge, N. J., except that of assessor, the last he acquired being that of chief engineer of the fire department. His other offices are borough clerk, overseer of roads, register of vital statistics and dog warden.

Owners and agents of sixteen downtown Chicago office buildings have been ordered by the building department to stretch a wire screening over the rotundas at the second or third floor to prevent persons on the main floor being injured by others jumping or falling from upper floors of the structures.

Around New York

Ripples on the Current of Life as Seen in the Great American Metropolis from Day to Day.

An armor plated alibi, riveted by a crowd of witnesses, had almost secured the acquittal of Charles Christie, charged with burglary, when he was confronted with photographs of his own finger prints on the glass of the window through which he entered. The prisoner's nerve gave way and after consulting his attorney entered a plea of guilty and was remanded for sentence.

"I want you to tell me the whole story," said the judge. "How is it that if you are guilty you had all these witnesses? How is it that with so perfect an alibi you plead guilty?"

"Why, no man could stand to see those finger prints without giving up the fight," answered the prisoner. "I guess everybody saw them, knew I was guilty. The witnesses thought they were telling the truth. They saw me come home and go to bed, but they didn't know I sneaked out afterward."

After the jury had been discharged five of the jurymen said they would have convicted on the evidence of the finger prints alone and seven regarded Bertillon evidence as inconclusive.

To reach Joseph Shanahan, a carpenter of 24 West One Hundred and Forty-fourth street, who was lying with a badly fractured leg and foot in St. Thomas Episcopal church, Fifty-third street and Fifth avenue, Dr. Botsford of Flower hospital had to climb a seventy-five-foot ladder inside the church yesterday. The injured man had to be lowered to the street by ropes.

Workmen were demolishing the steeple and Shanahan was on a scaffolding fifteen feet above the roof when it gave way. Dr. Botsford mounted the ladder, with Policeman Labau close behind carrying his doctor's kit. He reached the top safely, but he had to rest to settle his nerves before he could attend to Shanahan, who, he found, had fractured his leg in three places.

The leg was put in splints, but the problem of getting him down seemed unanswerable. Shanahan is a big fellow, and it would have required a man with great strength to carry him down the scaffolding. Labau solved the difficulty. At his suggestion the injured man was tied to a wide plank. A rope was fastened at each end of the plank and laborers let Shanahan down through the skylight into the church.

An hour after he had met the accident, Shanahan was taken to the Flower hospital, where it was thought he would recover.

Under a tree in Fort Washington park at the extreme northern limit of Manhattan Island last Saturday afternoon a city laborer found two littered day "Babies in the Woods"—a pair of ragged, worn out, half starved youngsters, asleep in each other's arms.

They were Robert de Viries, who is 11 years old, and his brother, Peter, 2 years younger, a pair of bright boys, whose home they said was at 20 West One Hundred and Thirty-third street. On last Saturday they did something, they would not say just what it was, which they knew would entitle them to a spanking when their mother found out, so they decided to run away.

But they did not exactly run—they walked. Afoot, the two little tramps made their way from One Hundred and Thirty-third street up to the woodland along the Hudson river, a distance of four-miles or more. And there they had been ever since, just a part of the while, and constantly feeling to go back home.

At night they slept in thickets. When it rained—as it did on three nights—they huddled together for warmth and shivered through the long, cold hours, drenched and miserable.

The brothers wandered about until the soles of their shoes wore away, leaving their feet bare. They lived on bread and scraps of food which they picked up in the park and upon what they could beg from the picnicers. But picnics are not so common at this season and it was scanty pickings that the lads got.

The furniture of the old Hoffman house in New York, long under the direction of the late Edward Stokes, is now being auctioned off and while not bringing such prices as the books in the Hoe library, it is doing very well. There are various souvenirs to be disposed of, the furniture of the suite that Grover Cleveland occupied, of the room in which Roscoe Conkling died, the onyx table on which Lily Langtry had her breakfast, and the big chair that David B. Hill sat in when the democrats foregathered at their favorite hostelry. Hill's own hotel, however, was the Normandy, the proprietor of which was a general on his staff while governor.

New York under the compulsion of increased traffic is beginning to resume the ownership of its streets. For years they private property owners with porches, entrance steps, stairways, signs, showcases, etc., until the condition had become unbearable. Now the Sun tells us that the borough president has ordered "The Waldorf-Astoria without exception, the Waldorf-Astoria, as well as a number of shops that have presumed on a lenient or corrupt government to take the people's sidewalks are now compelled to vacate. Even Tammany hall "will have to draw in its toes and stand erect."

Another New York landmark, the famous Aaron Burr mansion on Riverside drive, is to go before the advancing front of modern apartment houses, which are gradually covering up every available foot of ground in the upper part of the city. The mansion, 140 years old, has just been sold at auction to a builder and will be torn down at once. It stands on a plot about 100 feet square on a hill overlooking the Hudson. James Madison, president of the United States, occupied it from 1804 to 1806.

Beneficent Bob.

Pittsburg Dispatch. The International Paper company asserts that the newspapers are in favor of Canadian reciprocity because it will give them cheaper paper. Of course, the International company's opposition to the measure is wholly disinterested and beneficent.

The Sign is Sufficient.

St. Louis City Tribune. Official reports from Nebraska indicate that the bank guaranty law has not yet begun to change deposits to a noticeable extent. Conditions are so prosperous over there that a gold lettered sign over any bank is sufficient evidence of its soundness.

Who's Got the Button?

Pittsburg Dispatch. When Governor Woodrow Wilson encountered those buttons bearing the inscription "For President, Woodrow Wilson," he will doubtless express surprise at the suddenness of the proposition. But he will not, as the ordinary politician does, place himself in the hands of his friends,

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER. Superiority in Strength, Purity, Wholesomeness Established. U. S. Government Reports, Highest Award World's Columbian Exposition. Sixty Years the Standard.

MIRTHFUL REMARKS. Minister—I have at last made a convert of old Mr. Hardtack, who so long sneered at the idea of changing his ways. He comes to church now regularly. "Yes, I noticed he did, and couldn't tell whether he had a change of heart or insanity."—Baltimore American. "Have you started on your list of 'don'ts for hot weather'?" asked the editor. "Yes," replied the acerbic, "but I have managed to think of only one." "What is that?" "Don't worry people with a lot of 'Don'ts'."—Washington Star. In the Irish rebellion a bombshell whizzed toward an Irishman's head. Pat dodged it with a low bow, and it went by, taking off the head of a man behind him. "Faith," exclaimed Pat, "ye never knew a man to lose anything by bein' perillit!"—Tit-Bits. "Ruggles, which side of the controversy between the bald heads and the bewhiskered chaps do you take?" "Neither one, Ramage; I don't deal in wigs and I don't sell either razors or shaving soaps."—Chicago Tribune. "Jiggletion," said the man who was away for the week-end, "caught a brook trout.

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