

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE
FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
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NOVEMBER CIRCULATION
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State of Nebraska, County of Douglas:
Dwight Williams, circulation manager of the Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the average daily circulation, as specified, issued and returned copies, for the month of November, 1911, was 50,573.

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If you haven't already, there is still plenty of time to do it. Uncle Sam may appear ridiculous by being too careful of Russia's feelings.

But Arizona, under the circumstances, was expected to go democratic. What will congress do—adjourn if Mr. Bryan prolongs his visit in South America?

Hankow is called the Chicago of China, but we doubt if it can produce a real Chicago statesman. Riotous old New York would as soon hoot down Andrew Carnegie as an Irish "playboy" actor.

The wool growers are now learning why Omaha is considered the center of the banana belt. It is fortunate for St. Louis that East St. Louis is in Illinois—somebody might annex it to the big town.

Little Joe Brown seems to be the best little governor Georgia can find when big Hoke Smith is not on the job. How gratifying it must be to King George to find upon his arrival that he is acceptable to India as its emperor.

An exchange reminds us that we are close to Christmas. Yes, and that reminds us that Christmas is very close to us. If those Indiana republicans will stop disputing over whether Taft can carry their state, he probably will carry it easily enough.

If former Mayor Schmidt does not hurry up, Abe Reuf will get his fourteen-year sentence served and over with before the mayor gets started. The Atlanta Constitution says Washington is just now filled with jockeys. And every now and then we seem to hear the bray of a donkey.

New Orleans is being advertised as "Crescent City and Gateway to the Panama Canal." Now, San Francisco, take your old exposition and go to it. The wool growers are getting down to business without any preliminary flourishes. They know what they want, and they are going after it.

Reform is a relative term after all. What strikes us as reform today, probably would hit the next generation as the most radical conservatism. Mayor "Jim" got back from Texas better satisfied than ever that he cast his lot with Nebraska. A fact the Lone Star state boosters should not allow to escape them.

The Baltimore American says Baltimore showed the western governors "the time of their lives." That is going some, for some of those governors have had some times in their lives. The headlight of a motorcycle interrupted a highwayman and saved his victim, thus proving these contraptions have a use beyond disturbing the peace and frightening pedestrians.

Our friendly correspondents are gradually getting the Adam and Eve controversy settled, shoving the blame off by degrees onto old Adam's shoulders, where it, doubtless, belongs. But, as man to man, do you blame Adam?

No Mincing of Words with Russia. The passage by the house of practically a unanimous vote of the joint resolution revoking the 1832 treaty with Russia by the declaration that Russia has "violated" the compact, is a fairly accurate index to the temper of the American people on the subject of Russia's insolent disregard of her obligations and our rights, and ought to be very solemn notice to that country to this effect. The more diplomatically inclined in the house objected to saying that Russia had "violated" the treaty, preferring to put it that Russia had not "construed" it as we had, but the majority insisted on mincing no words and stating the facts in the plainest language.

There comes a time when comely cannot claim precedent over all other considerations, and that time certainly has come in the history of this treaty. The United States has waited nearly eighty years for Russia to observe the treaty; why wait any longer? Talk of war, of course, is folly. There is no thought or need of that. It would be a fine come-off if a nation could not take steps to respect itself, to invite the respect and confidence of all its own citizens, to say nothing of the outside world, for fear of war. As President Schurman of Cornell has said, it is no longer a question of commanding respect from Russia so much as it is first of commanding respect from our own people and keeping faith with them. We, the United States, are on trial, not Russia. Russia has had its trial and stands convicted before the bar of universal civilization of deliberate disregard of solemn treaty obligations. It is more a time for action than arbitration. What is there to arbitrate, when Russia for eighty years has refused even to entertain seriously the terms of this treaty? We wish the friendship of Russia, certainly, but not at the expense, surely, of our own honor and self-respect.

This resolution, of course, must have the concurrent approval of both houses to become effective. If it gets that, as it evidently will, it ought to have a very strong influence on Russia's general foreign policy, which has needed steady for a long time. Censorship for Theaters. The agitation for a board of censors whose duty it shall be to pass upon plays and spectacles being presented at the Omaha theaters, has not yet reached a point where it may be said to be a public demand. Maybe it never will reach that point. It is being put forward by a body of young men who have devoted a portion, at least, of their time to the effort of advancing the general cause of morality along lines that seem correct to them. This will be the greatest obstacle in the way of public censorship: all men do not see things from the same point of view, and one may consider perfectly proper what another will look upon as pernicious, if not actually meretricious, and each from his own standpoint will be right.

Demands for censorship of the stage have arisen many times. The history of the theater is a continual repetition of the outcry against it. It is to the credit of the managers, and particularly those of Omaha, that they have sedulously endeavored to prevent the presentation of anything that will give offense at their houses. Omaha theaters are clean, as will be evidenced from the fact that thousands of men and women, boys and girls, attend them each week, and the general moral tone of the city has not suffered in any way because of the plays there presented. Sufficient authority is already vested in the city's executive officers to prevent the exhibition of any spectacle or play that tends to deprave. The general cause of public morality will hardly be better served by placing an extension of this authority in the hands of a board, unless that board is composed of men of the broadest culture and most liberal views. Omaha needs a great many things more than it needs a board of censorship for the theater.

Diversity of Legislation. Senator Bailey takes the unpopular side of another piece of popular legislation, the bill by Senator Borah to establish in the Department of Commerce and Labor a children's bureau to safeguard and protect the interests of children who have to work for a living. Bailey says the bill is "simply indefensible," when, as a matter of fact, such a statement as that and his position will, undoubtedly, strike most people as indefensible.

In the course of his attack upon the bill, Senator Bailey makes a point worth considering, it seems to us, namely, the ever-increasing diversity of subjects upon which congress is asked to legislate and the few it refuses to legislate upon. During the Sixty-first congress 40,000 bills were introduced. It does not seem reasonable to suppose that 40,000 things requiring legislation should come up from one congress to another, as Senator Bailey suggests, especially in view of the fact that only 100 bills were introduced into the first congress, which had upon its hands the task of putting "into operation the greatest governmental experi-

ment in all history." Of course, the diversity of politics and business since then naturally would increase the diversity of legislation, but not to such an extent, surely. What Senator Bailey might have noted was this, that one of the principal causes for all this hodge-podge of legislation today is the anxiety of most members of congress to authorize a few pet measures in the effort to magnify their importance as lawmakers in the estimation of their constituents. Eliminate that and most of these 40,000 bills would not be introduced.

The Supremacy of King Corn. Most people know that corn is king of American farm products, but how many realize its incomparable supremacy? The south boasts of its cotton crop and it has reason to, for it supplies the American and most of the English mills, beside shipping to other countries. In fact, the south's cotton crop is three-fifths of the world's supply and it undoubtedly excites more world interest in the market than any other single product. The seed and fiber of this year's crop is considerably less than normal and yet it amounts to \$775,000,000. The value of our last corn crop is more than twice that much. The last wheat crop in this country is worth about \$500,000,000, which, like cotton, is a little below normal. The oats crop comes to about \$380,000,000, which is 5 per cent above the average for five years. These staggering statistics, taken from the government's official statement, serve to impress upon the immensity and importance of American agriculture.

The value of our last corn crop is but slightly less than that of cotton, wheat and oats put together. Thus we may gather some idea of the actual supremacy of King Corn. This is all of trite interest to Nebraskans, for their state is one of the four greatest corn states. It enables them to appreciate Nebraska's importance, not only in the agricultural world, but in the industrial as well, for industry depends quite extensively on King Corn today. Thousands of people are employed in factories where corn products are manufactured and thousands of others in the transportation and marketing of it. And Nebraska, with its average yield per acre of about twenty-five bushels, has only begun to cultivate and produce corn.

About this time twenty-one years ago, a young man in Omaha stood in front of a beautiful painting, and after studying it for a few moments, threw a chair through the canvas. He explained his action by saying that he had tried to look upon the picture just as Christ would view it. That picture, restored, today hangs in the largest collection of works of art in this part of the world—at the Lindinger gallery, and is viewed by thousands, no one of whom has ever been heard to repeat the remark made by the young man. Devotion to the cause of Christ led him to such an extreme of violence. As Captain Cuttle would say, the moral of this lies in the application.

The World-Herald having conceded the electoral vote of Indiana, New York and Ohio to the democrats in 1912, it seems useless to proceed any farther with preparations for the election. But why did the World-Herald stop there? It would be just as easy to make it unanimous. The Real Estate exchange has a proposal in connection with the Auditorium purchase by the city that is sound and reasonable. An inquiry into the financial affairs of the company should be made before any definite steps are taken to acquire the property for public ownership.

The Arizona experiment in government is now well under way. Wonder how long it will be before the newly elected democratic state officials are caught in some one of the pitfalls spread for the unwary foot of officeholders by the patent back-action, double-gearered constitution of the new state. In the campaign to build the Auditorium the chief slogan was, "Make Omaha the Convention City," and, of course, that never could be done without a convention hall. Has Omaha any citizen who cares to go back a dozen years or drag his city back that far? Almost \$9,000,000 expended during the year for public schools in Nebraska is what keeps this state in the front rank as having the lowest percentage of illiteracy in the country. It is concrete proof of the progressiveness of Nebraska along right lines.

The democratic county commissioners have succeeded in getting the affairs of the unfinished county court house in a sadly muddled condition. A thorough investigation would seem to be in order. Participants in the tar party shindy at Shady Bend, Kan., are just beginning to pay the price. Besides a jail sentence for each, those having real property are seeking a compromise on damage suits or hypothecate attachable assets. The community, too, feels the blight of humiliating publicity and talk of changing the name of the village.

People Talked About. The county clerk of Cass county, Indiana, as a means of boosting business offers Christmas boxes to applicants for marriage license. The cost of the prizes is deftly attached to the license fee. One hundred dollars a day for accommodations at hotels in Delhi and \$30 a day for a three weeks' stay suggests that the dunbar bonifaces are working a good thing on both sides as well as in the middle of the street. Dr. Wiley's pronouncement against whiskers as a menace to health is not taken seriously by Honorable J. Ham Lewis, democratic candidate for senator in Illinois. J. Ham sterilizes his'n every day and parts 'em in the middle. The activity of rival publicity bureaus spreading the news of Governor Woodrow Wilson's application for an educational pension prompts the doctor's friends to file an appeal to the society for the suppression of unnecessary notes. George Turner, former United States senator from the state of Washington, has been rescued from the "lame duck" flock and placed on the international waterways commission, a \$7,500 a year job held down by the late Senator Carter of Montana. Participants in the tar party shindy at Shady Bend, Kan., are just beginning to pay the price. Besides a jail sentence for each, those having real property are seeking a compromise on damage suits or hypothecate attachable assets. The community, too, feels the blight of humiliating publicity and talk of changing the name of the village.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha COMPILED FROM BEE FILES DEC. 15.

Thirty Years Ago—The second german of the Entre Nous club was given at the residence of Mrs. William Chambers. The favors, imported from Gunther's in Chicago, were unusually rich and elegant, and in addition each member and his lady was presented with a special favor by Mrs. S. N. Jones and Mr. Milton Barlow, consisting of satin ties for the gentlemen and sachet bags for the ladies. A number of new figures were danced, one of which, the brick and cabbage head, was a decided innovation. The following were present: Charles McCormick, W. N. Cray, W. H. Wilbur, A. Remington, Robert Garlicks, Mose Barkalov, Colonel Sharp, George Jewett, E. F. Peck, the Misses Grace Chambers, Carrie Bishop, Mary Knight, Carrie Jams, Lou Jams, Hoyt, Mera Balcombe, Lottie Congdon and Mrs. Peck.

The Unity club gave another pleasant party at Standard hall. Mrs. Herman Kuntze entertained a large number of her friends at a Christmas lunch, the table set for seventy, was elegantly embellished with flowers, each of the guests receiving a handsome bouquet. Universal opinion concedes the lunch the most elegant ever given in the city. August Arndt was arrested by United States Marshal Bierbower on a warrant charging threatening Judge Dundy's life. Rumor had it that he was also suspected of knowing something of the Watson B. Smith murder, but nothing came of it beyond arousing temporary excitement. The ladies of the First Methodist Episcopal church gave a sociable at the residence of Mrs. C. H. Dewey on Twentieth street. The Saratoga lyceum debated the question, "Resolved, That the jury system should be abolished." Affirmative, Prof. McPherson; negative, Mr. Littlefield. An Omaha crockery firm received twenty-nine cases of crockery from a Liverpool firm imported direct. F. J. McShane is offering a reward for the return of a large silk neck handkerchief lost between Pleasant street and Nineteenth and Farnam.

Twenty Years Ago—Colonel H. H. Horst, a prominent mining man of Butte, Mont., came to town with some ore for the smelter, reporting great prosperity in "the greatest mining camp in the world." The body of Mrs. Max Meyer was laid at rest at Pleasant Hill cemetery. The obsequies were conducted at the home of Rabbi Rosenau. The pallbearers were Benjamin Newman, I. Oberfelder, S. Katz, M. Goldsmith, A. Pollack, E. Seligson. Rome Miller, a hotel man of Norfolk, with his daughter and niece, was required to return to the Paxton hotel. Mrs. Geneva Johnson Bishop of Chicago arrived to sing for the Apollo club. Manager William Lawler of the Eden Musee and bride returned from their wedding trip and were at the Delone. F. C. Parsons of Washington, D. C., in the employ of the Department of Agriculture, was making a thorough examination of the system of meat inspection at the South Omaha packing plants. H. C. Miller, the well known grain man of the Board of Trade, visited every local railroad freight office for information as to when the coal famine blockade would be raised, but got no information.

Ten Years Ago—The day was Sunday, but it afforded little or no rest for the coal man, who was kept busy trying to fill the bins that the cold wave had emptied. The poor of the city were being cared for for the first time on the basis of a door-to-door canvass, practically. Harry B. Huston of Kookuk, Ia., traveling salesman for the Bradford-Kinler Lumber company, returning from a trip over Nebraska, reported much building in progress. The weekly meeting of the Beer league was largely attended at the Paxton hotel. Those were elected a board of directors: Frank E. Ransom, Ed F. Smith, J. F. Coad, Ed J. Cornish, Edward Rosewater, W. F. Gurley, R. L. Metcalfe, John A. Crighton, Carl C. Wright, W. S. Shoemaker, Ernest Stubi, Dr. White, Captain Parkhurst, Dr. McCrann, Richard O'Keefe, Judge Green, Baltus Jetter. I. W. Carpenter returned from Chicago. Hon. Joseph Oberfelder managed to wade in through the snow, and against the cold wind from Sidney. Mrs. C. F. Southard, who has been dangerously ill, is reported to have come through the crisis safely. The Presbyterian church at Dundee was dedicated. Dr. J. J. Lampe of the seminary related the history of the church; Rev. T. V. Moore, pastor of Westminster street church, presided; Dr. Allison of Castellar street church, pronounced the opening prayer and Rev. E. H. Jenks of First church preached the dedicatory sermon.

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Defends Moving Pictures. OMAHA, Dec. 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: Will you please publish the following: OMAHA, Dec. 11, 1911.—Chief of Police, City of Omaha, and the Elite Theater: Gentlemen—In our day police regulation of the public amusements, I note in the daily press the issuance of a recent order on the part of the police department prohibiting further exhibitions of pictures of the Italian-Turkish war, as shown in various theaters of this city and more particularly the Elite theater. This was done at the solicitation of a number of Italians of this city. Inasmuch as the act governs and affects many I am moved to publicly enter protest to this regulation. "To any one who is willing to investigate the matter it must soon become apparent that there was never to this date any objectionable feature in the war pictures as secured by Pathe Freres. In fact, if ever there was any redeeming feature about the animated pictures the invention of this current topic film is decidedly proper. I fail to see on what ground our police department granted the delegation of Italians the wish desired. Certainly the great mass of interested moving picture goers have never taken into account, I believe there are many who feel exactly as I do in the premises and if their sentiments were conveyed it would swamp the chief of our police department. "Press dispatches have hinted at times at Italian atrocities in the present conflict contrary to civilized warfare. Is it fear of possible, though improbable, revelation of the camera that these gentlemen were moved to deprive others the right of giving the Italian nation its proper valuation? As it seems that there is an insistent demand for theater censorship, why not place such matters for decision in competent hands? We have, among others, capable men in our journalistic field. Why not secure such men to pass upon the merits of dramas? In passing it may be stated that several of our newspapers perform this very function if only people would read and be guided by the better one. "It would seem fitting to have removed this ban upon the pictures referred to. Very truly yours, GEORGE WEIDENFELD.

New Jersey and Wilson. NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: We of New Jersey have gained the impression that the people of the middle west are demanding our governor for the next president and we cannot understand it. He has been our governor but one year and he has spent so much of that time out of the state pushing a candidacy of his own that our people have been asking themselves whether we have a governor or not. The writer has no candidate to urge, but as a devoted democrat for many years and pleased with the outlook for democratic success, he wonders if the democrats really intend to keep fulfilling the deserved proverb, to make fools of themselves whenever they get the chance. Let your people make inquiries and satisfy themselves that they are not being led on by honeyed speech in directions where they will find sorrow. To be a candidate for president we want something more than words; something in a man besides backbiting in his own state; something in himself besides mere theory and words. JERSEY DEMOCRAT.

Not This Company. HOT SPRING, S. D., Dec. 8.—To the Editor of The Bee: In a recent issue of your paper, your correspondent at Hot Springs, S. D., stated that the cause of suicide of one of its citizens was the result of his having made investments in some industrial enterprise. Inasmuch as your correspondent did not state the name of the company, I beg to state that it was not the Hot Springs Gypsum company, and that the gentleman in question was not interested in any way in this company. As we are putting in a large gypsum plant at this place, I must ask you in all fairness to us to insert this disclaimer in an early issue of your paper. F. H. PERLEY, President.

The Bee's Letter Box

OMAHA, Dec. 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: Do you not think that before the city pays contractors for the bury street sewer they should replace the pavement in a possible condition? In many places it is hardly safe for a person to walk over and is surely not for a wagon or automobile. But this is in keeping with all other contract work done for the city of Omaha. Look at the sink holes in the new paving on Harney and many other streets. The city pays for good work and it should be done. This is from a taxpayer. J. B. SCOTT.

Unfair to Business Men. OMAHA, Dec. 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: Each and every year the merchants of Omaha receive a printed notice informing them that there is due at the city treasurer's office taxes which are supposed to be paid on or before a certain date. We do that year after year, at least the most of us do. This money is supposed to be for the purpose of paying the running expenses of the city of Omaha. You will note that I say—year after year we do this.

Now, I think as a taxpayer and a merchant of Omaha, that it is radically wrong and unjust to these merchants, who do business in Omaha, live here, pay rent, buy their clothes, pay their grocery bills and in fact practically spend their entire income in the city of Omaha, to permit the practice of allowing what they call Kite Houses to open up a temporary establishment during the Christmas holidays for the purpose of selling what is known as Kite goods, or in other words, fake merchandise to an unsuspecting public. Competition of this sort to the legitimate merchant is manifestly unfair. It is unfair for the city authorities to permit it. I don't care what license they pay, or how legal it may be. There is no line of merchandise where the public can be so easily as duped, consequently it is a difficult proposition to convince the average far-buying public that they are buying nothing but the cheapest of merchandise and paying the most exorbitant prices for the same, and I most emphatically wish to say again that it is unjust to the merchants of Omaha to permit this practice. A TAXPAYER.

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Beatrice Sun: W. H. Thompson, the "Little Giant" of Grand Island, has declared his intention of taking the democratic nomination for United States senator to succeed Norris Brown. Mr. Thompson has been a receptive candidate for a good many years and his trusty lightning rod is still doing business. Hastings Tribune: A. C. Shallenberger will have to get up and hustle if he has any serious intentions of making the race for the United States senate next year. The way W. H. Thompson is "swinging around the circle" and lining things up is anything but slow, and the chances are getting much brighter for his nomination every day. Alma Record: The fact that W. H. Thompson of Grand Island, who has filed as a candidate for the democratic nomination for United States senator, has come out for W. J. Bryan and says he is the greatest living advocate of democratic doctrines, is causing considerable comment in this locality as to the probable effect the declaration will have on A. C. Shallenberger's candidacy. Oakland Independent: Hon. C. H. Gustafson of Mead, Neb., representative from Saunders county in the last legislature, has been mentioned as a probable candidate as lieutenant governor on the republican ticket. He has the backing of a number of prominent republicans in the state. He is taking the attitude of a receptive candidate but does not wish to force himself forward in the primary. Gustafson is the author, in conjunction with another member of the legislature, of the present closed primary law and his record in the legislature is very creditable. The Independent will look with favor upon Mr. Gustafson's candidacy. Central City Republican and Record: Clark Perkins, secretary of the State Railway commission and lately installed editor of the Aurora Republican, arises with an air of finality and superior wisdom, and formally christens the chief supporters of La Follette in Nebraska as "lame ducks." We don't know, however, but that it is just as well to be a lame duck as one of the trite of lame ducks to which Mr. Perkins belongs. At worst the lame duck is one of the transitory stages toward the development of the tame duck. It is only after the wild duck has been lamed and maimed that he can be captured, and domesticated, and made to answer to his master's voice. There was a time when Clark's resonant "quack, quack," shrilled out over the sandhills in the neighborhood of St. Paul, giving his fellows warning of approaching po-

Whittled to a Point. "Yes," says the owner of the auto, "I'll sell you the machine, just as it stands for five thousand cash." "Is that your upset price?" asks the prospective buyer. "Yes," interjects the small son of the owner. "That's just why pa wants to sell it. It's up every time it turns a corner."—Chicago Post. "Nature has a strenuous way of doing with the twenty-four hours. Isn't she?" "How so?" "Yes," she make the day-break, the nightfall and the noon full."—Baltimore American. "Are you going to make any New Year resolutions this year?" "I ought to do it," said Mr. Dustin Stutz. "I'm so tremendously busy I guess I'll have to turn the job over to my clerks."—Washington Star. "Madam," remarked the weary wayfarer with the bandaged eye, "I was not always as you see me now." "I know," replied the stern-visaged woman at the back door. "The last time you were here you had on a deaf and dumb sign."—Puck. "I understand that there was a lamentable auto accident at this corner last night?" "You were misinformed." "Why, I heard that a joy rider was killed." "There was."—Houston Post. Mrs. Hourekeep (to tramp)—Why don't you look around for work? "I'm troubled with a stiff neck, numb—Boston Transcript.

AS TO QUEER NAMES. Baltimore American. The man from Pusanstaway and the man from Kokomo. Discussed the Chinese troubles, and the first said "Don't you know I think these Chinese names are queer enough to stop a clock." "That's right," replied another man from fair Caucasumcon. The man from Kokomo observed, "By giner! that's a fact!" That's what my brother says—he lives down here in Hacksackland. And still another stranger said the man's comment was true. And added, with a smile of pride, "My home's in Kal'maroo." Another man took up the strain, "Now, down Skowhegan way And up at P'tsaint we speak it every day. The names are all uncivilized and heathen in their ring. That's what I told my uncle yesterday in Ishpeming." "Hohokus is my native town," another stranger said; "And I think all these Chinese names the worst I ever read." "Quite true," agreed a quiet man; "they're certainly uncanny. That's what my neighbors all assert in Tall Hot, Indiana."

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