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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
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49,728

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas; Mr. 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 January, 1912, was 49,728."

DWIGHT WILLIAMS,
Circulation Manager
Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 5th day of February, 1912.
(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.

Nothing so arouses a sleeping town as a national convention.

The Everglades were swamped bad enough without this latest overflow.

Never mind, the venerable secretary of agriculture is able to hoe his own row.

Old Wilkins Micawber still leads the batting list of the Dickens' characters.

Dueling in France has been reduced to an exact science by means of wax bullets.

Some of these "favorite sons" probably have that dark, brown taste in their mouths already.

"Back to the farm" used to be yelled only at the dumb ball players. Now it is a national cry.

James B. Duke of the Tobacco trust is soon to retire, but the ducal dynasty has not decided to abdicate.

Baltimore is entitled to the democratic convention, for it has had no fame since the old champion Orioles ceased to warble.

Congress Faces Important Week."—Headline. Yes, and that same headline has been written each Monday since congress convened.

"My political career is not much different from that of some other senators," remarks Mr. Lorimer. But even that does not excuse him.

The Courier-Journal calls it "Governor Wilson's tergiversation." Those democrats call each other awful names when they get mad.

The Folk-Clark farce in Missouri is referred to as "A Victory of Peace." How can there be a victory, where there is nothing to win or lose?

The foot ball field has been shortened ten yards. Now, if they would only shorten the foot ball season ten days, the casualty list might diminish itself.

One tabloid biographer says of Mr. Bryan that he "edits the Commoner." Gee, don't they know Dick Metcalfe needs a little thunder, himself, to run for governor?

Judge Gary insists those records that were burned contained no steel trust secrets the government would care to know. Certainly not, that is why they were burned.

Now, if we only had retained that open primary, wouldn't it be fine for the democrats to fix up a harmony slate for themselves, and then come over and help the republicans out.

A few more penitentiary murders might dampen the ardor of the police and pardon squad, who would turn loose, as soon as sentence is pronounced, every convict who puts up a terrible tale.

The incident at Bellevue proves that the service of the Lord is just as righteous and noble saving a neighbor's house from flames as praying in church to save souls from the fires hereafter.

You always think more of your friend with the auto after he has dashed madly by you as you were standing in the slush waiting for a car and spattered a lot of the slush upon your nice, new suit.

"What is the matter with our army?" is being discussed in a series of articles contributed by staff officers to a popular magazine. What is the matter with our army? Perhaps some of the Spaniards who went up against it in Cuba, or the Filipinos who got their experience in the Philippines, might give first hand information.

Those Five Amendments.

Except for the publicity voluntarily given by the newspapers the people of Nebraska would be left almost wholly in the dark with reference to five important amendments to the constitution submitted by the last legislature for adoption at the coming election. Under the method of constitution-changing now prevailing in this state the decisive vote on the amendments will take place, not in the November election, but in the April primary. The five amendments briefly epitomized are as follows:

1. Initiative and referendum.
2. Doubling salaries of members of the legislature.
3. Creating an appellate board of control for state institutions.
4. Providing for only biennial elections after the year 1934.
5. Empowering cities of more than 5,000 inhabitants to frame and adopt their own charters.

Only once before have as many constitutional amendments been submitted for ratification at one time in Nebraska, and on that occasion they will all be defeated, the multiplicity of the amendments contributing to that end. In this list of five are some that will meet with division of opinion, and others that will encounter the obstacle of indifference. The danger that threatens arises not only from the multiplicity of amendments, but also from the still greater multiplicity of candidates and offices on the primary ballot, sure to test the staying powers of the voter. An amendment submitted two years ago fell by the wayside of its own inertia, and in the absence of persistent agitation it will not be surprising if one or two of these meet a similar fate.

Getting Back the \$100,000.

Here is a schedule of prices which dispatches say, has been virtually prearranged in Baltimore for the accommodation of the delegates and visitors to the democratic national convention, to be held in that city next June:

First class hotels, \$30 a day.

Second class hotels, \$20 a day.

Third class hotels, \$20 a day.

Second class lodging houses, \$20 a day.

Second class lodgings, \$20 a day.

Other lodgings, \$20 a day.

In taxicabs, \$5 for the first half hour and \$5 for each hour thereafter.

In Chesapeake Bay steamers, \$20 per room.

Presumably Baltimore knew what it was about when it put up the \$100,000 cash bonus that landed the democratic convention. Presumably these hotel keepers and other public service people were not acting purely from philanthropic motives. There is such a thing as casting one's bread upon the water and, after many days, having it return multiplied manifold. This scriptural treasure may occur to some of the delegates as they go to pay their bread and other bills when the convention is over.

These figures, so reports say, represent only the outside service. All details, such as, for instance at a hotel, bell boys, towels, ice water, etc., will come extra. The Salvation Army Barracks are said to be overcrowded now. No sleeping will be permitted in the convention hall after regular work hours. The police will be instructed to prevent lounging on the streets. All delegates, therefore, who have no relatives or other means of free entertainment in Baltimore will be compelled to seek refuge in a hostelry of some sort. No guilty democrat will be allowed to escape.

United States battleships in Chesapeake bay, however, will salute the convention free of charge.

Baltimore's slogan: Why be a convention city unless you can get the money? A most appropriate epithet for the party of reform and retribution that puts its convention up at auction.

Secretary Knox's Caribbean Visit.

Undoubtedly one of the chief objects of Secretary Knox's coming visit to the Caribbean countries is to pave the way for the relations that should exist between those countries and the United States consequent upon the building of the Panama canal.

Mr. Knox, who has urged congress to sanction the loans to Nicaragua and Honduras, seems exactly the man and this the strategic time for this mission.

The United States should promote cordial relations, not only between it and these countries, but between them severally. Whenever the unbroken pursuit of peaceful industry among these little nations to the south is established we shall need to concern ourselves very little with problems that now vex us.

But many Americans believe it is going too far to buy these conditions with an extension of our financial protectorate over these countries. The Honduran loan, exceeding \$100,000, has not yet been approved by the senate for that reason. Those opposing the proposition ask that if we grant this concession to Honduras and Nicaragua, as we have already done in the case of Hayti, where shall we draw the line? It will establish a precedent that will be difficult to break. European countries might become too generous in their loans, knowing that back of the volatile Central American republic stood its powerful guarantor, Uncle Sam.

It seems to be simply a question of how far the United States can afford to go in this direction. In the case of Hayti we practically took over the financial conduct of the government.

But we saved it from bankruptcy and restored economic prosperity, and thus far have met with no evil conse-

quences, nor are we threatened with any. Undoubtedly Hayti and the United States will be all the better off for our action. That is practically what we are proposing to do in Honduras and Nicaragua. If our government feels that it can afford to extend this policy generally in that section, then, it would seem, nothing need stand in its way. The president and secretary of state urge it. At any rate, closer relations between us and all our neighbors in the Caribbean and between all of them must be established by some means.

Regardless of the Verdicts.

Regardless of the verdicts which the committees on investigation in the cases of Senators Stephenson and Lorimer submit, it is safe to say that the methods and means by which these men were elected to the senate have, by the wide publicity of these investigations, been so unpopular as to be unwelcome to candidates for the senate in Wisconsin or Illinois, or other states in the future. And if only that has been done, substantial progress has been achieved, whether the final pronouncement of the investigators is adverse or favorable to the individuals involved, or whether they are retained in their seats or not.

No sane man, who has kept up with any measurable part of the Lorimer case, believes that the methods by which Lorimer became a senator were what they should have been. Nobody, not even the senators reporting in favor of Stephenson, will dare say that \$107,000 should be spent without knowing where it is to go, to be elected to a seat in the upper branch of congress. Perhaps it serves a better and larger purpose after all to let these men remain in the senate, where they will be conspicuous examples of the evil of unsavory politics. But the lamentable truth is that they do not stand out in as bold relief from all their colleagues as it might be wished they did, since they, probably, only offend what, in a measure, too many others, both democrats and republicans.

Unseating a senator would not be a victory unless at the same time we had uprooted a bad practice in corrupt politics. It is the hope that we have done this that encourages good people to view with equanimity the fate of either Lorimer or Stephenson. Regardless of the verdicts in their cases, it is safe to predict that their successors will not be elected by the same methods that gave them their commissions.

Ten Years Ago.

County Treasurer G. Fred Essauer filed his report for January, showing a balance on hand of \$152,795.55.

Judge W. W. Slabaugh returned from Hannibal, Mo., whither he had been called by the sickness of Mrs. Slabaugh's sister.

Marie Morrissey, 18 years of age, died at her home, 196 South Thirty-second avenue.

The Au Revoir Kensington club was entertained by Mrs. Frank S. De Vor, 1129 Park Avenue, in the afternoon.

Charles J. Greene, returned from Chicago.

Mrs. Elizabeth Belden, mother of Mrs. C. W. Lyman, died at the Lyman home, 300 Burr street, at 8 a. m., at the age of 78. Mrs. Belden, who had resided in Omaha for thirty years, had been in poor health during the entire winter.

W. H. Green and party returned from Guatemala, where they spent three weeks. They reached New Orleans on their return in time for the Mardi Gras.

Announcement is made that the current expense fund for the University of Omaha has been raised according to schedule, but this should not prevent any disposed to contribute from making an additional subscription just the same.

Of course, there ought not to be any suspicion of ulterior motives on the part of any one engaged in reforming our city government. It goes without saying that the ulterior motives are always actuating the other fellow.

It is to be noted that office seekers

who want to climb on to the republican ticket by the insurgency step-ladder just naturally go to democratic organs for publicity and encouragement as a duck takes to water.

Thomas Edison only takes four and one-half hours sleep in order that he may get in plenty of time at work. Obviously Mr. Edison either does not belong to a union or gets time and a half for overtime.

Cause and Effect.

Indianapolis News.

Taken by and large, it would seem that Senator La Follette is entirely justified in feeling what is technically known as "a bit sore."

Wilson a Wary Bird.

Brooklyn Eagle.

Secretary Wilson is not to be caught in the swamp of Florida. If he were to undertake to expose all the crookedness of farming there would be no "commodities" from the cities and the "back-to-the-land" movement would be retarded by official interference.

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A Cause for Wonder.

Indianapolis News.

And yet one can't help wondering why the steel trust reduced its average price by selling lower abroad than at home, as Mr. Schwab declares, instead of doing so by selling lower at home than abroad, which policy would have added agreeably to its popularity and might have avoided a great deal of embarrassment in the way of official investigation.

Perfido Laughs Last.

Philadelphia Record.

General Perfido Diaz may be excused if he takes a sartorial satisfaction in the news from the country, which discourteously dispensed with his services, which were undoubtedly valuable, but had by the lapses of time become irksome. The government that he was the head of was not republican much below the surface, but it was a firm government; it maintained the peace and it fostered the business interests of the country. Madero isn't keeping the peace.

Staying Up the Troubles.

New York Sun.

The chief trouble with Mr. Taft is that he doesn't practice the Midway Plaisance style of politics.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha
COMPILED FROM BEE FILES

FEB. 13.

Thirty Years Ago.

A strike of Union Pacific masons took place at the shops today. Strikers say they are going back, presumably having had their grievances adjusted. The grand jury has returned seven indictments.

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trade listened to a discussion on paving stone and river improvement.

John C. Clark appointed Dr. J. A. Hornbeck to draft a memorial to congress for an appropriation to protect the Missouri river bank.

L. C. Northrop, formerly district judge and United States attorney of South Carolina, was admitted by Judge Savage to practice at the bar of this state.

The committee in charge of the fifth annual ball of Engine Company No. 1 to be held March 16 at Masonic hall, is made up of D. W. Lane, C. C. Field, C. H. Pickens, Charles Hunt, E. P. Beard, George Crager and W. J. Whitehouse.

Mrs. Howard B. Smith left for Chillicothe, Ohio, where her father is lying critically ill.

The sever connection with the Coopers was being made under the supervision of Contractor Hugh Murphy.

J. A. Gilstrap of the deaf and dumb asylum is asking for information regarding the whereabouts of a deaf and dumb boy about 8 years old, who got away from the asylum and has not returned.

Messrs. Wroth and Jones, two energetic and experienced lumber dealers,

formerly of Michigan, have opened an office in the McDonald building, opposite the Grand Central hotel, and will handle all kinds of lumber at wholesale.

Twenty Years Ago.

It was the decision of the Douglas County Beet Sugar association, which met at the Board of Trade, that no factory would be established in Omaha for the year at least. Dr. George L. Miller presided over the meeting. The committee which made a report, urging that the project be pushed, was John T. Clarke, George N. Hicks, A. W. Purfield, Ernest A. Benson, O. J. Pickard.