THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

BEE BUILDING, FARNAM AND 17TH.

Entered at Omaha postoffice as second-class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Sunday Bee, one year.....$2.50
Saturday Bee, one year.....1.00
Daily Bee (without Sunday), one year.$4.00
Daily Bee and Sunday, one year.....$6.00

DELIVERED BY CARRIER.

Evening Bee (with Sunday), per mo....55c
Daily Bee (including Sunday), per mo...45c
Daily Bee (without Sunday), per mo....40c

Address all complaints of irregularities in delivery to City Circulation Dept.

REMITTANCES.

Remit by draft, express or postal order, payable to The Bee Publishing company. Only 2-cent stamps received in payment of small accounts. Personal checks, except on Omaha and eastern exchange, not accepted.

OFFICES.

Omaha—The Bee Building.
South Omaha—2315 N St.
Council Bluffs—75 Scott St.
Lincoln—26 Little Building.
Chicago—1548 Marquette Building.
Kansas City—Reliance Building.
New York—24 West Thirty-third.
Washington—725 Fourteenth St., N. W.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

FEBRUARY CIRCULATION.

49,463

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 February, 1912, was 49,463.

DWIGHT WILLIAMS,
Circulation Manager.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 5th day of March, 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.

Where is Urey Woodson going to get off this year?

We shall soon be counting the votes by the straw hats.

Which would you rather be—a neurotic or a bullycrat?

Somebody find Colonel Watterson's pen and hand it to him.

Seattle women folks evidently do not want Mr. Gill for mayor.

"A Greater America" need not necessarily mean territorially.

This country needs many things more than it needs hero worship.

Just look at the strenuous way the offices are pursuing the men these days.

The United States still leads the world even to the matter of railway casualties.

Trixie Friganza has been tricked by little Cupid. Her business manager is the boy.

That hat may have landed in the ring all right, but it certainly has had some jolts since it lit.

It is strange how even the weather can remain cold in these days of furious political heat.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch speaks of "The law's delay in Missouri." It probably waited to be shown.

What is the virtue in recalling the decision and leaving its author there to make another one just as bad?

Senator Dixon brings Montana back into the limelight for the first time since the chairmanship days of Tom Carter.

If Dr. Wiley were to run for vice president, of course all impure fakes would be excluded from the list of campaign canards.

They say this has been an open winter in Alaska. We might fare better down here if Alaska will close its doors hereafter.

"Take him out, take him." "Oh, you bonehead, you lobster." It will not be long till that sweet frenzy will break upon our ears.

The idea of Jack London going on a six months' voyage to get material for a color story with such lurid displays going to waste here at home.

"If prices continue downward, a reduction of wages is inevitable," observes the Wall Street Journal. The editor must have written that in his sleep.

In addition to the shortage in the water supply, Lincoln is now facing a large sized leak in the public exchequer. Something needs fixing down there.

The San Francisco Call, that made a leading fight for the great reform movement in San Francisco, is fighting for Taft. This might be put down as another one of those straws.

Iowa's attorney general has decided that it is a crime to bet on election. Some notable Nebraskans have determined that such a course is worse than a crime; it is folly. Without naming any names.

With various power canal projects, new bridges across the river, interurban railroads and similar enterprises being heard of, the spring air in Omaha is surcharged with possibilities. If any one of the several great designs now projected is carried out, the city will be the gainer.

A Square Deal.

Secretary of War Stimson, Colonel Roosevelt's candidate for governor in New York in 1910, believes in the square deal, a doctrine so often reiterated by Colonel Roosevelt as one of his cardinal principles, and Secretary Stimson believes in giving President Taft a square deal. His Chicago speech, prefaced by the assertion, "I am here tonight to speak for the renomination of President Taft; I am now and always have been a progressive," is the most formidable broadside yet fired in the present campaign. It is sure to have wide and effective influence. It is sure to drive in upon the minds of fair-minded men the pivotal fact that President Taft is entitled to a square deal and is not getting it from some of his old friends, who, only for personal and political reasons, have turned against him.

It remains to be seen whether the sanity of this nation will renounce a president who has kept the faith, redeemed his pledges and advanced progressive principles of government, but who has done it all along undramatic lines. No administration, not even Roosevelt's seven years, can show more tangible results of needed and constructive statesmanship than the three years of Taft's administration. Here is a staunch Roosevelt adherent, Secretary Stimson, who, while refusing to criticise Roosevelt personally, asks the American people if it is fair to criticise President Taft for carrying out the promises, for redeeming the pledges, on which the people accepted him, sponsored by Mr. Roosevelt, as their chief executive. The sense of American justice, we believe, will answer with a resounding "No, it is not fair."

Divest the anti-Taft campaign of personal animus and ambition and not very much is left. Many of the men who prevailed upon Colonel Roosevelt to run for the third term nomination, were actuated solely by revenge for Taft, born of disappointed selfish aspirations. They have forced Colonel Roosevelt, for the first time in his brilliant career, into a place where he must try to explain the unexplainable; they have put him on the defensive. Upon this very point Secretary Stimson well says: "I believe those who are forcing him (Roosevelt), contrary to his original intention, into the arena against Mr. Taft, are jeopardizing instead of helping the real progress in the nation." Such advice from sincere friends, with no axes to grind, like Stimson, Lodge and others, would be worth much more to Colonel Roosevelt just now than all the balderdash that is being handed to him by self-seeking exploiters of anti-Taft grudges.

Fact and Fiction.

Governor Johnson of California: "Roosevelt will sweep our state, both for the nomination and election. There is no Taft sentiment in California."

Associated Press dispatch:

SAN FRANCISCO, March 5.—Progressive republicans of this state who supported Governor Hiram Johnson during the gubernatorial campaign, but who do not agree with him in his endorsement of Theodore Roosevelt, met today and organized the "Taft League of Progressive Republicans." The organization is distinct from the "Taft Republicans of California," organized yesterday, but the trend of the speeches at the conference indicated that there will be little friction between the two factions.

Governor Stubbs of Kansas: "Taft's name will never be presented to the Chicago convention."

Associated Press dispatch:

NEW YORK, March 5.—The republican state committee has received official reports of congressional district meetings in forty of New York's forty-three districts and announcement was made today that at least thirty-six of the districts had designated as candidates for delegates to the Chicago convention supporters of President Taft. Candidates from four districts, according to the announcement, are Roosevelt supporters. Three districts have not been heard from, but their delegates were claimed for Taft.

Chairman Dixon of Roosevelt's campaign committee: "The south will fool President Taft."

Associated Press dispatch:

TALLADEGA, Ala., March 5.—Delegates of the Fourth Alabama district of the republican national convention—J. A. Bingham and J. I. Abercrombie. Instructed for Taft.

Fiction is cheap, but facts are hard to explain away. And the straw vote season is rapidly passing.

A Sign of Growth.

The revival of the bill in congress for permission to construct another bridge across the Missouri river at Omaha is but one of several prominent signs that indicate the commercial growth of this community.

The additional bridge enterprise is not a new one. It has been before the people on many occasions during the last twenty years. When the Douglas street bridge was built, and the Union Pacific bridge was reconstructed, it was thought the problem had been solved, but the growth of traffic was such that these facilities were soon found to be inadequate. The building of the East Omaha bridge did not afford the relief required, and today the railroads centering in Omaha find that the bridge facilities are insufficient. The need for another first class railroad bridge across the Missouri is almost imperative.

It is to be hoped that the present enterprise will come to a better ending than did several of its predecessors. Bills granting permission for the construction of a bridge across the Missouri between Council Bluffs and Omaha have been passed at several times, and the parties behind them have vainly hawked them about in the financial markets. Inability to secure necessary funds has resulted in the lapsing of their franchises. If the new bridge is needed, and is to be constructed, its promoters will do very well if they put the question before the public on its merits, and not as a speculative proposition.

Inhumanity at Lawrence.

It is difficult to believe any Massachusetts community would tolerate such inhuman abuses as were heaped upon women and helpless children at Lawrence during the woolen mills strike. The revelations made by eye witnesses to the house committee at Washington furnish food for very grave thought. Why are police officers permitted to drag children and beat women, throwing both in dirty prisons when it suits their convenience. Fortunately for union labor, it may not be saddled with the blame for this inhumanity. It rests upon the shoulders of the law's minions.

Witnesses told of how miserably clad were most of these children, the children of the men and women who worked in the woolen mills and struck because they were unable to buy enough of the cloth they were making to keep themselves and their babies properly protected with clothing, to say nothing of appearance. Added to this state of affairs is the bullying brutality of the officers of the law. What sort of sentiment obtains in a community where such things can go on, even for a day!

A strike leader expressed the opinion to the house committee that "This system of taking children from strike towns is a system that's going to prevail in this country in the future in labor wars." Let us hope not; let us hope that the labor war and the strike will give way to a more sane, humane and just method of settling workmen's controversies instead. But this is true: that the strike and labor war will live as long as the narrow vision that cannot view the interests and relations of capital and labor as mutual and interdependent. The concessions are not all to be made by labor; some must come from the employer.

It remains to be seen whether the English suffragettes arrested and sentenced to hard labor in prison will continue their violent demonstrations when released. They pretended to aid the coal miners' strike in London by destroying property in nowise related to the strike situation, their destruction amounting to $25,000. What insane mania can move good women to believe that any cause is promoted by such unlawful and riotous methods? How does the cause of woman suffrage feel about such things? The deluded Mrs. Nation, it is freely admitted, did nothing for prohibition but bring it into contumely. Righteous interests or enterprises seldom are advanced by unrighteous and insane methods.

An Iowa town of some importance is reducing its police force, its fire department and other branches of its municipal housekeeping force because of the failure of saloon license petitions to carry, and the consequent reduction in city revenue. This opens two lines of argument. One is that without saloons they will need no police, and the other is that the taxpayers might reasonably be expected to bear the burden of maintaining the city government.

We have come across not one commendation of the American Bar association's action in ousting a distinguished colored member, but have noticed many condemnations of it. Here is a good place for the recall.

The city council now faces the bottom of the barrel on the bond proposition. Perhaps it will be just as well to halt awhile, and give the incoming government a chance to determine some of the pending questions.

One bank failure in Nebraska in eight years is pretty good evidence of the soundness of Nebraska's financial institutions, and proof that the guaranty law was an unnecessary bit of legislation.

A Pertinent Question.

Brooklyn Eagle.

It is now time for Porto Rico and the Philippines to ask if the recall follows the flag.

A Political Reminder.

Chicago News.

When they receive packages of garden seeds from their earnest congressmen the voters have official knowledge that spring and the November elections are both on their way.

Progress in Good Roads.

Boston Transcript.

There will be little disposition among Americans to challenge the three propositions advanced by Congressman Prouty of Iowa: "We are the most insecilligent people on the face of the globe; we are the wealthiest people in the world; and yet we have the poorest roads of any civilized nation on earth." This latter fact, however, is not so much of a reproach as his impressive statement of it might make it appear. Considering the newness and the extent of the country, we are doing very well on this point. It is hardly more than twenty-five years since we awoke to the value of improved highways. We are going ahead to secure them as fast as our resources will permit, at least in the older sections of the country. Still, if congress wants to help the movement along the states are not likely to raise objections.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

COMPILED FROM BEE FILES

MARCH 7.

Thirty Years Ago—

A grand labor meeting to discuss the issues of the strike filled the Academy of Music to overflowing. Edward Rosewater editor of The Bee, who was one of the speakers, expressed sympathy with the strikers, concluding his remarks, "Arbitrate, and then go to work peaceably. Let each of you appoint himself special policeman and see that law and order are maintained."

At the Board of Education meeting the resignation of George W. Henderson as janitor of the East school was accepted, and a request Mr. T. M. Marshall, principal of Lake's addition school, for more salary turned down.

Thirty Germans from Flensburg, Germany, arrived in Omaha to locate in Douglas county.

Councilman McGavock and Conductor Goddard went out to Shell creek on a hunt, and in one day killed over 200 ducks.

The city library will in a few days be removed from its present quarters in Frank Currie's old photograph gallery to the rooms it formerly occupied in the same building.

The feature of the city council meeting was the approval of change of grade of Farnam street with the waivers of damages of these abutting property owners: William A. Paxton, M. Dunham, E. Rosewater, George E. Pritchett, John R. Porter, Ed Haney, A. J. Hanscom, and N. G. McCoon. It was agreed to advertise for proposals to pave Douglas street.

Mr. C. A. Ringer went east to select his spring stock.

Rev. Father English went out to Fremont.

Captain Sam B. Jones, assistant general passenger agent of the Union Pacific, has gone to Colorado on a two weeks' absence.

Some wretch poisoned "Old Prince," the depot dog. His owner, Councilman McGavock, and George Hall, are both inconsolable.

Twenty Years Ago—

At the meeting of the Board of Education Superintendent Fitzpatrick reported that the night school at the Long building had been closed because of a diminished attendance. Mr. Hamilton submitted reports recommending sidewalks about Kellom school.

Colonel Alexander Hogeland, president of the Boys' and Girls' National Home and Employment association, was in the city at the invitation of Rev. C. W. Savidge and Rev. A. W. Clark, to hold a district convention in connection with the Nebraska division of this national association.

M. J. Kennard took out a building permit for the erection of a two-story frame dwelling at Thirty-first and Farnam streets, to cost $8,000.

Many Omaha jobbers were much annoyed at Dun's report that trade for the previous week was dull. They declared it was not. Among those voicing their displeasure were W. I. Kierstead of the Dewey & Stone Furniture company; Mr. Ruhl of Gilmore & Ruhl, wholesale clothiers; W. H. McCord of McCord, Brady & Co.; William Koenig of the Kilpatrick-Koch Dry Goods company.

Rabbi William Rosenau of the local Jewish congregation made known the fact that he had received a telegram calling him to the Ohab Sholum congregation of Baltimore, to succeed one of the most eminent lights in the Jewish church. Dr. Benjamin Szold. Dr. Rosenau was very popular in Omaha and while friends expressed pleasure in his advancement, they expressed sorrow at losing him.

A son was born to Dr. and Mrs. N. J. Carriker.

Mrs. Sarah Hunt, 61 years of age, died of la grippe at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Nellie McClure, 722 North Seventeenth street.

Ten Years Ago—

General Manager Bidwell of the Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley railroad went to the scene of the Boyd county extension of that line to look over the work.

An order was announced from Lieutenant General Miles at Washington to the effect that General J. C. Bates, in command of the Department of the Missouri at Omaha would take temporary command of the Department of the Lakes at Chicago, succeeding General E. S. Otis.

Fred Miller, 21, and Catherine Britchard, 18, both of Omaha, were married in Council Bluffs by the Rev. George Edward Walk of St. Paul's Episcopal church.

A vast colonization and irrigation scheme for the west was announced in Omaha by J. C. Wertheim Solmonson, confidential agent for Jacob Schiff of New York, and assigned by that magnate to the Union Pacific headquarters as special attache to General Land Agent McAllaster, under whose general direction this gigantic scheme was to be promoted. It would result in the building of much new trackage by the railroad and throwing open vast areas of land to settlement.

William C. Goss, declared that an artificial ice factory would be built in Omaha ready for manufacturing ice in the summer.

Mrs. Jane Parmeley, a resident of the Old People's home, Twenty-eighth and Cuming street, was knocked down and hurt by a buggy at Sixteenth and Douglas streets. Two women were driving the horse and buggy, but did not give their names. Dr. B. M. Riley attended Mrs. Parmeley.

People Talked About

A band of girl scouts in St. Louis aim to learn "How to cook and serve a dinner." Experience on that trail obviates scouting for the boys. The boys will do the scouting.

Tarrytown, N. Y., wires that a hen belonging to John D. Rockefeller has been carried off by a great American eagle. While it is hovering in that neighborhood we wish the valiant bird would get his goat also.

The discovery that a large percentage of the young men of Wisconsin are knock-kneed and that the men of Chicago are flat-footed is an interesting addition to the complete stock of physical vagaries a-bloom in both localities.

Edward F. Beals of Auburn, Me., inspector of street crossing gates along the lines of the Maine Central railroad, has been on the payroll of the company since 1866, and for the last twenty-two years he has taken no vacation. He is more than 80 years old.

Washington Life

Some Interesting Phases and Conditions Observed at the Nation's Capital.

Wyoming Knocks for Business.

Wyoming boosters in Washington insist on getting a share of the Yellowstone park tourist business for the Cody gateway. Success depends on loosening the grip of the hotel and transportation monopoly which holds an exclusive contract with the government and refuses to make equal terms for tourists from Cody as from Garrison, the main gateway. The issue has been put up to Secretary of the Interior Fisher.

As the matter now stands, relates the Washington correspondent of the Boston Transcript, the Yellowstone Park Hotel company, the Wylie camp people and the Yellowstone Park Transportation company, who have control over the transportation and tourist business, are refusing to allow any competitor to enter the field. The people of Cody tried to secure permits from the secretary of the interior for permanent camps within the park substantially the same as those already established by the companies mentioned. "In this way," says a Wyoming complaint, "the Cody people could properly handle the tourists who come through Cody. But this proposition has been turned down by Mr. Fisher, who asks that the Cody transportation companies make arrangements with the monopolists to handle their guests. The monopolists, however, will not give the Cody companies the rates which they demand, and consequently they feel themselves virtually to be excluded from the park. This," adds our informant, "is due entirely to the fact that the monopoly now controlling this business is controlled in turn by men who have large political power in Washington and who are naturally opposed to the Cody route as an entrance into the park, because it would mean the cutting down of business by the way of a hitherto popular entrance at Gardiner, Mont."

Naturally Wyoming is up in arms because she wants her fair share of the summer tourist business. She feels that Montana and Idaho have hitherto made all the money that was to be made out of carrying, feeding and otherwise entertaining eastern tenderfeet and that it is high time for the Department of the Interior to co-operate, if need be, with the trust-busting attorney general and dissolve a combination in restraint of trade, which she declares, is annually losing thousands of dollars to her citizens.

Honoring Bald Knob.

Representative Ollie M. James of Kentucky, who recently was nominated by the democrats of that state as their candidate for United States senator, to succeed Senator Paynter in 1913, has become such a marked man by reason of his new honor that he is no longer surprised at anything that may happen to him. He is one of the largest members, physically, of congress. He is more than six feet high and weighs almost as much as President Taft. His tremendously large head with practically no hair on it is a famous sight. Incidentally, James has been famous as one of the intimate friends of William J. Bryan, and he has, on numerous occasions, acted as his mouthpiece on legislative matters.

One of James' most intimate friends is Representative Thomas Heflin of Alabama, another six-footer of large frame, who boasts of one of the heaviest crops of hair of any member of congress. Both are great practical jokers. A few days ago Heflin approached James and told him that he had just learned that a postoffice in Arkansas had been named after the Kentucky congressman.

"Is that so?" replied James. "Well, well, I am certainly getting famous. Not long ago a friend of mine named a race horse after me, calling it 'Congressman James.' By the way, Heflen, what did they call this town in Arkansas?"

"Bald Knob," replied Mr. Heflin.

Making Prize Bread.

The recipe for the loaf of bread which won for 12-year-old Miss Lois Edmonds the title of being the best bread baker of Iowa is not made up of any fixed quantities of the various ingredients used, but the amount of flour, lard, milk, salt and yeast is guesswork on her part.

"The flour I used was homemade," she said to a Washington Herald man. "I did not weigh it; just guessed it. I put in enough lard and rubbed it in with the flour until evenly divided. I used cake yeast, which I dissolved, pouring it with the milk into the flour, and mixed it in the dough mixer. After that I kneaded the dough and let it set and rise. Then I kneaded it again and set it to rise, after which I molded the loaves and let them rise. Then they were baked in an oven, the heat of which was neither too slow nor too intense. I did not set the yeast the night before or make a sponge, as some people call it, but made the dough, mixing it in with the yeast."

The ten boy champion corn growers and two girl champion bread bakers of Iowa were the recipients of diplomas from Secretary Wilson of the Agricultural department, a few days ago. They visited the capitol, where they had luncheon in the house dining room.

Realism in Art.

The Army and Navy club in Washington is an exclusive organization. The club house is nicely decorated. One picture of which the members are proud and which they take every opportunity to bring to the attention of visitors is a rather crude pen-and-ink drawing, obviously the work of an amateur. It depicts an officer seated before a deal table, standing in front of which is a private soldier at salute. Beneath the picture is the following inscription:

"Pat, I hear that you have been drunk again."

"Yis, sor."

"Your conduct is disgraceful. Why can't you drink like officers and gentlemen?"

"Faith, sor, and if Oi did Oi'd be dead in a wake."

The Flag and Its "Jack."

Boston Transcript.

The addition of two stars to the flag has revived the old time controversy as to the meaning of the word "jack." Some historical writers trace it back to Jacobus, the Latin name for the Stuart kings who were christened James; others are equally stout in asserting that "jack" is simply a diminutive, in this instance applied to flags. The American jack is the Union; that is, the canton bearing the stars; the German, the canton on which the imperial arms are quartered. The French jack is simply a little tricolor. Purists insist that our jack should not be called "The Union Jack," for the reason that it is the union itself and hence that expression is superfluous.

POLITICAL SNAPSHOTS.

Indianapolis News: In the lexicon of politics, the phrase "under no circumstances" refers entirely to circumstances which exist at the hour of making the speech.

Sioux City Journal: A few months ago the colonel declared he would regard an effort to renominate him as a "calamity." The colonel has progressed rapidly since that time, but it should not surprise him to find that most of the neighbors have been standing pat by the "calamity" theory.

Chicago Record-Herald: Ex-Senator Beveridge of Indiana and John Hays Hammond have been mentioned as available republican candidates for the vice presidency, but for some reason the democrats have not made any attempt to get either Colonel James Hamilton Lewis or Henry Gassaway Davis to agree to enlist.

Springfield Republican: After an all-day conference with the colonel, Mr. Dixon of Montana issued his opening statement as campaign manager. This was to be no campaign of personal attack from the colonel's side, yet the Dixon statement (which had nothing to say, of course, about the tariff) denounced President Taft as guilty of "bribery by appointment to office" and of "flagrant prostitution of the power of federal patronage" in the south. The colonel artlessly discussed personal responsibility for what Dixon had said, but declared just the same that when he was president he had never used his influence with officeholders for his own advantage. This holier-than-thou attitude on the part of a former president toward his successor is not the least of the novelties of the situation. The colonel's statement is simply calculated to make one grin. No president ever beat him in using official influence to tie up the southern delegations for his candidate in 1908. The "allies" hardly got a peek-in south of the Ohio river.

The Wickedest of All.

St. Louis Republic.

Why is it that manufacturing presents the most shocking labor conditions of all industries, unless it be that of mining?

It is manufacturing and mining that always receive the most generous consideration of government, and yet what do we see as a result? Swollen fortunes for one thing. Pauperized labor in many places for another.

The Federal Bureau of Labor has just published a report on the standard of living among the cotton mill workers of the south which reveals conditions like those at Lawrence, Mass., that are a reproach to the industry and to the country.

SUNNY GEMS.

"I understand you folks had a lovely family reunion."

"Well," replied Mr. Crosslots; "that's what it started out to be, but some of them got to talking our rich relations over and the occasion resolved itself into an indignation meeting.—Washington Star.

"My dear," moaned the sick man as he tossed restlessly on his bed; "it's the doctor I'm thinking of. What a bill his will be!"

"Never mind, Joseph," said his spouse, comfortingly. "There's the insurance money, you know."—Chicago Tribune.

"Why is Clara going so much with that young college fellow? She is the only one apparently who can see anything attractive about him."

"Oh, she thinks he is a perfect bore, but his college colors are so becoming to her complexion when she wears them at the foot ball games."—Baltimore American.

"Confound it, who is that impudent young fellow dancing the 'grizzly bear' with my daughter?"

"That's young Hardcash, the son of the millionaire."

"Oh, is it? Now that I look again I see it isn't the 'grizzly bear.'"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"What candidate do you intend to support?"

"I don't know why I should pledge myself. As things are going now, a man whose support is worth having is considered strong enough to open headquarters on his own account."—Chicago Post.

RUBAIYAT OF LOW VAUDEVILLE

Whene'er I gaze on some stage damsel who
Shows padded limbs all blobbily askew,
I ask myself: "Will people fall for that?"
The audience applauds! They will and do!

When a dull monologist does his stunt;
Indecency thin veiled—and struts in front
Of maids and matrons at the matinee,
I think: "They'll can him!" But they don't and won't!

With act suggestive in the public's sight,
The "artiste" points a scant clad leg each night
At someone near. The audience applauds,
When it by rights, should, growling, rise and bite!

Whene'er I hear a coarse and hoary jest
From so-called actor's lips, wrath fills my breast!
And then the audience applauds, and then
I think: "The fellow knows his hearers best."

The audience laughs back at ribald taunts,
And more applauds the more an "actress" flaunts
Thin-veiled allusions; so I now confess
An audience is given what it wants!

The stage! The stage! A wondrous school, in sooth,
For thoughtful age and for high-hearted youth!
Banish the foulness; let the soul shine through!
Cast out the ribaldry! Let in the truth!