

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER... VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR... BEE BUILDING, FARNAM AND 17TH.

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State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss: Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing Company...

DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager... before me this 9th day of March, 1912.

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

Every age has its imitator of Cincinnati.

Missouri is still barking about that houn' dawg song.

Chancellor Day is controlling himself wonderfully well.

The popular call for Diaz's return is not altogether deafening, either.

Young Mr. Shuster ought to get into this campaign at some angle or other.

The question is, Can the campaign keep up the strenuous pace it has struck?

To use Met's favorite expression, Mr. Roosevelt is mad. That is very evident.

Perhaps our South Pole discoverer will give us another Dr. Cook controversy.

The man who never made any enemies never made much of a mark in the world.

The Texas republican machine for Roosevelt? Oh, well, they have horns down there, anyway.

Pity the state-makers who are to tell us for whom to vote for commissioner, for their votes are many.

Just because Major Archie Butt has gone to sea is no reason to suppose that he has been cut adrift.

If hotel rates there continue to rise, Baltimore will become the Mecca of the hall room boys next June.

Breaking windows may not be a convincing argument for woman's or man's right to vote, but it is a penetrating one.

It begins to look as if a few Annapolis clubs might be formed out of the witnesses of that Lawrence strike rioting.

Well, well, well! And a grand jury, with special prosecutor, in session all the time within a few rods of the city council chamber.

Unless that insurance company gets cut rates on its lawyers, it will soon pay out more in litigation than the original Kimmel policy would amount to.

Uncle Sam evidently got tired of letting pretended republics like Mexico and China monopolize the front page and decided to throw his hat in the ring.

Some of the city councilmen proclaim about their abhorrence of such grafting practices as have brought the downfall of a late associate as if they really meant it.

"Strike at New Court House—Entire Force of Workmen Walks Off the Job."—Headline. But that is no worse than the contractors have done almost from the first.

The appointment of Edward Dickson to be receiver of the Orient railroad again proves that a good railroad man, who has gotten his training in Omaha, will stay at the top.

Colonel Roosevelt admits that he wanted "the seal of approval" and the nomination which goes with it in 1904 and should have felt badly if denied the same. But he is not willing to let Mr. Taft have his.

The question still remains, if the city councilman had whitewashed themselves a little oftener, or put it on the brush a little thicker, could they not have covered over the misdeeds of the Twelfth ward councilman, too?

What of the Grand Jury?

We believe The Bee voices general public sentiment when it says that the work so far of the grand jury, of which much was expected, has been unsatisfactory and disappointing.

The upheaval in the city hall is fairly good proof that there is something more than mere gossip in these "rumors. But it reflects no special credit on the grand jury that the disclosure of city hall graft should come spontaneously instead of by indictment.

The grand jury can yet redeem itself and make a record, but it cannot do so by merely sitting still and waiting for people to bring evidence before it. If a grand jury is good for anything more than the ordinary machinery of the prosecuting attorney's office it is to dig up crookedness which can be brought to light only by compelling unwilling witnesses to tell what they know under penalty of committing perjury.

The Kansas City Primary.

The first presidential preferential primary has been held in the Second congressional in Missouri, of which Kansas City, a pivotal Roosevelt stronghold, is the center and almost the circumference.

Mr. Roosevelt's total was between one-fifth and one-sixth of the normal republican vote of the district. In 1908 Congressman Ellis, falling short of his party's normal strength, polled more than 27,000 votes and lost this district to a democrat.

The Roosevelt organization, led by a powerful newspaper, exerted every conceivable effort to get out the vote at this supposed crucial primary, with the country intently looking on. The Taft leaders, on the other hand, questioning the legality of the election, advised supporters of the president not to participate.

More than four-fifths of the republican voters of the district did not participate, although the Roosevelt vote tom tom went on incessantly, appealing to passion, prejudice and pride. The day before the election the Kansas City Star, in its final editorial effort, said:

The presidency is too big an office, it is too important an office, to be bestowed by politicians. Put it up to the people. Let them decide.

But by what bewildering paradox is the result in this Roosevelt storm center to be explained? Who were the stay-at-homes? And is this a test of the intensity of the people's determination to oust Taft? To say the least, it seems that the Taft forces down there are more numerous and more important than was figured.

Democratic False Professions.

When the call for the democratic national convention was promulgated much ado was made by our democratic friends over the fact that it expressly authorized the democratic state organizations to provide for the election of delegates by direct primary and presidential preference vote even in the absence of legislation for that purpose.

The democrats were going to "let the people rule" everywhere by improving their own primaries if necessary, but up to date not a single democratic organization in any state, so far as we are able to ascertain, has made use of this permissive clause in the convention call.

On the contrary, in Missouri, in Oklahoma and in other places where delegates to the democratic national convention have been already chosen they have been selected by the old convention system, which the leaders are publicly decrying, but privately pursuing. It is only another case of democratic false professions.

Effects of Coal Strike.

The coal miners' strike in England has already assumed international aspects and proportions, for two primary reasons—first, that it involves the possibility of a coal famine on Atlantic vessels, and second, because it projects the minimum wage question as a potential issue in other labor disputes.

The miners in Germany and other European countries are intently watching the results in England, as also are the miners in the American anthracite region. Strikes are not unexpected in this district, though efforts are said to be at work to avert them. It is quite probable, however, that a strike at this season, just after a long winter, would not discommodate the mine owners to such an extent that they would feel like making marked concessions to avoid the clash.

It is objected, with good reason, that the minimum wage looks too much like placing a premium upon indolence to commend itself in behalf of honest labor. It is one of the cardinal principles of socialism, which contends that the world owes every man a living of some kind. The most energetic, fair-minded

workmen are not asking that their employers insure them a living regardless of their ability to earn it, but they rather prefer the concession to be in the form of greater possibilities. If the miners in England should win their minimum wage fight, undoubtedly other miners and other industrial workers would make similar demands.

The English vessels are said to have little coal stored ahead, therefore, in the event of a prolonged struggle, they would come to grief, especially if the strike should spread to other countries. It is not remote to think of the feasibility of oil as fuel for sea-going vessels, some of which, especially on the Pacific, have demonstrated its value and desirability.

A Trick Horse.

As the democratic leader of the house, Chairman Underwood of the ways and means committee is rapidly getting himself looked upon as a trick horse. Cute leadership, the cunning of intrigue, is not effective leadership and will not make good thunder for a presidential campaign.

The democrats, themselves, are more and more distrusting Chairman Underwood. His scheme for "enlarged excise taxation," merely another form of income tax, is one of his most transparent tricks. It is framed a good deal like some of his tariff bills, in such form as to make sure they will have no chance of enactment into laws at this session of congress.

Twenty Years Ago—

During a storm at 8.30 p. m. J. R. Porter, a merchant of Hatler, was knocked down by a cab and run over at Fifteenth and Farnam streets. He was about 69 years old and was badly injured. The wind did much damage to property in the downtown section of the city.

Colonel McKie of the Salvation Army, on tour as representative of General Booth, spoke at the First Methodist church, where a large congregation gathered to hear him.

Max O'Reill, otherwise M. Paul Houset, the witty French journalist, stopped at the Murray, en route to the Pacific coast. The Metropolitan Street Railway company reported that it had overcome all difficulties and was ready to enter upon the job of building a motor line to Dundee. The permit was obtained from the Board of Public Works. It was arranged to place the operation of the line under the direction of Superintendent James N. Green.

Enslaved Arbitration Treaties.

The senate's ratification of the proposed international arbitration treaties with the joint high commission clause eliminated unquestionably destroys much of the value of the treaties as they came from the president. It raises a very grave doubt as to their acceptability by England and France. As the treaties now stand, either nation as a party to a controversy might easily avoid the obligations of the compact simply by affirming that the issue raised, regardless of what it might be, was not justiciable, or susceptible to arbitration and thus preclude the possibility of this means of peaceful arbitration.

This third clause simply provided that where two nations disagreed as to whether or not an issue was susceptible to arbitration, each nation might choose three arbitrators and let them, constituting the joint high commission, decide this preliminary step. The senate's objection to the treaty centered on this point, certain stokers who evidently care more for the formalities of senatorial dignity than they do for world peace, fearing that such a provision infringed upon the ancient treaty-making powers of the senate.

Senator Bacon of Georgia, one of the chief opponents of the treaties, let the cat out of the bag when, in final debate, he said, in forcing the enunciation of the documents, that "nothing had been lost to the cause of world peace," clearly indicating his belief that, as modified, the treaties would never become operative, for the reason that they would not be accepted or ratified by England or France. The advocates of world peace, therefore, should understand where the blame lies if their hopes in the president's efforts are ultimately lost.

Mr. Bryan proclaims from the house that President Taft's "whole environment has been that of the dollar" and that he has never had "any real knowledge of men." Mr. Bryan has, though, sufficient to enable him to gather about half a million of the dollars in the brief space of a few years.

Like a certain famous justice of the peace, Mr. Bryan has taken under advisement the claims of the different presidential candidates whose names are to be presented to the Baltimore convention, withholding decision until he returns to Nebraska, when he will rule in favor of Woodrow Wilson.

There are primaries and primaries, as recollect the primary two years ago that disclosed Mayor "Jim" to be the popular choice for governor of the rank and file of the democratic party in Nebraska.

Land Values in a Big Country.

In Oklahoma the average value of a farm is \$4,000. In Kentucky it is \$2,000. In Mississippi it is \$1,200. In Nebraska it is \$2,000. In brief, this is a big country and conditions vary widely in many parts of it.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

COMPILED FROM BEE FILES. MARCH 9.

Thirty Years Ago— The coming of the militia in response to the request made by Governor Boyd on Governor Nance was the feature of the camp dump strike. Efforts at compromise seem to have proved unavailable.

Just 113 miles of track to lay and the R. & M. road will be into Denver. Rev. Mr. Copeland of this city is booked for two lectures in Exeter next week.

Henry Homan and Judge Thurston bagged fifty geese and over 100 ducks in a two days' hunt near Clark station.

In Mr. A. Hoespe's window may be seen a splendid steel engraving of the market house. From its being located in the street, it is judged not to be the one Mr. Snyder is to build.

The ladies of the Art club have engaged the artistic poet, Mr. Oscar Wilde, to lecture in this city on the 15th inst.

Ex-Governor Leonard Stanford and party passed through the city in the directors' car of the Central Pacific on their way to San Francisco.

The district court is having all sorts of trouble in getting a jury in the Keaster's case second trial, nearly every one called having formed an opinion.

Henry Lehman asks for the return of one long box containing window shades lost out of a wagon from Twelfth and Farnam to the Union Pacific freight depot.

Faxten & Gallagher, Fifteenth and Farnam, want an active, well educated boy, quick and correct at figures, 16 or 17 years old.

Italian Finances.

Italy's financial resources and its ability to prosecute the war in Tripoli without issuing a war loan, are matters of concern to European financiers. Just now Signor Luzzatto, ex-premier and an authority on Italian finances, puts out an encouraging statement of his country's resources. In 1908 there was a treasury debt of \$200,000,000. In 1910, despite the earthquake of 1908, there was instead a net surplus of \$4,300,000, which increased to \$10,100,000 by June 30, 1911. This was the surplus available when the war began. By December this was exhausted and the surplus for 1911-12, estimated at \$6,000,000, was drawn upon. If the war continues the government can under the budget laws issue treasury bills to the amount of \$50,000,000 and also ask the banks of issue for \$20,000,000 at 2 per cent, a resource not employed for 12 years past.

The banks of issue have also secured millions in pounds, sterling, invested in British, French, German and Russian banks, which can be utilized, if necessary. He did not think a war loan probable, but expressed the conviction that if it were called for the small capitalists, shopkeepers, etc., of Italy would respond with patriotic eagerness.

Advertising for a Mayor.

In many ways things are better ordered abroad in spots than in this country, and much may be learned across the pond and profitably applied in this glorious republic if we practice what we preach. Recently Greater Berlin cast about for a man for mayor competent to direct the business affairs of the city. The municipal council, an elective body of 100 members, actually advertised for applicants and their credentials presented themselves. The council finally picked upon Dr. Steingard, city chamberlain of Berlin, as the fittest man for the position. Party spoils and party preference were ignored and no attempt at confidential combination to boost a favorite into the job. Qualifications governed the selection. Dr. Steingard was more experienced in city affairs and is thoroughly versed in municipal business. Consequently the Greater Berlin is lauded under favorable auspices. No other European capital has made such progress in the last half century. It was a provincial city eighty or 100 years ago. Now it is the second city of Europe in point of population, through the recent annexation of its suburbs. In 1906 it had a little over 2,500,000 of people, and it now claims 3,000,000 in excess of that, which leaves Paris nearly 500,000 behind. The latter city, however, could probably overtake it in this respect, should it employ, to as large extent the annexation policy.

Noted Canadian Statesman.

A Canadian of distinction, an Irishman by adoption, a lawyer and statesman of high repute, passed away in the death of Hon. Edward Blake, K. C., at Toronto. Far more than twenty years he was a powerful leader of the liberal party of Canada, serving as premier of two ministries. In 1902 Mr. Blake accepted an invitation, extended to him by the leaders of the Irish parliamentary party to be a candidate for a seat in the British House of Commons. He stood for the constituency of South Longford, and was elected by a very large majority. His advent into imperial politics was made under the most auspicious circumstances and he early distinguished himself in the cause of Ireland and became one of the foremost champions of home rule. His commanding ability received recognition in his appointment to a number of important committees. In 1906, he was re-elected for South Longford by acclamation, and continued to represent that constituency until 1907, when, his health failing, he returned to Canada. He was in his 74th year.

French North African Trade.

The commercial value to France of its North African possessions is indicated by the 1911 figures of the exports and imports of Algeria. The total commerce amounted to \$229,000,000, an increase of \$12,500,000 over 1906. Of the total trade \$177,000,000 was with France and of the imports \$64,000,000 came from the home country. The total commerce between France and her north and west African colonies now approximates a quarter of a billion annually. The tonnage of ships entering the port of Algiers rose to 16,223,000 only slightly less than that of Marseilles, the first French port, and that of Oran jumped to \$23,000,000, surpassing Havre, the second port in European France. The gross earnings of the Algerian railroads were \$29,000,000, an increase of \$2,000,000.

A Spectacle Worth Watching.

Kansas City Times. Mr. Roosevelt has agreed to perform jury service in Missouri, N. Y., and it will be interesting to see how the law's judge's "instructions."

People Talked About

Chicago spotlights center their beams on Ham Lewis as "the whiskered hope" for the vice presidency. It is too much to expect that the question, "What is Beer?" will command serious attention while a snow blanket covers the land.

A fashion note informs us that men will again carry cases. Is this to be in the nature of a gradual leading up to the return of the big stick? Surely these are melancholy days. Note how easily the spring-curved figures in show windows look upon the lingering grins of winter, which sticks as closely as a mortgage.

The average age of the members of the Ohio constitutional convention is 52 years. Thirty-five are over 50 years old. Calculations based on the excess of years present an optimistic document.

The chief push of the Ice trust in Chicago cautiously informs the public that the unusual thickness of ice imposed unusual hardship and expense on the harvesters. Now watch the uplift in price.

The emperor of Germany is the owner of a large pottery which a loyal German bequeathed to him some years ago. The emperor superintends the management of the pottery, and the yearly profits have increased considerably since it came into his possession.

Seventy-six women, by actual count have undergone operations in Cleveland hospitals since Lent began. Surgical cut-ups regard this as an ideal way of mortifying the spirit, and the women, as dutiful daughters of the church, obey orders to give up something.

Mrs. Emeline Fankhurst carries cobblestones in her muff and leaves them through windows in Dowling street. Moving pictures of Mrs. Fankhurst putting the shot heard round the world will push the cause of votes for women wherever men live in glass houses.

In Other Lands

Some Side Lights on What is Transpiring Among the Near and Far Nations of the Earth.

Beligee of a Napoleon.

Yuan Shi Kai, the "Napoleon of China," is not living up to his advance notices. His hand has lost its cunning, or, more likely, that historic game has impeded his movements while pertinaciously active enemies strike him fore and aft. The ravaging and looting of Peking, where his supremacy was greatest and his power hitherto unquestioned, irreparably damages the prestige of the great Yuan and puts him decisively in the "lame duck" class. In other times and other places Yuan displayed such diplomatic tact and deft penetration in putting obstinate Chinamen to sleep that his prowess of yesterday contrasts regretfully with the ignominy of today. During the "Boxer" troubles of ten years ago, when Peking was surrounded and foreigners in grave danger, Yuan cast his lot with the oppressors of the rebels, not openly, but in a quiet way, best suited for his plans. He was then governor of Shantung province, outwardly on friendly terms with Yuan. A number of the leaders were invited to his yamen, where they were dined and wine and given friendly tips on the point of rousing "foreign devils" to the fighting pitch. The "Boxer" leaders laughed merrily at the wine bubbled, boasting of such magic power that foreign swords nor bullets could harm them or touch them. At the height of the shouting Yuan asked them to prove their magic by standing in a row against the wall. They assented. Yuan called his soldiers, ordered them to load their rifles with ball cartridges and fire point blank at his guests. The massacre left the "Boxer" movement leaderless in that locality and gave Yuan an opportunity to promote Celestial funerals in other provinces. That was ten years ago, and ten years puts many a strong man down and out.

Perils of Coal Miners' Strike. Philadelphia Record. On the theory that it is an ill wind that blows nobody good, coal men in this country expect to receive a material benefit from the strike in England, unless it is settled speedily. There is no coal to be had from continental Europe except possibly a limited supply from Germany, and in the past few weeks England has been looking to this country in anticipation of trouble at home. Last week the British navy chartered four steamers to carry American coal to Mediterranean points, and other orders are expected from the same source. An American strike might cause complications which would prove in the highest degree alarming to a great naval power like Great Britain.

Free Sugar Madness.

Congressman Underwood's scheme for getting round the supreme court's income tax decision seems to be encountering objections from all quarters. Those who favor the straight-out income tax are re-animating against his bill because twenty-eight states have already ratified the constitutional amendment favoring their idea. Lawyers are reminding the democratic politicians that the tendency of supreme court decisions is against an income tax on partnerships. Next uprisings Eolithian and through the New Orleans Picayune remarks that the Underwood bill smacks more of "free sugar madness" than of anything else.

Modern Wars Horrible.

St. Louis Republic. The "terrors of modern war" appear to contain an element of fiction. The entire Franco-Italian affair is tame by contrast with the charge of the Light Brigade or the single fight at Thermopylae before powder was discovered. Unless modern war can do more to live up to its bad name nations will proceed to indulge in the new and wholesome forms of military exercise upon the slightest provocation and arbitration will become a back number.

EDITORIAL SNAPSHOTS.

New York World: Another touch is given to the Waterloo suggestions of the campaign by the announcement that Benoit has come out for Roosevelt.

Baltimore American: Why such excessive moderation as to stop at a third term? Why not continuous performance? It would save time, trouble and nerve force on the part of both individuals and public.

Philadelphia Record: It is positively striking the fact that the publicity representative selected by Senator Dixon for the campaign in New York city was Dr. Cook's publicity agent when the explorer returned to this country after announcing his discovery of the pole.

Springfield Republican: This is no picker's game. We've got the chips and the players, it is the reported comment of a Roosevelt enthusiast in Washington who was gloating over the fact that among the colonel's supporters are plenty of millionaires, who are expected to go down into their pockets in realization upon an administration which has been so indiscreet as to bring suits under the anti-trust act instead of vesting the trusts that are "good" and "bad."

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FAINT SMILES OF SPRING.

"She swore she would never accept any but a man of high purpose in life. Did she keep her vow?" "That is as you look at it. She did marry a stevedeck."—Baltimore American.

"I am looking," said Diogenes, "for an honest man." "What is the use of bluffing in that matter?" rejoined the philosopher. "What you're trying to do is to start another investigation and become famous."—Washington Star.

"When I marry," said the self-satisfied young man, "I shall take my pick." "A good idea," replied his companion. "That's the only way you can ever select a wife."—Chicago Post.

"A woman can't drive a nail straight." "Not with a hammer, possibly. But you give her a hairbrush and she can drive a nail as well as anybody."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"Something wrong with this item?" "Yes, none of high purpose in life. Did she keep her vow?" "That is as you look at it. She did marry a stevedeck."—Baltimore American.

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