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	$1.50
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.	25c
Daily Bee (including Sunday), per mo.	55c
Daily Bee (without Sunday), per mo.	45c

Address all complaints or 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—15 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.

Wonder if it is good for dandelions.

In the meantime, Taft continues to get the delegates.

Funny how that old lion keeps roaring every now and then.

Any more members of our city council ready to resign? Yes? No?

Million-dollar snows are getting to be almost as common as the money itself.

The worst of it is that the golfers will have to wait a while yet before swarming the links.

The Kansas City Star says the mustache is "on the wane." Afraid to say "on the bum."

Old Man Winter is bound to keep sticking around till he gets caught in the lap of Miss Spring.

It seems there were more bricks and hammers in that recent Kansas City primary than votes.

Perhaps Mr. Carnegie would be willing to contribute to another African faunal expedition fund.

No one should blame the colonel for cutting his list of pre-convention speeches down to six or seven.

As a postscript to winter, this threat of a coal strike is half so disquieting as it would have been as a prelude.

The United States uses 320,000,000 lead pencils every year. Makes no difference, we have to keep the box scores.

Speaking of pungent pointers, folks might easily pick up a few from recent speeches by William Howard Taft.

When the people voted that extra $200,000 of bonds to equip the new court house, they expected that to finish the job.

Mexico is not going to attack us as long as Generals Chance, Callihan, McGraw, Mack and others have their troops stationed so near the border.

That Texas expressman who killed two bandits should not be overlooked by the peaceful Laird of Skibo in the dispensation of his next batch of hero medals.

A British writer says Japan is only waiting for a chance to push Americans off of Hawaii into the sea. The little Japs probably will wait quite a while, too.

The esteemed New York Tribune guarantees a kick on the shin as a very effective means of foiling a footpad. Yes, or a hard enough tweak of the nose might help.

It is still debatable whether Senator Cummins would have fared better or worse in the count of delegates as Iowa's "favorite son" had the colonel staid in the background.

Governor Aldrich expresses his purpose to insist on public control of whatever water power plants may be developed in Nebraska. We agree with him with emphasis on the development.

A new penitentiary chaplain has been found, but in taking the position and performing its onerous duties, he should not forget he is subject to gubernatorial recall without privilege of referendum.

Nobody is charging the federal brigade in Nebraska with showing undue activity in behalf of the president to whom they owe their jobs. We are not aware even that they are breaking their necks to chip into the campaign fund.

Inquiry Into Living Cost.

The most impressive point in the combat with high prices in Europe, as reflected in the president's special message to congress transmitting the first installment of the State department's information collected from various countries, is the fact that in spite of all the combined efforts to prevent it, the cost of living everywhere steadily increases. Neither the prime cause nor most vital effect, therefore, has been reached. Much interesting light is thrown upon the plan of co-operative associations, which have conspired to secure commutation rates locally by the pooling of purchasers and their interests.

This is not fundamental, though. What has caused the condition that makes necessary such remarkable methods as the communizing of domestic interests this way? The fact is as far from discovery as ever. The cost of living continues to increase in America as well as the United Kingdom, Germany and France. The consumers' resources are unequal to the demands upon them. What is the cause and what the remedy? These questions are not answered in the very best results of the co-operative system.

But this probing for information is a good thing. The malady cannot be successfully treated until it is correctly diagnosed. Undoubtedly much is to be gained by an exchange of experiences between the various nations. The condition is world-wide, so it would seem to demand a general, as well as specific, remedy. It certainly is to be hoped that congress may offer some effectual proposals of relief, giving a practical conclusion to the important inquiry initiated by the president. The co-operative association plan may be all right as far as it goes, but whether it would work satisfactorily in this country remains to be seen.

Refusing Arms to Belligerents.

It should have been unnecessary for the president, acting through congress, to establish more of an embargo upon the exportation of war supplies into a belligerent pan-American country than was already contained in our neutrality laws, but since the necessity has arisen it is well the president and congress have acted. Their action should be far-reaching toward minimizing civil war in these countries. It would never be possible to justify an attitude of seeming to foment strife within the borders of our neighbors by countenancing the exportation of the munitions of war. Our part, our solemn obligation, to these weaker republics is to point them, by every example and precept, to the way of peace, and we would be committing, perhaps by omission, an offense we could not condone if we failed by any means at our command to do that.

General Wood, chief of the staff of the army, expresses the belief that a large patrol along the borders will be necessary to enforce this new order on the Mexican rebels. Possibly, but the chances seem to us very fair of getting the order accepted rather than enforced. The president has gained the vantage ground, anyway, in putting the government out of the path of being criticized for leaving this temptation in the way of our erring neighbors. He has first made our position consistent. Mexico is not the only pan-American country into which, in times of civil war, United States dealers have shipped arms. It is a question if many revolts have not been actually maintained by means of our unintentional aid to the revolutionists, and often it has happened that our own people, residing or temporarily stationed in those countries, have suffered from the very arms which their neighbors at home shipped over.

Pensions.

The United States government has paid out for pensions to its soldier defenders, in round numbers, $4,000,000,000. Up to July 1, last year, it had paid to veterans of the civil war $3,985,719,000, and since then it has added another $100,000,000. It is now paying in pensions about $152,000,00 a year.

Those figures, themselves, indicate that the government has not been entirely remiss in its duty toward the soldier, for the payment of a just pension can be regarded in no other sense than a duty, an obligation. But, still, many a worthy soldier, who gave the best he had to the cause of his country, feels, and doubtless not without some justification, that his country has not done as well by him in his declining days as it should have done. The great difficulty now, in the readjustment of the pension system as heretofore, is in arriving at an exact standard upon which to reckon pensions and the weeding out of the undeserving.

In the course of a very fair discussion of the pension matter Senator Smith of Georgia was asked if he thought $150,000,000 too much for this government to pay its veterans now every year in pensions. He said he thought not, but he did believe that many a man was being overpaid and many another underpaid. If congress could eliminate all the undeserving pensioners, it would be able to do much better by the deserving. Also, it seems, that since pensions are determined partially on the element of need, if those veterans whose circumstances place them wholly above dependence were to forego their rights to their less fortunate comrades, a better distribution could be effected.

The State Prison Mutiny.

The mutiny at the Nebraska penitentiary resulting in the killing of the warden and several of his assistants is a most deplorable affair, sure to direct attention to conditions at the prison, and the methods of prison management employed there.

The information so far at hand is too scant to permit of serious discussion of causes for the outbreak or of preventives and remedies. The only thing that stands out plain and clear is that the prison population is made up largely of hardened criminals and desperadoes, who must be held to strict discipline by an iron hand, and that anything that tends to foment insubordination, or to impress convicts with a notion that the authorities over them are undergoing a backfire, is decidedly dubious and dangerous.

Unfortunately, no amount of moralizing will restore the lives that are lost. The immediate demand is to locate the responsibility, and, by making proper examples, to take effective measures against reoccurrence.

The Question of Precedent.

The question of precedent enters into the present contest for the republican nomination in two ways.

In the first place, no president once elected who has sought a second term has ever been refused renomination by his party. This is on the theory that one good term deserves another, a second by way of endorsement, and that a president who has made a good record is entitled to a vote of confidence. The second term precedent has been established so firmly that to abandon it would be not only a reflection upon the president, but a confession by the party of its own failure to measure up to requirements. Irrespective of complaints of fault-finders and political enemies, the party has a right to be proud of President Taft and his administration, and no serious indictment can be laid against him separate from the party as a whole. Overturning the second term precedent and nominating any one but President Taft would put the republicans almost wholly on the defensive in the coming campaign.

Rejecting the second term precedent in favor of Colonel Roosevelt would at the same time be breaking the precedent against a third term, which Colonel Roosevelt, himself, has declared "the wise custom," and a custom which regards the substance, and not the form. The third term precedent has been before the American people several times, and has been invariably affirmed by them. It has been before the people both as a "consecutive" term and as a "non-consecutive" term, as it was when ex-President Grant's name was urged upon the convention in 1880, and the people have refused to distinguish between them. The ready answer to this is, of course, that times have changed, and that we should not shackle ourselves in chains of tradition. Yet the very fact that the precedent has remained unbroken from the foundation of the republic down to the present day—nearly 125 years—makes a presumption in its favor, and puts the burden of proof on the other side.

Another phase of this question of precedent, however, has been almost altogether overlooked. The reason a president who has made a good record wishes re-election is that a second term has been accorded his predecessors in the White House as a credit mark, and to withhold it would be regarded as a discredit. Each president who commands popular confidence has a right to believe that he is entitled to serve as long as other presidents. Should the third term precedent be rescinded, every future president would figure that he also should have three terms, and failure to be accorded a third term would be regarded as an imputation upon and a repudiation of his record, just as much as a failure to be renominated once would now be so regarded. This side of it will, we believe, sink in deeper the more the people ponder on it.

Roosevelt boomers profess to be terribly shocked at the idea of referring to the presidential contest as a "game." Recalling such famous expressions, "hit the line hard," "play the game fair," "beaten to a frazzle," and others, might serve to soften the blow.

A distinguished dentist is making the rounds of Omaha's public schools to talk to the children on the care of the teeth. Won't some one volunteer to tell them about their eyes? The oculists need the business as much as the dentists.

Colonel Yeiser will either fool a lot of people or be badly fooled himself when the votes on vice president preference are canvassed. Colonel Yeiser has run several times on the political race track, and never yet was a tailender.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

COMPILED FROM BEE FILES

March 15.

Thirty Years Ago—

Camp Dump has been renamed Camp Omaha, and is still the center of interest by day and camp fires by night.

Fannie Davenport's presentation of Sheridan's comedy, "School for Scandal," brought out a very fashionable audience. A reporter of The Bee called at the Withnell house, and sent his card to Miss Davenport. "She was lying down at the time, and referred him to her manager, Mr. Price, who soon appeared, and was interviewed."

The organ in the old Trinity church is being removed to the new cathedral.

The Hooks have organized a mutual benefit association with W. J. Kennedy as president.

A special train came in from the east with President Dillon and General Superintendent Kimball of the Union Pacific and party on board.

The lathers have elected the following officers for their union: D. E. Bennet, president; W. N. Fonda, vice president; Rollo Williams, secretary; Fred Bates, treasurer.

General Merrill, national commander of the G. A. R., passed through Omaha on his way to Denver. He was met at the depot by General Alexander, commander of the Department of Nebraska; General Dilworth, Colonel Paul Vandervoort, and Frank Moores, commander of Custer post of this city.

A handsome flag was presented to the First Regiment Nebraska volunteers just previous to dress parade.

The funeral services over the remains of George Armstrong took place from the residence, 1212 Cass street, Dean Millspaugh officiating. The pallbearers were, Messrs. Knight, O'Keefe, Kelly, Joseph O'Mahoney, L. V. Green, and C. Hanlon, and a long procession of working men of different labor unions formed the cortege.

Twenty Years Ago—

John A. McCall, president of the New York Life Insurance company, and Dr. W. T. Booth, also connected with that company, arrived in Omaha and spent the day looking over the company's building at Seventeenth and Farnam streets and general business. George N. Hicks and Dr. George L. Miller, the company's general agent here, were the pilots for the visitors. Thirty business men tendered Messrs. McCall and Booth a luncheon at the Omaha club. Governor James E. Boyd, Mayor George P. Bemis, J. M. Woolworth, Edward Rosewater, G. M. Hitchcock, W. N. Babcock, general manager of the South Omaha Stock Yards company, made addresses and Dr. Miller presided.

The council took preliminary steps toward the construction of a viaduct over the tracks on Fifteenth street. There was some opposition and the vote to recommend the ordinance for passage stood. Aye, Back, Burdish, Conway, Edwards, Elsasser, Howell, Jacobsen, Lowry, Munro, Specht, Steel and Tuttle; nays, Bechel, Bruner, Chaffee, McLearis, Prince, President Davis.

A reporter for The Bee was shown around the old Dodge street school building by Principal Miss Mary Fitch and he found it to be badly delapidated and poorly ventilated and in need of general overhauling and repairs.

The directory of the Omaha club decided to buy the Hitchcock property at Twentieth and Douglas streets, 66x132 feet. Many members of the club preferred the O. F. Davis property at Eighteenth and Douglas streets and C. S. Montgomery drew a resolution stipulating that this site be bought, but the Hitchcock property, which came $2,000 cheaper, won out.

Ten Years Ago—

Casper E. Yost denied a rumor that, because he had been elected president of the Northwestern Telephone company, with headquarters in Minneapolis, he would leave Omaha. He said his headquarters would continue to be in this city.

The new jury list made up by the county commissioners and disclosed, contain the names of dozens of prominent men, including W. V. Morse, F. P. Kirkendall, W. H. McCord, James Creighton, G. M. Hitchcock, W. J. Broatch, Herman Kountze, Alfred and Ezra Millard, Edward Rosewater, Victor Rosewater, Emil Brandeis, J. F. Carpenter, E. E. Bruce, Henry W. Yates, Frank P. Hanlon, and many others.

Charles T. Kountze, Frank Murphy, Luther Drake, Ben Woods, James Creighton and others petitioned the county commissioners to employ additional attorneys to aid in collecting delinquent taxes on real estate in Douglas county.

The one and one-half frame dwelling of Mrs. Anna Callen, 2321 Decatur street, was totally destroyed by fire at night.

Frank Gotch of Humboldt, Ia., and Frank Coleman of Kansas City were matched in Omaha for a wrestle March 22 at the Trocadero theater, Gotch to throw Coleman twice in an hour.

Senator Millard arrived from Washington and went at once to his bank, where a lot of private business awaited him.

People Talked About

Even the milliners are tossing their Easter hats into the ring.

Cheer up! Precious little snow will be visible when the political June birds warble at Chicago and Baltimore.

A Hoosier, distinguished for his length of years, stuck loyally to Prince Nicotine for ninety-seven of his 111 years, when the tobacco heart laid him out.

Mrs. Henry Heideman, 56 years old, and her daughter Annie, 30 years old, celebrated their thirteenth and fourth birthday anniversaries, respectively, at Elgin, Ill., February 29.

It is difficult to see how the moral tone of the country can enjoy even a temporary uplift while Medicine Hat and Moose Jaw persist in dancing the scandalous arctic turkey trot.

It is worth while noting as the world rolls around that pole hunters, while pretending to work for the benefit of mankind, do not run away from the coin offered for a monopoly of their stories.

Mrs. John Cummings of Burlington, Mass., owns and runs a farm of more than 400 acres. On it she raises every year about 2,000 hogs, about 300 tons of hay and large crops of vegetables. Besides, she has a large herd of cows and a considerable orchard.

State School Commissioner Frank W. Miller of Ohio met State School Commissioner Frank W. Miller of Arkansas recently at the meeting of the superintendents' section of the National Educational association at St. Louis. Neither had met the other before. They are not related.

Around New York

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

Chasing the "Money Devil."

Without a democratic cheer or a congressional whoop-pee, his majesty, the "money devil," was given the hottest run in his career in New York state last year. Just how many out of the population of 9,100,000, succeeded in cutting a slice of his hide available statistics fail to show, but there is abundant evidence of much of the hide having gone with the tail. Savings banks statistics for the year indicate a very general hunt for democracy's nightmare and an equally general increase in stored wampum as a result of the chase. On the first of the year the savings banks held $1,419,113,648, an increase of $76,152,854 in twelve months. This enormous total belongs to almost 2,000,000 persons, one-third of the state's population. The year's gain in open accounts was 79,907. Savings and loan associations carry $50,000,000 for 125,000 thrifty people, and postal savings banks already hold deposits from thousands. Leaving out of calculation certificate deposits in national banks and in trust companies, the three recognized savings sources show an imposing multitude on the "money devil's" trail and the success achieved in forcing a shake-down.

Crooked Tradesmen.

One out of every sixteen measures used by New York tradesmen robs the housewife, according to figures just given by the bureau of weights and measures.

Inspectors for the department seize an average of 120 fraudulent measures a day, thanks to Mayor Gaynor, who issued an order a year ago that the hitherto sleepy department must use every resource at its command to prevent the robbery of consumers. During the last twelve months 23,460 devices for cheating the housewives were destroyed by the city. In addition, thousands of dealers, who learned that the real inspection was at last being carried out, destroyed their false measures. The preponderance of fraud, it was stated today, is in the east side, where the buyers frequently are unfamiliar with English and are easily imposed upon by unscrupulous dealers.

The "bushel baskets" used by the truck gardeners and peddlers in many instances failed to give more than three-fourths the correct amount. Four thousand of these were destroyed. Hundreds of peck measures were seized at grocery stores and the inspectors have become so vigilant that the only way the dealers have of imposing upon their customers is to announce that certain commodities are so much a "measure," leaving it to the purchaser's judgment as to whether the "measure" holds the quantity that the price should demand.

Short-weighing of coal became so frequent that motorcycles were purchased for the use of inspectors so that they could follow up the coal trucks and see that a part of the load was not dumped before it reached the purchaser.

Hat Check Graft.

In a Broadway restaurant which is crowded after midnight with guests who had their suppers elsewhere and where the attractions have little to do with the bill of fare, a delicate hat check question arose one evening last week, relates the Tribune. A man accompanied by a woman—he in conventional and she in elaborate evening dress—stepped from the elevator and started for the stageless concert room. "Check your hat!" the boy at the hatrack shouted. The man went on, but was halted at the door by a waiter, who pointed to the high hat. "That's all right," said the man, crushing the collapsible tile and slipping it under his coat. "The lady—her coat," said the boy, whereupon the woman removed a fleecy scarf, crumpled it in her hands and the couple stood there with no checkable garments visible. But the waiter insisted and the man retorted that he frequently wore his hat under his waistcoat and would not give it up. For a moment it looked like a victory over the hat check extortionists, when the head waiter informed the protesting guests that there was "no empty table" and the couple retired. "Stung again!" remarked the man as he reached the street.

Trials of Millionaire's Son.

While no one would turn down a job as a millionaire's son, yet the job held by some of the sons of the Wall street financiers is no sinecure, as a recent incident in a large brokerage house shows, says the Wall Street Journal. A customer had wired a small order to sell. By some chance its execution had been missed.

Several days later the matter was discovered and as the price of the stock had changed in the meantime, the house would be out $50 by selling. At a loss what to do, the son of the head of the firm took the matter up with "Dad," who instead of taking the matter philosophically flew into a fit of rage and declared that never before in the history of the firm had it failed to execute an order immediately. "You will pay for it, though," shouted father, "Execute the order now, I won't make good the difference, but you will. I'll take it out of your salary this week." And he did.

To Smoke or Not.

The proprietor of a New York hotel has received from a friend a copy of the letter recently sent out by the Non-Smokers' Protective League of America, in which a plea is made for the exclusion of tobacco smoking from the lobby, halls, parlors, elevators and dining rooms of hotels. The friend adds: "I am informed that it is your intention to give Dr. Pease's scheme a trial and to make yours a smokeless hotel. I have been a patron of yours for many years and never asked anything in return but good service. I am in the real estate business and ask this favor: When you make the change give me the first option on your lease."

Joy Riders Jolted.

Joyriding in city automobiles is expected to end, when a new ordinance will go into effect providing that the words "City of New York" be painted in letters at least five inches high on the back of all Father Knickerbocker cars, excepting those used in the police department.

The Tammany minority in the board of alderman has made several vain attempts to repeal the measure, declaring that all the city officials objected to the provision, as it might interfere with their work, especially when they are on secret missions.

A Courageous Act.
New York Tribune.

Mr. Taft is an uncommonly courageous man, after the outcry against its use by the supreme court, to proclaim the "rule of reason" as the proper guide in effecting reforms. "Happy thought," statesmanship is often in dealing with public "rule of reason," in dealing with public questions. But perhaps Mr. Taft cares more for principles than for popularity.

PRESIDENT TAFT'S CABINET.

Friends of Roosevelt and the Roosevelt Policies.
Bedford (Pa.) Inquirer.

They say that the president "packed" his cabinet with men who he knew would not apply the Roosevelt policies. While it may be taken for granted, as the word of those who know to those who do not, that while the members of the cabinet of President Taft were undoubtedly selected personally, and because he wanted them, neither Colonel Roosevelt nor his friends ought to have any complaint coming on the score intimated.

Let us analyze the Taft cabinet as it now stands today: Secretary of state, Philander C. Knox, attorney general in the cabinet of Mr. McKinley and Mr. Roosevelt; secretary of the treasury, Franklin MacVeagh; secretary of war, Henry L. Stimson, Roosevelt's candidate for governor of New York in 1910; attorney general, George W. Wickersham; postmaster general, Frank H. Hitchcock, first assistant postmaster general in the administration of President Roosevelt; secretary of the navy, George von L. Meyer, postmaster general in Roosevelt's cabinet; secretary of the interior, Walter L. Fisher, upholder of the conservation policy of Roosevelt and the defender of the policies of President Taft in Alaska; secretary of agriculture, James Wilson, in the cabinets of McKinley and Roosevelt; secretary of commerce and labor, Charles Nagel. Looking over that list, does it appear that they were selected, much less "packed," to antagonize the Roosevelt policies, whatever these policies may have been? This complaint, while being childlike, is not bland.

An Awful Finish.
Houston (Tex.) Post.

A New York man is suggesting Bryan for president and Roosevelt for vice president. This fellow evidently doesn't want the republic to die after the accustomed manner of nations, but wants it talked to death.

GRINS AND GROANS.

"I live for art!" said the prima donna. "Yes," replied the impresario; "and by this time you ought to have a fine collection of those highly artistic engravings of eminent statesmen on banknotes."—Baltimore American.

"I don't like the way they reported my speech," complained the new congressman.

"Why, they sprinkled in plenty of laughter and applause."

"Yes, but how about all them gestures."—Pittsburgh Post.

"I expect to be rich some day."

"That so? Somebody likely to leave you money?"

"That's it, exactly. You don't suppose I expect to earn a fortune, do you?"—Detroit Free Press.

The second hand dealer looked the car over carefully and then made his offer.

"I'll take the machinery of this motor," he said, "but I don't want the rest of it."

"But," said Wiggins, "what'll I do with my body?"

"Your body?" said the dealer. "Why I don't know. You'd ought to consult an undertaker about that."—Harper's Weekly.

THE SAGAMORE BOOM.

Oyster Bay Pilot.

At Oyster Bay
There's joy today;
In Oyster Bay
The town is gay,
With pride extended.
The long suspense,
The strain intense,
By Teddy has been ended.

Old Beverly
Is bound to be
Back number, see,
Should Teddy rule the nation.
The Bay's been sore,
But hopes, hurrah!
To be once more
The center of creation.

Along Main street
There's joy complete;
Each one you meet
Is shouting, "Well, it's Teddy."
Trade has been slack
For some time back,
But now each hack
For business is getting ready.