

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss: Dwight Williams, circulation manager...

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Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them...

If spring fever does not hasten adjournment of the grand jury, nothing will.

This spring overflow may affect some land, but not the Florida Everglades.

The latest sensation of the season is that women's hats are to be pretty this year.

Potting elephants in Africa must be a snap beside potting delegates in the United States.

It is interesting to note that Senator Lorimer voted to retain Senator Stephenson in his seat.

It looks as if the problem of prison management at our Nebraska penitentiary had not yet been solved.

Those Virginia outlaws are a reckless sort. The man Allen surrenders to get something to eat.

For a while it looked as if Old Man Winter had decided to fight it out on this line if it took all summer.

So the primary law after six years is still on trial in Nebraska. If so, wonder when we will get beyond the experimental stage.

The Harvester trust must be dreadfully scared every night by the nightmare, "Loback'll get you if you don't watch out."

To appreciate Omaha's superior geographical location, note how cities and towns all around us are being inundated by spring freshets.

A Frenchman left \$500,000 to a New Orleans girl because her red hair reminded him of an old sweet-heart. Good excuse, anyway.

You city men, kicking on having to feed so much coal to your furnace, stop and think of the farmer feeding hay all this long, cold winter.

San Francisco has voted \$3,000,000 to build a civic center. That's less than Omaha has voted to get from under its water works purchase.

Chicago street railway interests promise to do away with the congestion of traffic nuisance. Oh, yes, but promise and performance do not run together so fast.

That reminds us, what has become of that great leader and patron saint of municipal reform, Percy A. Wells, whose inspiring voice appears to have been inexplicably stilled?

It is fair to assume that the Men and Religion Forward Movement is not intended to prevent the women from continuing to be the drawing card of church attendance.

Of course that drug manufacturer who demanded to know whom Dr. Wiley represented at that hearing, could prove an alibi so far as he, himself, was concerned.

If our American miners thought of imitating the British miners in striking, our American operators should find it possible to settle with their men as did the Britishers.

One thing at a time, and everything in its order. Commission plan primary in Omaha comes first, then the state and county primary and finally the commission plan election.

Every time heretofore that he lost out, Mr. Bryan promptly charged that his followers were corrupted or intimidated away from him. And Mr. Bryan is not the only one who has that ready-made explanation to fall back on.

Doing Justice to the President.

Colonel Roosevelt is not likely to increase his popularity at the expense of President Taft by misstating or misrepresenting what the latter says in his public speeches. It is disappointing to find the ex-president attempting in this manner to promote his third-term candidacy against the man whom he, himself, first recommended to the American people as the very best fitted and qualified for the chief magistracy. The colonel persists in twisting what the president said in his Toledo speech about popular government. He makes Mr. Taft say that "hereafter we shall act on the theory that this is a government of the people, for the people and by a representative part or class of the people."

Here is what President Taft really said on that point: In recognition of this, the tendency from earliest times in our history has been the enlargement of the electorate to include in the ultimate source of governmental power as many as possible of those governed. But even today the electorate is not more in number than one-fourth of the total number of those who are citizens of the nation and are the people for whom the government is maintained and whose rights and happiness the government is intended to secure. More than this, government by unanimous vote of the electorate is impossible, and, therefore, the majority of the electorate must rule.

We find, therefore, that government by the people is, under our present system, government by a majority of one-fourth or those whose rights and happiness are to be affected by the course and conduct of the government. This is the nearest to government by the whole people we have ever had. In other words, the electorate is a representative governing body for the whole people for which the government was established, and the controlling majority of the electorate is a body still less numerous. It is thus apparent that ours is a government of all the people by a representative part of the people.

Colonel Roosevelt says he believes in a square deal. Mr. Taft is entitled to a square deal. At St. Louis he said: "I'd a million times rather lose the campaign and get justice than to win it without justice." Mr. Taft is also entitled to justice.

Fortifying the Panama.

A pet argument of those opposing fortification of the Panama canal has been that it would offend the policy of neutrality and therefore other nations. Emperor William's advice to General Goethals in favor of strong fortifications is an answer to that. But in the first place, we should not confuse neutrality with fortification. The canal may be neutral and yet be fortifiably fortified. As a matter of fact, the president, General Goethals and others who have given their best thought to this question are convinced that neutrality of the canal can only be guaranteed by fortifications, and that it is idle to think of neutralizing the canal merely by convention. These authorities also agree that not only is there nothing in the treaty under which the canal was authorized against fortifications, but that the treaty specifically advocates it.

With all due regard for the cause of world peace, in which we all should enlist, it is quite fair to other nations to invite their patronage of this great waterway without offering to them the protection which adequate fortification would give? It is not offending these nations to make the canal secure from seizure or attack; on the contrary, it would be offending them not to do so. And then, here is the United States spending nearly \$400,000,000 upon a great structure subject to danger. Is it good business for the United States not to insure this property against loss the best it may? Would it or a private individual think of leaving uninsured any other such investment? Fortifying the canal is simply insuring it—insuring this investment of upwards of \$375,000,000.

And there is still another strong appeal for fortification: The two prime objects in building the Panama canal were to promote our trade expansion by removing certain natural obstacles and to strengthen our defense and augment our naval efficiency. This we do by bringing into practical articulation the widely detached lines of our fleets upon the Atlantic and Pacific. So, whether we neutralize the canal or not, business and diplomatic considerations seem to urge its fortification.

The government, through the Department of Agriculture, has sent broadcast the report of its finding of poor seed corn as a general thing and especially in the big corn-growing states. It urges all farmers to exercise the greatest skill and care in the selection of their seed.

Omaha and Nebraska, through the Omaha Commercial club and the state agriculturists, appear to have been in the vanguard on this proposition. In this connection some of the supersensitive husbandmen who took exceptions of this voluntary aid to them should be willing at least to divide their criticism between our local benefactors and Uncle Sam.

But, seriously, the farmers have need for, perhaps, greater care this year than they have had for many seasons, and this is not a matter in which farmers only are interested; the whole country is deeply concerned, for we are still an agricultural people, vitally dependent upon

the farm. Every one of us still owes allegiance to King Corn and, therefore, we have a right to suggest things for his prosperity and health. Here is a bit of advice from the Department of Agriculture expert which we desire to repeat: I advise the farmers to plant the best seed they can get. They should select corn on the cob, each ear of which has been tested for germination; and if they have to use shelled corn should test it and plant enough, depending on the percentage of germination to insure a good stand.

Wife and Wages.

Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, wife of the former chief chemist of the Department of Agriculture, is out with a radical plan for revolutionizing the home, insuring domestic tranquility and enforcing the relative rights of the wife. It is summed up in this: Right now the wife is the only hard-working human animal who gets nothing for her ten or twelve, sometimes sixteen hours of hard labor a day. Perhaps she is given board and lodging, but even servants get more than that. I believe the time is near when laws will be passed giving the wife a part of the salary, based upon the husband's income, and it should be one-third, never less than one-fourth, of his salary.

The Denver Republican went to the trouble of having several women of that city interviewed on the subject and, while most of them disagreed with Mrs. Wiley's view, it was astonishing that nearly all of them gave it serious attention.

Of course, a man with a wife willing to spend all the money that she can get her hands on, regardless of the family's needs, is to be pitied, just as the woman is whose husband neglects her and the children for his own selfishness, but it does not follow from the fact that extremes of this kind obtain, that a law enforcing an equal division of the cash between man and wife would contribute anything to the domestic tranquillity of the home or felicity between man and wife. When it becomes necessary to lower the home to the level of commercial transaction, where its conduct must be governed in detail by legal provision, it will be about time to think of reconstructing the whole institution.

It seems to us that the wife who measures her part in the home, her influence in making its life and example felt upon herself, her husband and her children, from the dollar standard, needs, not so much a better division of her husband's weekly wages as an entirely new conception of her relation and duty as a wife and mother.

The Aurora Republican puts one over on Congressman Norris by pointing out that when the sugar tariff was up, the Nebraska man offered a bounty amendment to save the beet sugar producers from annihilation, declaring that without this relief the proposed sugar tariff would favor the Sugar trust and then, after the amendment was rejected, voted for the bill which he said the Sugar trust wanted. One thing which the Republican overlooks is that a political campaign is on in which Congressman Norris is seeking promotion to the senate, and that a reformer chasing votes has as much right to play both sides of the street as any one else.

The democrats in control of our county board last fall voted the voting machines out of commission, but the democrats in control in South Omaha insist on using them in the impending municipal election there. Just another instance of playing the game the way that looks like the most votes.

Persuading dangerous penitentiary birds to believe they are merely innocent victims of unfortunate circumstances is, to say the least, not calculated to inspire obedience and discipline among convicts nursing fancied grievances against their keepers, fellow convicts and society in general.

Urgent popular demand for good men to run themselves to the limit of \$4,500 a year councilman is simply irresistible. And only sordid folk would suspect the salary had anything to do with it.

Senator Hitchcock seems to be proceeding on the theory that inasmuch as Mr. Bryan has three times helped his opponents to win out, all that is needed now is to let out plenty of rope.

Governor Stubbs and Governor Hadley have both asked to have their names taken off the Nebraska ballot as vice presidential candidates. But we still have Colonel John O. Yeiser with us.

Ripe for Banish. A conservative estimate of the Turkish losses in the present African war taken from Italian official reports shows that every native resident of Tripoli has been killed at least three times.

Less Time for Recreation. If the present plans and demands of coal operatives and miners hold good, most people in this country will not have any complaint to make against the shortness of next summer's vacation.

Fervent Harms, Sure. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Mr. Bryan says he will express no preference between Wilson and Clark, but declares distinctly that he is against Harmon. The result at Chicago is strongly indicated, but there is no telling what sort of blizzard will strike Baltimore.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

COMPILED FROM BEE FILES

March 30.

Thirty Years Ago—The democratic primaries have mixed things up still worse. Winners for the council were: First ward, Alex McGavock; Second ward, John J. Mahoney; Third ward, Henry Hornbecker; Fourth ward, William Bushman; Fifth ward, John E. Wigham; Sixth ward, no nomination.

The spring opening of A. Cruckshank & Co. is pronounced "one of the most magnificent displays ever seen in this city."

Charles Kauffman has succeeded to the fire insurance business of Henry W. Yates, officing at 1028 Farnam street.

Annie Pixley in "Miss" is the attraction at Boyd's.

A first ward republican caucus nominated Ernest Street for the council.

There is plenty of moonlight to walk in these nights and the young folks are improving the opportunity.

F. Dalton, who was so seriously injured by the prairie fire west of Omaha, died from the effects.

Thomas H. Dally declares that he will absolutely decline to accept the nomination for councilman and that he is out of politics.

Hon. George W. E. Dorsey of the State Board of Agriculture is in the city on a brief trip.

The Busy Bees of the Christian church Sunday school gave one of their socials at the church on Sixteenth street.

There were songs and recitations by the Misses Webb, Nellie Rosewater, Maud McCure, Paul and Effie Denice, Victor Rosewater, Willie and Nellie Richards, and Master Harry Stephens.

The owner of a blue plaid shirt lost on or near Twenty-third street asks for its return to The Bee office.

"Hazel Kirk" is coming with John Dillon and Clara Morris in the east.

"The Union Spy" was played for the last time last night to a crowded house and met with a warm reception.

Twenty Years Ago—W. R. Hearst, proprietor of the San Francisco Examiner, passed through Omaha enroute to Washington.

Edward Rosewater left for New York on business.

Mrs. Tom Thumb, Count Magri and Baron Masri, the real Lilliputians, arrived in Omaha in their special car with their company and put up at the Delone.

The officials of the Nebraska Central Railroad company were busy pushing matters toward the construction of their lines in this city and county and at an early hour the vice president, J. H. Durant, appeared at the court house and filed plans of the routes, which showed the location of the steel bridge across the river at Cass street, a mammoth bridge with double tracks. Mr. Dumont, J. A. McShane, C. J. Greene and others appeared before the county board to which they explained their proposition.

Six young men completed the theological course at the Omaha seminary: B. C. Swank, Alexander Litherland, E. A. Ender, G. A. McEwan, E. F. Kelley, E. W. Simonds. Their final examinations were conducted by Rev. W. J. Hareha, D. D.; Rev. Stephen Phelps, D. D.; Rev. John Gordon, D. D., and Dr. Sterling, professor in Greek. In the evening the class was tendered a reception at Second Presbyterian church when addresses were made by Warren Switzer, Rev. J. C. Sloan, Fred Bell and Dr. Phelps.

Local bankers doing savings business were exasperated at the report filed at Lincoln by State Bank Examiner C. F. McDrew, in which he charged that many bankers were evading the state banking laws, with respect to savings departments.

Ten Years Ago—Snow, driven by high winds, made Easter a bleak day for Omaha. Gray clouds hid the sun and churchgoers had to fight the wind to reach their places of worship and it was a perilous day for what Easter millinery ventured out.

Funeral service for Dr. Jerome F. Hertram was held at the residence, 618 North Sixteenth street, by Rev. C. W. Savidge and Rev. L. A. Groh and the body was buried at Prospect Hill.

The explosion of a lamp at the rooming house of Mrs. Lucy Weber, 809 South Nineteenth street, set fire to the building and did about \$150 worth of damage.

Mrs. W. H. Hanchett delved into the tomb of antiquity and brought up some hidden specimens of thought for the Omaha Philosophical club at its Sunday afternoon meeting. Her subject was "Prehistoric Excavations." Rev. Newton Mann and others engaged in general discussion of the lecture.

Philoena Scannell preached at the old St. Philomena's cathedral at Easter sermon on "The Soul's Triumph Over Death," emphasizing the illogic of unbeliever.

Governor Ezra P. Savage came up from Lincoln and spent the day at South Omaha.

George Pendleton Bowler, the Harvard speaker, who burned up \$20,000 in a year, is now working off his surplus energy clerking in a Boston store at \$5 a week.

Down in Kansas City, where the Star pulled off an amazing "straw" vote for Colonel Roosevelt, a \$20 picture of the Colonel was sold at auction last Monday for 30 cents.

John H. Early, the alleged leper, who was shamefully treated by the health authorities of Washington and vindicated by the doctors of New York, has been cured by public fear and ostracized clear to the Pacific coast. An offer of a position in the quarantine station at Port Townsend, Washington state, has been accepted by Early. The salary with his soldier pension will give him an income of \$9 a month.

Mrs. George V. Johnson, of Pike, N. Y., is thought to hold the world's record for length of time as a public stranger. She has been a sojourner in the Presbyterian church there for more than 40 years. She has traveled a distance of more than 40,000 miles in going to and from her choir rehearsals and church services, and the actual time she has spent in a chair seat would amount to one and a half years.

In Other Lands

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

No matter how the miners war for a minimum wage ends in Great Britain, the mine owners stand to win. Their surplus stocks brought increased prices more than sufficient to make up for idleness even if continued for two months. What ever additional wage is granted at the end, it is certain to be dodged and cheerfully passed to the consumer. As a matter of pounds and shillings the mine owners could have granted the minimum pitance at the outset without risk of loss and averted the widespread tragic distress brought on the people. But that is not the way of the employing Britisher. "In Britain," says the Toronto Globe, "there are hundreds of thousands of people who still regard the working-man as a sort of necessary evil, to be tolerated merely because there are still some things that automatic machinery cannot accomplish. That the first charge upon an industry ought to be the rate of wages to the workmen engaged in it seems a monstrous doctrine. If anyone imagines this to be an exaggerated statement of the case let him ponder over the following letter received by the chairman of the London and North-western railway the other day from one of the stockholders to whom he had made an appeal on behalf of the railway benevolent institution: 'I think it simply disgusting to your wretched shareholders, who are receiving less dividends this year than they ought to be, owing to the abominable way the men have behaved, and their grasping avarice, to which you and other directors have so weakly yielded, and which have thereby so seriously reduced our incomes. Damn you, I say!'

France's Empty Stocking. F. Cunliffe-Owen, writing in Hampton's Magazine, draws a gloomy picture of the increasing menace of poverty in the French republic. The unsurpassed thrift of the people which enabled the government to provide the millions of francs exacted by the victorious Germans in 1871 has been undermined by the high cost of living, taxation and labor troubles. So serious are conditions that the government is considering the advisability of fixing the price of food by law. The straitened conditions of the people, the writer asserts, "is not due to siege or war, but to the extraordinary high price of even the most ordinary and necessary articles of poverty in the French republic. The unsurpassed thrift of the people which enabled the government to provide the millions of francs exacted by the victorious Germans in 1871 has been undermined by the high cost of living, taxation and labor troubles. 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