

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE
FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR
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State of Nebraska, County of Douglas:
Dwight Williams, circulating manager
of The Bee, solemnly swears that the
above is a true and correct statement
of the circulation for the month of April, 1912.

DWIGHT WILLIAMS,
Circulating Manager
Subscribed in my presence and sworn
to before me this 27th day of May, 1912.

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

Boost for Omaha and then keep on
boosting.

Where in the arctic world can old
Doc Cook be?

If little Cuba wishes to remain
free it had better be good.

The convention tail-enders will
now wind up the procession.

A new broom is expected to sweep
cleaner than the one discarded.

Nothing much is being done to
sweeten this coffee controversy.

The iceman will get his harvest in
due time, even though it is delayed.

In polite Boston they may refer to
the spit ball as the expectation sphere.

"What is beer?" asks the Washing-
ton Post. Just as if it did not know.

Strikes seem to be in the very air.
The German aviators have now gone
out.

Better postpone worrying over rain
for a week or so, till the soil really
needs it.

A St. Louis paper speaks of "tour-
ing East St. Louis." Better carry
brass knucks.

Just the same, Senator Root will
make just as good a chairman in
1912 as in 1904.

The Houston Post tells of the
"Anti-Third Term League." It must
be taking its vacation.

New Jersey was fighting ground
for our forefathers during the war
of the revolution, too.

Looks as if something like the
commission plan were being set up
in the Omaha postoffice.

"Back to the mines" has been a
popular cry among the anthracite
workers and the country as well.

Mr. Bryan is not a candidate, but
he will not give a bond not to accept
if the nomination is tendered him.

Anyway there is no dispute over
the number of delegates instructed
for La Follette and for Cummins.

Kansas City boasts it is a city of
many bishops. Doubtless the churches
found that ordinary clergymen could
not save it.

The signs of the times and the
handwriting on the wall must be
uncomfortable reminders for Senator
Lorimer.

If all the candidates have already
enough delegates to nominate and to
spare what can they be keeping it up
so fiercely for?

It is not the fashion nowadays for
a presidential candidate to carry his
own state, exploiting the old adage
about a prophet and his own country.

Our democratic friends might dis-
cover their much sought dark horse
in the Hon. J. Ham Lewis were he
not disqualified by the iridescent
brightness of his fulsome whiskers.

How foolish it was in those escaped
convict-murderers to insist on being
killed rather than captured when they
might so easily have returned to our
Nebraska state-prison and been ac-
quitted by verdict of a jury.

Before our commission plan coun-
cilsmen go in much deeper in the rais-
ing of salaries and the creation of
new appointive positions it would be
quite in order to count the available
cash and see whether the figure is
not written down on the red ink side
of the ledger.

Speaking of Grief.

Senator Stone, the gumshoe states-
man from Missouri, professes to be
much grieved because republicans
have been doing a little quarreling
among themselves. The senator's
solicitude is doubtless appreciated,
but it is to be hoped he has not per-
mitted his sorrow to express itself in
tears. The senator will have need for
all the tears he can well up when the
Baltimore convention opens. Talk
about grief at party strife, there will
be enough in Maryland's fair city to
make a heathen cry, much more a
Missouri politician. The pain that
Senator Stone now feels over repub-
lican friction will seem like a thrill
of sweetest comfort beside the pang
which that gathering of democratic
warriors promises to produce.

Mr. Bryan, still the alpha and
omega of modern democracy, main-
tains his bitter opposition to Harmon
and Underwood and a sullen, silent,
but all too significant attitude toward
Champ Clark and is really outpoken
for not a single candidate. Hearst
pursues Wilson and Gaylor with all
the ferocity of which he is capable.
Harmon returns Bryan's attacks and
so does Underwood, now and then.
And the internal resentments among
the leaders carries animosity out into
the ranks of delegates. Tammany
comes in for its share of abuse and
reciprocates the compliment.

And so the happy democratic
family furor goes on. If Uncle Joel
is really looking for an object of pity
upon which to pour the libation of
his compassionate heart let him wait
yet a little while and Baltimore will
accommodate him.

Our Ex-Admirals.

What to do with our ex-presidents
is no longer as much of a problem
as what to do with our ex-admirals.
It is pointed out in the house that
the United States today has 149 ad-
mirals on the retired list, for whose
maintenance we expend annually the
sum of \$1,000,000. We have but
twenty-eight admirals on the active
list, and according to Congressman
Hobson, who used to be a sea captain
himself, we have 120 captains and
commanders on the active list of
whom only two have seen more than
two years of sea duty.

In view of these facts it is not sur-
prising that a demand is made for
the abolition of the "admiral fac-
tory." The trouble may be in the
system of promotion or of retirement.
If sea life is so wholesome as to pre-
serve the admirals in such numbers
to the full length of their service and
enable them to reach the time of
retirement in comparative vigor pos-
sibly it is not too unwholesome to
pursue for a longer period.

In times of peace and with little
prospect of war ahead it would seem
that we might begin to revise our
rules and regulations in this respect
without imposing injustices or bur-
dens on any faithful officer and
without by any means impairing the
service. It is regrettable that Con-
gressman Hobson seems to have ad-
vanced no satisfactory cure for what
he and others regard as a decided
fault.

Protecting the Chicken Coop.

While starting out a new era in
our municipal government we in
Omaha must not be above learning
lessons from the experience of
smaller towns like New York City.
In every great metropolitan city one
of the perplexing problems is that
of safeguarding the rights and priv-
ileges of enterprising citizens who
keep chickens for pleasure or profit.
For the protection of the chicken
coop what better advice can be had
than is offered by Mayor Gaylor in
this letter to a constituent:

Dear Mr. O'Gilly: I sympathize with
you in the loss of your chickens. My
hen roost on Long Island has been
attacked. You say there are sixty-five
policemen in your precinct. Down my
way there are only four constables in
a territory about ten times as large as
yours, with a population not much less.
It is pretty hard to keep chicken thieves
out of the roosts by policemen. How-
ever, I shall see what can be done for
you and your neighbors. Can you induce
the chickens to roost higher? Yours
truly,
W. J. GAYNOR.

Our Omaha poultry fanciers and
chicken lovers will doubtless take
notice.

The San Diego Situation.

The vigorous governor of Califor-
nia, who is making himself con-
spicuous as one of the aggressive pro-
gressives of the country at large, has
a stern task on his hands within his
own state in the disquieting situation
at San Diego. Governor Johnson has
sent a commissioner to that city to
see what can be done to quell two
opposing forces of anarchy, one set
of angry opponents of constituted gov-
ernment, the other the people, who,
outraged at the so-called fight for
free speech, are taking things into
their own hands and visiting their
wrath upon offenders, irrespective of
the law "made and provided" in such
cases.

The governor's own commissioner
has been warned that he may be
tarred and feathered as the anarchist
Reitman was if he does not desist
from his activities. Have the good
people of San Diego not sufficient
confidence in their governor to be-
lieve that he would do his best to
relieve this distressing situation? Is
the popular enthusiasm expressed at
the polls for good government in
California unable to inspire reform
in San Diego? Is there no fruitful
articulation between election slogans

and everyday necessities? Here, it
seems, is where the advocates of re-
form government should make them-
selves felt.

It is time for the law to take the
place of tarring and feathering in
San Diego and bring order out of
this chaotic state.

Water board and water company
are said now to be trying to get to-
gether. Had the water board, man-
ifested such a disposition earlier in
the game, as suggested by The Bee,
our people would be better off in
pocket by not less than a million
dollars.

"A man should say what he means
and mean what he says," Champ
Clark wrote in Mr. Bryan's Com-
moner. If the facetious hound dog
candidate were backed up into a
corner he probably would say he was
only joking.

A preacher carrying the name of
Nephtali Lucock deserves to be
elected bishop, or something equally
as good.

HARD COAL MONOPOLY.

Indianapolis News: The anthracite
strike has also been settled, but as yet
the dealers are offering no special in-
ducements to the frugal householder to
contract for his next winter's fuel supply.

Boston Transcript: Everybody is glad
to hear that the agreement between the
coal operators and the union miners is
to be signed today, but the event would
be greeted with more acute rejoicing if
it were not certain that the consumer will
have to pay for it.

Springfield Republican: The coal strike,
even though adjusted, of course means
higher prices, and it is now said to be
doubtful whether the usual summer dis-
count will be made. Yet prudent people
will lay in their winter supply as usual,
for fear of worse to come. Whatever hap-
pens, the consumer has to "pay, pay,
PAY."

New York World: For ten years and
more, since the Morgan "gentlemen's
agreement" was made by the coal rail-
roads, New York and the eastern cities
have been paying an exorbitant monopoly
price. This vast, crude, cheaply handled
tonnage pays a fancy price for freight-
ing and the profit is reflected in a market
price of \$20 for Lackawanna stock in 1911;
of \$10 for Delaware & Hudson; of \$11
for Reading; \$11 for Lehigh Valley; and
\$11 for Jersey Central. There is no more
urgent case in interstate commerce for
government interference than the exploi-
tation of the public by the anthracite
coal combination.

Twenty Years Ago—

The Citizens Alliance held a meeting at
the Knights of Labor hall, 111 South Four-
teenth street, at night, to discuss the Ne-
braska Central bond proposition. Allen
Root took up an hour telling why the
laboring man should vote against them,
and J. H. Dumont spoke at length in
favor.

Laks school was the center of a grand
Memorial day celebration. The children
presented a fine bust of General Grant,
Little Albert Farmeike making the presen-
tation address. The old soldiers present
gave the younger great encouragement
upon his oratorical powers. Miss Emma
Whitmore, principal, received the bust for
the school. The address of the day was
made by Bishop John P. Newman of the
Methodist church. Edward Rosewater
and Judge Eller also made brief ad-
dresses.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Cleveland of South
Omaha laid away their infant son, who
died the day before.

Judge A. L. Burton was making prepara-
tions to spend the summer at Newport.

It was given out that the new Central
Telephone building to be erected at Eight-
eenth and Douglas streets as soon as the
grading could be done, would cost \$60,000
and be one of the handsomest telephone
buildings in the country.

The majority of all the living buffalo
were advertised as being on exhibition at
the terminus of the Benson & Halcyon
Highways railway. "Admission 50 cents,
children 10 cents."

Ten Years Ago—

"Railway pools and railway commis-
sioners are obsolete," said E. H. Harriman,
upon his arrival at the Omaha Union
station. "It is preposterous for such men
as legislators and railway commissioners
to regulate our behavior. Why should men
who know nothing about the railroad
business be given power to make rules
for it? Combinations are all well and
good, not only justifiable, but advisable."

With Mr. Harriman, who stopped in
Omaha to look over the field for the en-
largement of the Union Pacific shops,
were President Marvin Huggitt of the
Northwestern, Vice-President Harahan of
the Illinois Central and other managers.

Present Bureau of the Union Pacific, with
others, had arranged quite a sight-seeing
tour for them.

Julius Myers, who was to attend the
meeting of the National Union of
Musicians in Buffalo, said he would there
make war upon the South Omaha Trades
and Labor assembly, with which the
union musicians were having a tilt.

W. S. Summers was selected by the
Grand Army of the Republic and af-
filiated societies as the Decoration Day
orator.

County Commissioner J. P. and Mrs.
Connelly went on a three weeks' jaunt to
Buffalo, Detroit, New York and Penn-
sylvania points.

POLITICAL SNAPSHOTS.

Brooklyn Eagle: Cuba has "fired" 1,000
government employes in a lump. Such
wholesale good work hasn't been done in
Washington for years; but just wait till
a democratic president comes in; just
wait!

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: Senator
Dixon has such a passion for claiming
everything that it is queer he admits that
his own state, Montana, is so embati-
onally against him that a contest is out
of the question.

New York World: Senator Crane's
announced retirement at the end of his
present term further emphasizes the swift
changes which the old political order is
undergoing. He is one of the later addi-
tions to the old guard which has domi-
nated the senate for years and which is
now disappearing with an almost tragic
rapidity.

Indianapolis News: It seems that the
democrats have agreed that the only pic-
tures to be displayed at the Baltimore
convention will be those of Washington,
Jefferson and Jackson, and yet some
democrats with good memories may recall
that there was a man named Cleveland
who made something of a democratic
record.

New York Sun: Mr. Bryan has always
been regarded with favor by republicans
as a democratic candidate for president,
and in spite of the fact that he has de-
clared himself out of the race in 1912 the
attention of the democratic party is be-
ing elaborately directed to him as per-
haps the strongest man that could be
nominated.

Quick Action in Bay State.

The lower house of the Massachusetts
legislature has taken time by the fore-
lock and voted to ratify the constitutional
amendment providing for the popular
election of United States senators. It
remains to be hoped that the Massa-
chusetts senators will reflect as much credit
on their state under the new plan as
under the old.

Looking Backward
This Day in Omaha
COMPILED FROM BEE FILES
MAY 27

Thirty Years Ago—
A meeting of property owners on Far-
nam street was held at the First National
bank to consider the question of better-
ing the condition of the street, and a
resolution passed calling on the council
to put the pavement in temporary re-
pair. Those present were: Harman
Koussis, A. J. Poppitzer, H. W. Yates,
Dr. Miller, Samuel Burns, W. W. Love,
James Creighton, Frank Murphy, A. L.
Strang, W. H. Bowen, E. Rosewater, C.
F. Goodman, Max Meyer, F. J. McHugh,
Fred Lowe, B. B. Wood, Charles Bein-
dorf, H. Pundt, John McCormick, M.
Helfman.

The Bee quotes a letter to the Lincoln
Journal, which among other things says:
"Omaha bears evidences of prosperity.
There can scarcely be a doubt of her be-
ing a city of importance in the future.
She is no small pumpkin even now."

Owing to wet weather the base ball
game was declared off.

W. A. Van Norman has been appointed
special policeman for lower Tenth street.

A diminutive pony came in by express
boxed up and addressed to G. S. Nasson,
care of Dr. A. W. Nasson.

News was received by telegraph of the
death of the wife of Hon. Lorenzo
Crosbie at Fort Calhoun.

Ed Hainey is lowering his two houses
on the southwest corner of Farnam and
Eighteenth streets to the new grade. He
proposes next to tear down the Judge
Porter house on the opposite side of the
street.

The young friends of the Misses Minna
and Laura Collette, daughters of A. M.
Collette, gave them a pleasant surprise
at their father's residence on North
Eighteenth street, and improved the
evening with dancing and music.

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The Bees Letter Box

A Hint Worth Taking.
OMAHA, May 24.—To the editor of The
Bee: It is probably true that the bill
board nuisance is here to stay, but for
the benefit of residents of various parts
of the city it is hoped that the new city
administration will see that posters on
the billboards are not torn off and per-
mitted to blow into people's yards. It is
hard enough to have them around your
house, but it is worse to be compelled
every day to pick up large sheets of paper
that are decorating the different parts
of your yard and catching in whatever
shrubbery you have.

It is also hoped that the new city ad-
ministration will see that "griddle cake"
signs and "pan cake" signs of the cheap-
est materials possible cease to decorate
Farnam street, the principal street of the
city. Such signs give the city a cheap
look and its administration and its peo-
ple a cheap sentiment. CITIZEN.

How Lucky We Are.

OMAHA, May 25.—To the Editor of The
Bee: Did it ever strike you that man is
a wonderful creature beyond all under-
standing?

Through almost 6,000 years of recorded
history he has stumbled blindly along an
unhunted way, flustering himself in his
ignorance, conceiving that his hindlers
were really progress, until now suddenly
split his voices a host of omniscient in-
dividuals to warn him of the ever-present
dangers that beset his path. How, do
you suppose, did weak and tottering hu-
manity ever come up from the muck that
surrounds the beginnings without the as-
sistance of these all-knowing persons,
who now so benignly spread the benison
of their presence over the race, and so
graciously assume charge of its every ac-
tivity?

We have always looked upon the man
who first ate an oyster as a hero; poor
chap, he was only foolhardy, falling his
luciferian system with typhoid bacilli. And
so on, we may trace our 1001 after an-
other to his shattered doom, as it breaks
against the irrefragable wisdom of these
latter day apostles of exact and immut-
able knowledge. What a blessing that
we have them!

Four ages past: Days that we had no
Teddy to make bright the lives of boys
pollen, weakly battling against the prima-
ry curse! Times that knew no old Doc
Wiley, who might have spared an inconceiv-
able deal of suffering to the cave man
by pointing out to him the faulty dietary
that cut him off in his prime. Ages that
had no Gif Fincho to point out that
"willful waxes makes woful wreat"; think
of the unnumbered forest trees that fell
before the unthinking ax, proud in the
possession his first flint axe, and of
the havoc wrought by him, when he had
struggled up a little higher, and became
possessed of a metallic tool. And others
who might be mentioned—how did man
ever reach his present state of develop-
ment without them? And how much
quicker he would have come along, had
they been there to guide and direct him!

Isn't he lucky? OLD FOOT.

American's Annual Fire Loss.

New York Tribune.
It is hard to get Americans to take
the problem of fire prevention seriously.
They are optimistic and careless about
imperiling life and property through un-
safe building methods. They prefer to
insure against individual misfortune and
then take chances, forgetting that that
method involves far greater expense than
warring directly against the ravages of
fire would involve.

Climate undoubtedly
has much to do with our larger use of
inflammable material. But the great dis-
proportion between our fire loss and that
of Europe is due to hurry and lack of
interest. One way to cut down the high
cost of living is to stop offering more
than \$200,000,000 annually to the flames.

Mortising Forgetful Skulls.

Pittsburgh Dispatch.
If a bone pressing on the brain will
cause the owner of the bone and brain to
forget, it is suggested by contemporaries
that it would be valuable to trust mag-
nates and political candidates. For that
purpose it would be wholly superfluous.
The bone pressure treatment can be
commended to the people who are dis-
posed to rely on promises from those
sources.

Stalking the Nominations.

Pittsburgh Dispatch.
Now it is reported Underwood, Harmon
and Wilson are in a combine against
Clark. The democratic roll seems to be
to combine against the fellow who seems
to be in the lead. Hence the sagacity of
Mr. Bryan, imbued from experience, in
staking the nomination rather than pur-
suing it with a brass band.

A Great Mission.

Houston Post.
It was unnecessary for the president to
state the mission upon which Archie Butt
went. We all see now that he embarked
upon a great mission and that the light
is shining upon the upward trail to glory
everlasting.

Announcement to Bryan.

Chicago News.
Whether Taft or Roosevelt be nomi-
nated, the democratic spellbinders will
have their scrapbooks full of amazing
accusations made against the nominees
on the authority of the country's next
most eminent republican.

A Gentle Reminder.

Indianapolis News.
The announcement that the government
is going to dissolve the powder trust will
once more remind some people of their
long held conviction that the best way
to dissolve a trust is to soak it good and
hard.

Truth Outrives Fiction.

New York Tribune.
The incident of the body of the king or
Denmark lying unrecognized in the
morgue of a strange city proves once
more that truth is stranger and more
venturesome than fiction ever dares to be.

What's the Use?

Wall Street Journal.
What's the use of a university educa-
tion in business, when the Chicago wheat
traders who made fortunes on the recent
rice don't know that wheat is a dry
indecent unilocular carvopoda?

A Wall Street View

Roosevelt and Bryan the
Opposing Leaders, is the
Word Sent to the Bankers.

New York Financial World.
Occasionally Wall street has a way of
finding out from the real, at-the-front
insiders in national political affairs just
what is on the program for presidential
nominations. Lately some eminent Wall
street bankers received advices from high
political leaders that the latter were
well satisfied, from various political com-
binations already made, that the con-
ventions of the two leading parties would
name Roosevelt and Bryan as opponents
in the presidential race.

The situation had been most thoroughly
canvassed, it was declared, and all other
candidates in either party had been
finally eliminated save the two old
rivals. The statement was also edited by
these same bankers who have perhaps
good reason for feeling aggrieved at
Roosevelt, that of the two men they
would prefer to see Bryan win. The ar-
gument is that Roosevelt long ago out-
did Bryan in radicalism, that he would
go further by far than the Nebraskan
ever went in efforts to overturn existing
systems of finance and government and
the judiciary system, and that, moreover,
Bryan had become greatly settled and
sobered in character and opinion, had
dropped his old free silver heresies and
could be depended upon, in a crisis, to
refrain from advocating disturbing and
radical changes in the laws or govern-
mental policies. In other words, he was
the safer of the two men.

The spectacle of Wall street financiers
turning to Bryan to save them from
Rooseveltism is both touching and novel,
and the above program, which has been
outlined to the Financial World by a
seriously minded representative of one
of the greatest banking institutions of
the country, seems peculiarly startling,
but stranger things have happened. We
venture to suggest, however, that the
politicians who ventured to disclose the
inside program to the Wall street finan-
ciers are counting on possessing more
power or influence than they really en-
joy. He must, indeed, be a Napoleonic
ruler in political affairs who can thus
early say that Roosevelt and Bryan are
to once more face each other for a strug-
gle over the greatest prize on earth.

Though delegates have in past pre-
sidential years been open to the suspicion
of having been made the mere puppets of
contending politicians, it is inconceivable
that in this year of political surprises
and extraordinary developments the two
men who are to contest for the presi-
dency should have been selected so far
in advance of the national conventions.
Public opinion and the delegates will still
have a little something to say, we firmly
believe. Nevertheless, we are in the
midst of the most extraordinary political
contest since Washington's first in-
auguration; the real consequences no man
can foresee.

RELIC OF CIVIL WAR.

General Grant's Telegram on Sher-
man's Famous March.
New York Evening Post.

A telegram of General U. S. Grant of
great historical importance is to be sold
at auction in New York City. It is dated
at City Point, Va., October 12, 1864, is
addressed to General Sherman, and reads
in part as follows:

"On reflection I think better of your
proposition. It will be much better to go
south than to be forced to