

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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State of Nebraska, County of Douglas... Dwight Williams, circulation manager... Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have the Bee mailed to them.

Still, anyone who has not Christmas-shopped should do it now.

That was a fine Christmas present Miss Gould gave Mr. Shepard.

If Kansas City deports its thugs, Omaha must not receive them.

No use talking, Mr. Morgan's story is good reading, anyway. It has that much merit.

The shitan has gone to his dictionary to look up the definition of "armistice."

Those soul gowns, they say, portray melody and poetry. Yes, if they are in the figures.

Omaha has several big building projects ahead of it, insuring continued forward march.

President-elect Wilson might well save one of those gibbets for the blackmail letter writers.

"Better theater ventilation" is called for. Yes, among other theatrical things that are needed.

A few big banks are said to control \$25,000,000,000, yet Mr. Morgan assures us there is no money trust.

The Moslems are doing their best to nullify the spirit of the Christian festival—"peace on earth, good will toward men."

If, after supplying your own, you have some gifts left, remember the little ones to whom Santa Claus sometimes fails to come.

Could there be a more pathetic picture than a home with little ones forgotten by Santa Claus? "Freely ye have received, freely give."

Those democratic job hunters will have to keep their stockings hung up until after President Wilson takes charge of the gift distribution.

That Wyoming man who found in the furs of animals unmistakable signs of the coldest winter on record ought to look again to make sure.

Perhaps no one man can monopolize all the money in the world, but it is fortunate it is so, otherwise everyone would want to be that one man.

Congress having adjourned for the holidays, our statesmen should be able to recover from their fatigue of labor in time to enjoy the Christmas cheer.

No inaugural festivities for Governor Morehead is the edict. Wonder if he wants the festivities to mark the rejoicings of his exit from office.

If the ultimate consumer ever encountered Mr. Coal Trust in the basement after the lights were out he might not take the supreme court's end of the argument.

The rain, wind and snow encountered by the New York suffragettes walking to Albany would be almost as much of a hardship to some women as doing without the ballot.

Footpads have become so menacing in Kansas City that the chief of police has issued orders to his men to shoot them if necessary. The first fire missed the man, but brought home the bacon in the booty, which the fleeing robber dropped.

Most men who had escaped what Albert T. Patrick has would be content to let well enough alone, but the Texas lawyer insists on landing the fortune of the man he was convicted of killing, and with the fortune he would get his vindication.

A Premature Move.

Mayor Dahlman's proposal to call an election to choose members of a charter commission as the first step toward a home-rule charter for Omaha seems to us a premature move.

The mayor proceeds on the theory that the newly adopted home rule constitutional amendment is self-executing. But, irrespective of that, we believe the charter commission should wait until after the legislature has time to act, for this good reason, that the new charter when it comes should not be a charter for Omaha, but a charter for Greater Omaha.

It goes without saying that if the proposed home-made charter is to govern Greater Omaha, including Dundee, Benson and South Omaha, or any of them, their people should have the same participation in the framing of the charter that the people of Omaha have.

The Bee suggests that a way can, and should, be devised by which the charter commission will be chosen by an election open to all the voters of the entire area that is to be included in Greater Omaha, and the charter, when formulated, be submitted for acceptance or rejection in the same manner.

The home rule amendment opens the door to the attainment of the Greater Omaha under one municipal government, to which all have been looking forward, and that opportunity should not be foreclosed by over-hasty action.

George W. Doane.

The death of Hon. George W. Doane marks the removal of another builder of Omaha from the fast-fading ranks of the pioneers. Judge Doane's contribution to the upbuilding of the city does not take the form of monumental structures of stone or steel, but consists of helping to lay the indispensable foundations of sturdy citizenship and public spirit, without which no progress could have been made.

Mr. Morgan and His Power.

Even if it be true that Mr. Morgan controls half the working capital of the country, he is a modest man. He does not feel his power, so he told the house money trust committee. But that does not disprove his power, if other people feel it. Mr. Morgan denies the existence or possibility of a trust controlling money and credit. Neither he nor any set of men or banks, he says, could effect such control.

Thomas Brennan.

Thomas Brennan, who has just died in quiet unobtrusiveness, was world-famed thirty years ago as the militant secretary of the Irish Land League. The younger generation does not realize the fierceness of the battle for Irish home rule that raged at that time, and the self-sacrifice made by, and for, the patriots in defense of their liberty.

Ultimatum to Mexico.

President Taft has sent our ambassador to Mexico with a personal demand upon President Madero to end hostilities menacing life and property. The entire message, of course, is not made public, but its tenor suggests our ultimatum, which, it would seem, has been delayed as long as prudent. The United States has surpassed all precedent for patience, enduring a good deal more from Mexicans than should have been asked of it.

Madero has had all the time he could ask to secure control of the situation.

Madero has had all the time he could ask to secure control of the situation. While the stage of organized warfare is not active, according to reliable information a condition of murder and rapine exists which is indescribably worse. Whether Madero's failure to cope with conditions is due to inability or indisposition matters little to other nations with life and property at stake. The time has come to press things with Mexico and that is about all there is to it.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

DECEMBER 21.

Thirty Years Ago—

A new social and dancing club has been organized entitled the "Paxtonians," composed exclusively of gentlemen who reside in the Paxton. The membership, which is limited to twenty, includes Messrs. W. H. McCullough, M. T. Barlow, Kirkendall, John T. Clarke, George P. Bemis, J. D. Kitchin, J. G. Taylor, John S. Collins, Metcalf, Levi Carter, P. P. Shelby, H. B. Whitney, Charles McCormick, W. A. Paxton, Monroe, L. Bradford, Dr. Grossman, Luther Drake, Butler and Edward Cornish.

The Omaha Glee Club has secured the services of Miss Mabel Dutton, one of the finest soprano singers in Chicago, for its fourth annual concert.

Mr. Henry Clay, superintendent of the white lead works, is the recipient of a handsome gold watch and gold-headed cane presented by the employes through Walter Blake, the oldest of them.

Twenty Years Ago—

Paul Morton of Chicago arrived in the city and registered at the Millard.

Miss Hattie Ten Brock of Atchison, Kan., was visiting her friend, Mrs. J. E. Quick, 302 Burt street.

Hon. James Whitehead of Broken Bow, the gentleman who introduced Congressman Kern's margin so narrowly in the Sixth district, was in the city, stopping at the Millard.

Edwin H. Crowell, a well known young attorney, died of pneumonia at St. Joseph's hospital after an lingering illness of some length. He was 32 years of age and was born in Australia. His father represented the United States government.

G. F. Swift the packer, accompanied by his son, G. F. Swift, arrived in town from Kansas City, where they visited their plant. They looked over the packing district at South Omaha and left for Chicago, saying their visit had no significance.

Provided public sentiment was up to the proper pitch, an early settlement of the Union depot project seemed likely, as the result of the introduction of an ordinance in the city council designed to bring things to a head.

The Board of Education decided to seek authority through the state legislature to secure free text books.

Judge Ben S. Baker and Mrs. Baker were in the city for a short visit, having come from their home at Albuquerque, N. M., where the judge was holding down a federal bench.

James Henry, 54 years old, a negro cook at the Union Depot hotel, fell dead from heart disease while at work. He left but one known relative, Mrs. Paul Murray, 2221 Parker street.

The funeral of Mrs. William Hysham was held at the residence, Twenty-third and Burt streets, by Rev. G. H. Schieb. The body was laid at rest in Forest Lawn. Several friends from Red Oak, Ia., were present.

The organization of Retail Clerks' union, No. 224, was effected at Labor temple by Wilson. Fourth vice president of the International Association of Machinists, acting as organizer for the American Federation of Labor. He was the man in charge of the Union Pacific machinists' strike. The clerks elected as their president, secretary and treasurer, respectively, William S. Striker, Miss Florence Wheeler and Miss Alma Anderson.

Terrific snow and snow over this section of country interfered with railroad traffic to such an extent as to place trains at their mercy.

These are the times that try tightwad souls.

Uncle Sam's sugar bill for 1912 reached \$100,000,000, not counting the cost of \$700,000,000 candy cases which will be found broken in \$700,000 stockings on Christmas morning.

A Philadelphia man told the court that his wife was a suffragist and a user of tobacco, and the court excused him from paying alimony. The court probably figured that she made more than he did.

Prof. Willis J. Moore of the United States weather bureau is being urged for a cabinet position as secretary of agriculture. A petition to President-elect Wilson recommending the appointment has been signed by 200 grain dealers.

Fritz Augustus Helme, once known as the copper king of Butte, Mont., has been touched for \$100,000 a year by his wife, Mrs. Bernice O. Helme. Divorce decree and alimony award was affirmed by the New York supreme court last Monday.

Mrs. Matthew T. Scott, president general of the national society, Daughters of the American Revolution, who is one of the largest land owners in Illinois, sends forty-five of her tenants each year, at her own expense, to the agricultural college at Champaign, Ill.

It is estimated that 15,000,000 tons of energy is wasted in the unutilized water power of this country. Until this is a trifle when one thinks of the windmills that might be kept merrily going with the breeze annually worse than wasted by the million American orators.

Collecting pitchers is the fad to which Mrs. James Menley of Knoxville, Tenn., is devoted. She first became interested in the idea when 5 years of age, and today she has a collection of 1,322 pitchers, which she has either bought or received as presents. She has pitchers from all over the world.

IN OTHER LANDS THAN OURS

Some Old World Affairs of New World Interest.

Strike Against War.

Organized labor's one-day strike as a protest against the war spirit in France was not as impressive as the projectors anticipated. Outside of Paris, Lyons and smaller industrial centers, where the Syndicalist General Confederation of Labor is a working force, the strike was not felt. Even in the industrial centers the numbers participating in the strike were not formidable.

Rake-off at Monte Carlo.

A recent book throwing a favorable light on the notorious gambling establishment at Monte Carlo shows that the house cleared from its dupes last year the gross sum of \$2,000,000. Whoever broke the bank, as song and story alleges, did not clean up more than \$50,000, as that sum, according to this authority, is the record loss in one day, while the record winnings in one day is \$100,000. For the gambling monopoly which the Palais de Mer corporation enjoys it pays \$200,000 yearly to the reigning prince. But that is not all. It must also pay 3 per cent on the first \$500,000 of gross receipts from its dupes and 5 per cent on all further winnings. As the present annual receipts of the casino are over \$5,000,000, the prince's total income from the gambling concession alone now exceeds \$500,000. In addition the casino company has to contribute large sums to public enterprises of various kinds.

Divorce for the Well-to-Do.

Divorce is one of the luxuries of high life in England. Those who have the price can secure a decree with comparative ease. But the price puts divorce beyond the reach of the average family, possibly working more good than harm because of the price. But that does not mitigate the force of the allegation, too true the world over, that courts are more accessible to the rich than to the poor. The fact is underscored in the recent report of the British commission on divorce. According to the report the average uncontented divorce in London costs about \$253. A contested divorce costs anywhere from \$250 to \$500. The commission, in urging a limit of \$50 for uncontented divorce, says: "We can conceive nothing more likely to produce a sense of injustice and hardship, nor more calculated to bring the law into contempt among the people, nor more inimical to the morality and best interests of the country than that a system of judicature should remain unaltered which affords the opportunity of redress to those who possess the means to use it, but by reason merely of cost and inconvenience denies it to those who do not possess such means."

Crossing the Wireless.

Serious doubt of the efficacy in war-times of Great Britain's globe-encircling system of wireless communication is expressed in many quarters. The system now nearing completion links London to Egypt, South Africa, India and Australia. These points are already connected by cable lines, but the wireless system is essential to naval operations and for communication between sea and land. Effective working, it is feared, will be neutralized at critical moments by hostile stations. Germany is to have at Nauzen, near Berlin, the most powerful wireless apparatus in the world and a mast higher than the Eiffel tower. The alliance between the Marconi company and the German Telefunken has given critics of the English government's wireless contract opportunity to point out the danger of employing a system controlled by the triple alliance. One British writer goes so far as to say: "If we were at war our wireless service, on which, according to Herbert Samuel, the fate of the British empire may at any day depend, could be 'tuned out' at fifty different points."

A Mission from China.

Dr. Sun Yat Sen, provisional president of the Chinese republic and now minister of railroads, is booked for a tour of the world early in the new year in the interest of the government. The Americanized leader of celestial republicanism is favorably known to many public men in the United States, and will utilize his knowledge of American affairs in pressing upon the Washington government the urgency of official recognition of the new republic. Why this has not been given is one of the mysteries of diplomacy. According to the advance notices the doctor carries in his grip a number of projects dripping with fat, together with concessions and privileges calculated to lure American money into profitable investments, besides aiding in fulfilling the American ideal of nourishing Liberty's latest baby. If these inducements do not land the favor of friendly recognition, Dr. Sun's reported allowance of \$1,000 a day for expenses, deftly dispensed in festivities, insures an outpouring of oratorical good will that can hardly fail to tickle the folks at home. Washington is inclined to be cynical regarding the mission. Doubt is expressed as to the extent of the powers conferred on the minister and the object of the mission. In some quarters it is said that President Yuan Shi Kai has some mysterious cards up his sleeves and withholds them from play until Sun Yat Sen is safely out of the country, supplied with ample money for enjoyment. Cynicism is such a regular state of mind in Washington, however, that it halls a new object with uncomprehending glee, meanwhile awaiting the ex-

The Bee's Letter Box

Annexation.

OMAHA, Dec. 20.—To the Editor of The Bee: Twenty-four years ago my home was in Chicago, but the division line between the city and village of Hyde Park, the largest village in the world, with a population of nearly 100,000. The question of annexation had been discussed pro and con for years, but there was a strong sentiment adverse to the union, in Hyde Park. Many fallacious arguments were presented why this natural union should not take place, nearly all of them growing out of the most narrow selfishness as a desire to continue in office, for it was the office holders of the village that most strenuously led the opposition. James R. Mann, who is the present leader of the minority in congress, was the village attorney of Hyde Park with a salary of \$3,000. If I remember correctly, a good salary for a young lawyer. He spoke night after night, all over the village and in the extreme south end of the city in opposition to annexation. Many evils were predicted and many really feared the result would be disastrous. I spoke night after night in reply to Mr. Mann, and by my course gave temporary offense to some of my friends. But the union was consummated, and from the very first it was a most popular combination and I doubt if one in ten of those most opposed can now be found ready to express regret over the combination. The real estate in Hyde Park immediately began to improve in value and also the visible improvements in the way of better streets, better water supply and better fire protection, naturally led to the erection of many new buildings, so that from the day of annexation Hyde Park began to improve as it had never done before. I have no doubt but the result of uniting Omaha and South Omaha would be attended with like benefits. I am not a resident of either, but am the owner of real estate in South Omaha, and therefore am interested financially. A few years ago it was notified that if I did not make certain improvements to two old stores I owned there, they would be condemned by the city building inspector. Hence as I was a non resident, I called upon him, and to be sure the work would be satisfactory to him, gave him the contract to make the building safe and satisfactory for the sum of \$200. He did the work, and if I was correctly informed about the time the workmen were employed and the value of the old material used, I paid him at least three times as much as the work and the material were worth, but I still hold his receipt for that \$200, for which he guarantees that the buildings are safe and satisfactory to himself as inspector. But the next time I visited South Omaha, I found that the buildings were condemned by the same inspector, and later that they had been taken down and the material confiscated, by whom I have never been able to learn. The old adage of suing a beggar and catching a louse, explains why I did not resort to some legal measures to gain redress. That I believe is a sample of some if not many of the official and official acts of South Omaha. That every property holder in South Omaha would be benefited by annexation, I have not the shadow of doubt. I believe, too, that all the law abiding citizens, save those who hope to hold office, will find in every respect that South Omaha will be better governed, have better streets, better officers and make a more desirable place for business or residence, when it is part of the city to which it is indebted for existence. Our Lord said, "What God hath joined together, let no man put asunder." Omaha and South Omaha are in the order of providence one, in locality, business interest and prospect. South Omaha would never have existed, but that Omaha made it a good shipping point for stock. Ultimately a union is inevitable, as it is natural and just to all parties. It is far better that the union should be consummated at once rather than be a subject for discussion and division of feeling for months and years to come. Possibly some place might be found for the office holders, who alone will be temporarily inconvenienced. But it is a great pity to keep in existence a separate city and organization, simply to make places for office seekers.

Yutan in Self-Defense.

YUTAN, Neb., Dec. 18.—To the Editor of The Bee: In The Bee of the 15th I notice a little slam on Yutan by a Lincoln man. We are good-natured fellows here, and bull moovers at that, and old Yutan has been on the map too long to stand still and take a slap without retaliating. How funny Lincoln would feel if the wind-gusher on brother Hennington's farm should prove to be the real thing and belch forth oil and gas. Lincoln would then become a suburb of Yutan. However, we are a wonderful well down here, which belch forth sulphur gas in such quantities that one might think it an outlet of a pipe line from Lincoln, or the inferno we read about. Whether the burning licks of fire and brimstone is below it is a question. This wind-shooter is but eighty-three feet deep and has been belching sulphur gas for three years. The state might do well to investigate, for there is something down in the bowels of the earth causing old mother earth much pain and the doctor should be called. C. C. HOWARD.

Tax of Vice?

St. Louis Globe Democrat.

In Omaha it is suggested to tax a smoking chimney. Is a tax easier to collect than a fine?

SUNNY GEMS.

"Have you made up your mind to give any Christmas presents this year?"

"I have already done my share toward giving something useful," replied Mr. Itus Wadsworth. "I gave a man change for a \$5 bill."—Chicago Post.

Young Man—You don't remember me, I see. I am the young man who sloped with your daughter a few years ago.

Old Man—Well, what can I do for you? Young Man—I came back to offer you my congratulations, sir.—Boston Transcript.

"I'd hate to have one of these fashionable wives. Look at poor Jaggs! He never sees his from one week's end to the other."

"Oh, you're mistaken. She invites him to all her 'at homes'."—Baltimore American.

"I see the president of the Fifteenth National bank has been forced to resign," said Binks.

"What was the trouble?"

"His writing was too legible," explained Jinks. "Why, any one could decipher his signature."—Boston Advertiser.

"Woman is considered the weaker vessel," remarked, "and yet"

"Well," he queried, "as she hesitated, 'And yet,' she continued, 'man is often broken.'"—London Opinion.

"How do you know your speech made such a profound impression?" asked the doubting friend. "There wasn't very much cheering."

"That's just the point," replied Senator Sorghum. "I am one of the few orators to whom my constituents would rather listen than hear themselves applaud."—Washington Star.

"A strong, healthy looking man like you oughtn't to be begging for vitality. Haven't you any regular trade?"

"Yes, ma'am; I peddle fly traps for a livin'."

"Oh, I recognize you now. You were here last July, claiming to be an ice cutter."—Chicago Tribune.

"You look fatter. Quit selling copper stock?"

"Yes, now I'm selling stock in the orange grove. Every morning the com-

pany furnishes me a big orange for a sample, and at the end of the day I eat the sample."—Pittsburgh Post.

"We want a man in congress who can hurry reforms along," said the churchly citizen.

"What kind of reform are you favoring?"

"Oh, no particular kind. Only I like to see things stirred up so that I'll be sure to find something interesting to read in the newspapers."—Washington Star.

First Lawyer—I was looking over my boy's geometry lesson last night. I was quite interested in that proposition, that the three angles of a triangle are equal to two right angles.

Second Lawyer—That isn't very complicated.

First Lawyer—No, but I was trying to think what a man could do if he had the other side of the case.—Puck.

MOTHER'S COOKING.

Harry M. Dean in New York Sun.

She never took domestic science and she's rather short on style.

But she can cook a dinner that would make an Indian smile.

Plain old cooking is nothing fancy, but it's honest through and through.

And you'll find no shams a-hiding to come mocking back at you.

She never took domestic science and she doesn't read the same.

She learned hers in a kitchen, and she knows the little game.

Learned it in a country kitchen, where the best is always made.

And she scores the foolish fripperies that the college cooks parade.

She's a pupil of experience and she certainly is a cook.

She doesn't have to follow what's been written in a book.

She knows each little crook and turn, she never makes a test.

But the cooking she produces is the kind that's ranked as best.

When you've tried all sorts of places, when you're sick of what they give.

When you know the pleasure's vanished and you only eat to live;

You just go until you're hungry, then you'll want real food to eat.

And you'll bank on mother's cooking, for you know it can't be beat.

Advertisement for Perfection Smokeless Oil Heater. Includes image of the heater and text: 'THIS PERFECTION SMOKELESS OIL HEATER Will Heat Your Spare Room. It means a lot to your guests to find a cosy, well-warmed room awaiting them. A Perfection Smokeless Oil Heater is the very thing to drive away chill and damp in a hurry. No smoke or smell with a Perfection. Just clean, glowing warmth at a minute's notice. A Perfection Heater gives nine hours' comfort on a single gallon of oil. Handsome, yet inexpensive. Dealers everywhere, or write for descriptive circular. Get a Perfection Smokeless Oil Heater now, and be comfortable all the rest of the winter. STANDARD OIL COMPANY (Nebraska) Omaha'

Advertisement for Any Portrait on a handsome burnished copper Watch-fob. Includes image of a watch-fob and text: 'Get One for Him for Xmas... Any Portrait on a handsome burnished copper Watch-fob. Price \$1.00. Reproduced from any photograph you send—engraved on the metal and absolutely indestructible. A fob that may be worn by any one who dresses in good taste, at the same time a lasting novel picture. Send photo and \$1.00. Photo will be returned with care. BEE PUBLISHING CO. Engraving Dept. BEE BLDG., OMAHA, NEB. Orders may be left at Bee Office.'

Advertisement for Jo Lincoln. Includes text: 'Jo Lincoln Leave Omaha—8:05 a.m.—1:50 p.m.—4:40 p.m.—10:47 p.m. Arrive Lincoln—9:45 a.m.—3:33 p.m.—6:45 p.m.—12:32 a.m. Every Day via Rock Island Lines. Tickets and reservations 1325 Farnam Street, Cor. 14th. Phone: Douglas 428, Nebraska. Rock Island'

Advertisement for Jack London Short Story. Includes text: 'If you want to read a JACK LONDON SHORT STORY During the next twelve months you will have to read The Semi-Monthly Magazine Section With your Sunday Bee Next Sunday'