THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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FEBRUARY CIRCULATION.

50,823

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 for the month of February, 1913, was 50,823. DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 7th day of March, 1913. ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public. (Seal.)

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

City charter convention election today.

March means to prove itself the best little lamb in the Nebraska fold.

The two remaining Madero brothers are talking of another revolt—just talking of it.

Mother Eve at any rate was not bothered with the problem of how to live virtuously on $5 a week.

Is the fellow who persists in jamming the aisle of the street car the one who complains most about "bad service?"

No wines or liquors are to be served at the White House in the next four years. Still, that will be no deprivation to most of us.

The immediate cause of our fatal hotel fire has not been discovered, but the effects are apparent enough to call for certain corrective methods.

The judges of the district court have told what fine fellows the lawyers are who practice before them. It's up to the lawyers now to say a few kind words about the judges.

Only five bills passed by the present session of the Nebraska legislature up to the governor so far. But then one of the five appropriated the money to pay the legislative salaries.

A California woman caused a serious explosion by lighting a furnace in which natural gas had accumulated. What if someone were to strike a match in the halls of the Nebraska legislature?

For sixteen years we had one Wilson in the cabinet, and now another Wilson sits at the table. With this record and precedent, no presidential cabinet of the future will pass muster as genuine without a Wilson in it.

Our amiable democratic contemporary already sees a good democrat appointed by our democratic governor to hold down that $3,000 election commissioner job, and cannot restrain its exuberant joy over the prospect.

Yes, The Bee is against labeling the voters of Omaha as more dishonest than the voters of other cities and towns in the state. If a Bertillon system is good for Omaha voters, why not let it be applied generally without favor or discrimination?

A young woman representing the federal bureau of labor as its special agent has come to Omaha to study retail prices in connection with the high cost of living. She should have no trouble in finding them providing she has brought a step-ladder with her.

Your city government touches you closer than your state government or your federal government. That is why you are vitally interested in the coming home-rule charter convention, and should help elect the men who are to make the charter.

Collier's Weekly declares we have reached the point in this country where the native birth rate must be speeded up to counterbalance an impending falling off in immigration. Yes, but the immigrants have as a rule been the ones who have expedited our native birth rate.

Some one has called attention to the fact that during the administration of President Wilson as chief executive of Princeton not a single negro student was permitted to enter that institution. It is no wonder that our colored citizens are a little apprehensive as to where they come in.

If You Do, Vote for Heafey.

If you want to continue to pay the present exorbitant water rates and endorse the repudiation by the Water board of its promise to reduce them, vote for Heafey.

If you approve the secret water meter deal that makes you pay $3 profit for a $6 meter, vote for Heafey.

If you favor special rebates on water bills for personal pets, or political pull, vote for Heafey.

If you endorse that private sale of $7,000,000 water bonds for $200,000 less than could have been had through competitive bids, vote for Heafey.

If you favor the scheme to make the Water board separate and distinct, and superior to and beyond the control of the people of Omaha, vote for Heafey.

Federal or State Control.

The country is justified in assuming from President Wilson's inaugural utterances that he means to promote development and conservation of our natural resources along aggressive lines. He could not do less and live up to the platform pledges of his party in the campaign last year. The president deplores our "inexcusable waste" and "shamefully prodigal" habits with reference to our resources, the human cost of which he implores the nation now to stop and count. But the question propounds itself, what will be the tendency of the president as between federal and state jurisdiction? Will he yield to a disposition of democrats in congress to divert a large measure of control to the states, or will he favor the more practical policy of national control of national resources? Both his inaugural address and the platform are silent on this point. The inference most natural from both is that federal authority will be paramount, with perhaps just a flavor of the old state's rights idea. The country has come to view conservation as a federal question and, while due rights of states must be recognized, it seems hardly probable that federal control will not become the policy of the new administration.

Commission Plan in Lincoln.

Having elected to come under the commission plan of city government, Lincoln is soon to choose the officers who are to inaugurate the new departure for the city second in size in the state.

As applied to Lincoln, the commission place provides for five elective commissioners, or councilmen, who are to receive $2,000 a year, and are to conduct all the affairs of the city without any exceptions, and almost without limitations. One of the $2,000 commissioners will be good enough in Lincoln to run the water department along with several other branches of the public service, and in this Lincoln will have the advantage of escaping conflicts and clashes between independent municipal authorities, and avoid costly duplications of work.

Under the commission plan, too, Lincoln will for the first time employ the so-called nonpartisan ballot in a municipal election. It will be interesting to see whether the experience there, as here, produces a contest merely between groups of candidates self-linked together across party lines, and divided purely on local issues.

In an effort to arouse public interest in the impending change, the Lincoln Journal hits the nail on the head when it says:

It is now admitted that there is nothing miraculous about this system, and that it is just as important to have good men in the offices as it is under the old form of municipal government.

Hearst and Sulzer.

Mr. Hearst is pounding away in his newspapers at Governor Sulzer as vigorously as if he had always opposed him. He has recently excoriated him editorially under the black-type caption, "Sulzer Has Put the Job Through for Tammany and Wall Street," with this declaration in the course of his fulmination:

Governor Sulzer's pretense of independence of the Tammany alliance with big thieves and little thieves was dissipated at the first hint from Fourteenth street.

During the campaign for the nomination and election Sulzer was adopted as Hearst's special candidate and praised as the one patriot qualified by experience, association and aspiration for governor of the Empire state. His election was hailed as a Hearst triumph and was undoubtedly due in some measure to Hearst influence. But now the tables are turned and Sulzer is denounced as the pliant tool of Tammany and other evil influences.

The Dodge-Hitchcock-Howell Bertillon system of registering voters is specially designed to make it difficult for foreign-born citizens to vote, and to disfranchise those who have not had the privilege of schooling. It practically establishes new qualifications for voters in Omaha and South Omaha that are not demanded of voters outside of these cities.

Note that to save that part of their bill designed to make them immune from the home charter, the Water boarders are now ready to trade off the revenue from the stock yards, which they originally insisted was the only thing they were fighting for and would never yield.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

COMPILED FROM BEE FILES

MARCH 11.

Thirty Years Ago—

A feast was spread at the Millard hotel in honor of Charles McDonald, the Farnam street merchant, about to leave for New York for a prolonged absence, during which time he is to annex as his wife, Miss Anna Ryan, a beautiful and accomplished lady of that city. The gentlemen who gathered to give him a proper send-off were: Messrs. P. P. Shelby, John Rush, N. B. Falconer, C. V. Gallagher, John McCreary, M. A. McNamara, C. F. Brennan, E. A. O'Brien, William Gentlemen, F. D. Cooper, Frank Dellone, John M. McMahon, S. P. Reynolds, R. E. Rickerby, Thomas Tallon, W. A. L. Gibbon and M. McGuire of New York.

Henry Siert, one of the substantial members of the German colony, died, leaving a wife and three children.

William A. Higgins, president of the Omaha City mission explains that part of the provisions collected at the schools for the mission have been diverted through misrepresentation, and appeals for further contributions to replenish the cupboard that is bare.

City Attorney Howe is of the opinion that the new viaduct law is unconstitutional.

Andreen & Valein have been awarded the contract to construct in the basement of their new bank a series of safety vaults under the supervision of A. D. Avery of Chicago, to cost $12,000.

Twenty Years Ago—

John Rush, marshal of the day, gave out the line of march and a few other details agreed on for the celebration of St. Patrick's day, which was to be upon an elaborate scale. Richard O'Keeffe was place in charge of the procession.

Matt Gering, the Plattsmouth lawyer, addressed the Jacksonian club in the evening on the "Issues of the day."

David Bennison of the firm of Bennison Bros. was making fine progress with the erection of his $12,000 residence on South Twenty-ninth street, just north of Leavenworth.

Rev. W. Franklin Smith, pastor of First Universal church, resigned.

The citizens in that part of the city known as Gibson made emphatic protests to Mayor Bemis against the practice of the South Omaha stockyards dumping their offal there.

Ex-Governor James E. Boyd took occasion to deny knowledge or authorship of reflections upon Secretary of Agriculture J. Sterling Morton, attributed to him in a Chicago dispatch. He had never heard of or seen the assertion, he said, until he read them in the newspapers, and they did not represent his views of Nebraska's distinguished citizen.

Ten Years Ago—

Union Pacific passenger and freight trains collided at Gilmore at 10:30 p. m., killing C. P. Hayes, fireman on the freight, who lived at the Metropolitan hotel, and injuring Joe Hawley, engineer of the passenger, who lived at the Burlington hotel, and Mr. Church, a baggageman. The collision occurred at the end of the double track.

Miss Alma Eggers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Eggers of Millard, and Mr. Frank Hanson of Omaha, were married by Rev. Charles W. Harned at the home of A. S. Hallenbeck, 624 South Sixteenth street. The groom was a motorman for the street railway company. About thirty guests attended the ceremony.

Miss Maud Pearson, head of the reference department of the Omaha library, resigned to accept a position with the Steel club library at Joliet, Ill.

Hazel E. Cochran, 11 years of age, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elbert H. Cochran, 1007 South Thirty-sixth street, died at the family home.

Mrs. George Hardy of Perry, Ia., was the guest of her sister-in-law, Mrs. H. A. Haskell, 1826 North Eighteenth street.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Love were preparing to open their country place near the Country club during the coming week.

People Talked About

Uncle Joe Cannon is going on a trip around the world. Pleasure beckons the old warrior to scenes that will blot out of his mind Washington's spectacle of woe.

Parading suffragists are urged to temper their indignation with the thought that the democrats haven't had a real blowout for sixteen long, weary years, and just naturally overdid things in Washington. A few fingers of the wine of charity will help some.

Medicine Hat doffs its cady to Calgary as a weather factory. During a recent fire in the latter town, Medicine Hat vouches for the statement that a stream of water directed at a third-story window was frozen on the spot and the imperiled people on that floor slid down the ice pole to safety. Can you beat it?

Dr. O. W. Richardson of the department of physics in Princeton university, has been elected to membership in the Royal Society of Great Britain, an honorary scientific body. Dr. Richardson is honored because of his important experimental discoveries fundamental to the electric and kinematic theory of matter.

One of the eleventh-hour jokes of the late congress struck Senator O'Gorman of New York in a tender spot. The senator objected to the extravagant size of the pork barrel, which carried $2,000,000 for a public building in New York City. The accommodating house struck out the New York item and turned the knocker into a screamer.

Including the vice president among the officers manning the democratic ship of state there are seven of the twelve trained for the law, two are educators by profession, one an editor and publisher, one a manufacturer and one miner. Only two of the lawyers followed the profession up to the present time, three were officeholders and two—Bryan and McAdoo—drifted into other lines of activity. Ten of the twelve are native born.

"I have been insulted by a congressman," exclaimed a speaker at the Equal Suffrage league meeting in Chicago a few evenings ago. The sympathetic assembly for over an hour poured vocal wrath on the head of the absent statesman, and was about to adopt ringing resolutions of censure when a demure suffragist asked the nature of the insult. The offended woman explained that her daughter, seated on a symbolic float, had been jeered at and when she complained to the congressman he simply said: "Madam, you should have kept your daughter at home." Whereupon the league adjourned to think it over.

Seeing Omaha

Beatrice Sun: Omaha will have a spasm of investigation and a few fire escapes will be put up, and possibly somebody will pass some fine resolutions.

Nebraska City Press: Omaha has had a lesson and is now willing to do its investigating. For years it has been a notorious fact known by nearly all strangers with its gates, that Omaha hotel facilities are fifty years behind the times.

Albion Argus: A great deal is being said about the small wages girls are paid. While they are asking for higher wages and scrambling and crowding each other for places in stores and other public places, free room and board and light work wait them in homes of people who find it impossible to find competent and willing help to do housework. It is no trouble for a girl to get $5 a week in Omaha with room, board and extras thrown in, two afternoons and all evenings out, and only part of the work to do, but the girls don't want to do the work that by heritage and tradition they should do and could do safely and profitably, both from financial and propriety reasons.

Elgin Review: The fire ought to be an incentive for hotel keepers to take every precaution for the safety of their guests. The Omaha Bee has detailed a special reporter to visit all of the Omaha hotels and each evening prints a couple of columns about the hotels and tells of the conditions as they exist. By reading these descriptions it is seen that Omaha has very few hotels that are fireproof and still fewer are provided with adequate fire escapes. The Bee is doing a great service in showing up the conditions, and should result in a great amount of good.

Pender Times: The Omaha Bee is playing peanut politics when it continually charges up every little act of the Nebraska house of representatives (it doesn't like), to democratic inefficiency. The legislature is getting along nicely; is passing some good measures and will probably enact a law or two that it shoudn't have, but this thing of browbeating legislatures is getting chesnutty and makes intelligent people weary.

Fremont Tribune: It has been discovered that the Omaha Water board bought several thousand dollars' worth of meters at a secret session. Doubless another rebate proposition. The question is, who gets it?

Bridgeport News-Blade: The Omaha Bee Tuesday had a cartoon showing a company of suffragettes marching to the music of fife and drums; but the women were all standing on their heads. And the editor of The Bee is a married man, too.

Grand Island Independent: There is always something new under the sun. Who, for instance, ever anticipated such a bitter quarrel at Omaha over water?

Twice Told Tales

He Blessed It.

A teacher of a Sunday school class tried to impress upon her young charges the necessity of blessing the food before eating.

"Billy," she asked of a little fellow whose father was an elder in the church, "what prayer does your father say before you eat your dinner?"

"I dun know."

"Well, what did he say this morning before breakfast?"

Billy meditated; suddenly he remembered and beamed.

"He said, 'You kids go slow on the butter now! It's 40 cents a pound!'"—Judge.

Family Exclamations.

A Cleveland man who makes a practice of choosing his words with care, a practice which he has endeavored to instill into the family circle, made a memorandum of the misused words uttered by his son and daughter during a recent breakfast. Here is the result:

Elegant, nineteen times.
Awful, eleven times.
Dandy, six times.
Fierce, four times.
Great, two times.

When the meal was over the head of the household called the family around him in the library and gravely read the totals to them.

"Gee, that's fierce!" said the son.

"Isn't it awful!" said the daughter.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Unusual Choir.

An old farmer and his wife lived near the village church. One warm Sunday evening while they sat dozing on the porch the cricket set up a loud chirping.

"I just love that chirpin' noise," said the old man drowsily, and before the cricket had stopped he was fast asleep.

Soon afterward the church choir broke into a beautiful chant.

"Just listen to that!" exclaimed his wife; "ain't it beautiful?"

"Yes, murmured the old farmer sleepily, "they do it with their hind legs."—P. I. P.

Political New Brooms

Nevada has ratified the amendment for popular election of senators.

Mother's pension bills have been squelched in the senate of the Indiana legislature.

Salary raising bills are the most popular brand of statemanship on exhibition in the New York state capitol.

A "blue sky law" on the Kansas plan has passed both houses of the Iowa legislature and by the legislature of Vermont.

A slam at the middleman whom "nobody loves" these days, is proposed by a bill in the Wisconsin legislature, providing for an industrial commission, which will procure and distribute information which will bring producer and consumer together.

A bill for an act to make justice free for poor people is pending in the Kansas legislature. It grants authority to officials of cities, towns, villages and counties to appoint a judge, who will serve without pay, to hear and settle such matters as small debts, individual wage disputes, etc. No lawyers, no technicalities, no fees. Parties to the dispute will do their own talking to the judge in his office or at his home as may be convenient. The object is to stop court costs in minor cases, illustrated by a bill of $120 taxed against a wage dispute involving $9.

The Bee's Letter Box

About the Water Board.

OMAHA, March 10.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am addressing this letter to all honorable legislators. The 10th of February, 1913, I received a monthly water bill from December 10, 1912 till January 11, 1913. According to the meter 100 cubic feet was consumed, the minimum tax is 50 cents per month. It is visible I was forced to pay 50 cents per 100 cubic feet or 24 cents more for nothing. March 8, 1913, I received a water bill, from January 11, till February, 1913—the water bill states that 300 cubic feet of water was consumed. I read the water meter every week. February 15 I read the water meter, 200 feet of water was consumed, worth 53 cents. They demand now 79 cents. This makes 26 cents to pay for nothing—26 and 24 cents—I am skinned of 50 cents for nothing.

The present water board is a pestilence; it will drive the small consumers to rebellion. We have a republic, but this Water board is a disgrace to our republican system. The Water board charter has no room in a sensible republic. The despotic Water board drives the inhabitants from Nebraska.

To improve the bad condition the city government must have the supervision of everything that belongs to the city; hence the Water board must be abolished. It was an unpardonable idiocy to establish a separate Water board independent of the city government. We have home rule. Every honest and intelligent legislator in Lincoln without question will support home rule intact.

The legislature may enact a law that the Omaha Water board has no right to enact a new regulation without consent of the city council. The above sentiments are indorsed by scores of consumers of water. M. TELTSHIK.

627 North Twenty-first Street, S. O.

Home Rule in Elections, Too.

OMAHA, March 10.—To the Editor of The Bee: I notice that there is pending before the house the election commissioner bill for Douglas county, and that it puts the appointing of the commissioner in the hands of the governor.

This bill should be amended so that the commissioner will be elected at the next general election, allowing the governor the appointing until that time.

It seems to me that if we are going to have a pure election, that if the election commissioner cannot come under the same law, as all other elective offices, than what is the good of this office.

We believe in home rule. That has been the cry for a long time. The laws should be amended to that effect.

FRANK WILCOX.

Hard Coal Cinch

St. Louis Republic: The profligacy of the coal trust in giving its laborers $4,000,000 out of $13,450,000 taken from the public on their account is excused by the fact that the trust had to do it.

Indianapolis News: When the coal men can increase their prices 26 cents a ton as a result of increasing the pay of the miners 8 or 10 cents a ton, the ultimate furnace feeders begin to understand why they had to spend their next summer's vacation money for their last winter's coal.

Pittsburgh Dispatch: The anthracite coal "gentlemen's agreement" justified its advance in the prices on the ground of the increase in wages. The Department of Commerce, however, shows that of the $13,450,000 advance in prices last year, $4,000,000 was due to increased wages and $9,450,000 was tacked on because the companies could do it. Therein do we get a line on the whyness of the high cost of living.

Boston Transcript: The report of the United States Bureau of Labor, that since the anthracite coal strike last spring the companies have paid $4,000,000 more in wages and taken $13,450,000 more from the public is rather startling. It shows that in all strikes that affect the necessaries of life it is the public that pays, though not in all instances are these extra burdens imposed to such an extent at the source of supply.

New York Tribune: This use of a strike as an excuse to mulct the coal buyer was in accordance with the custom of coal operators. After the strikes of 1900 and 1902, they raised wages 32 cents a ton and prices to the public $1 a ton. The Tribune last spring estimated their profit from that transaction at more than $300,000,000 in a decade. When there is so much money as that in strikes will the anthracite coal industry ever be free from them?

Editorial Snapshots

Washington Post: The famished crowds at the pie counter make New York's famous bread line look like in pink tea.

Chicago Record-Herald: Probably Colonel Bryan meant nothing by his reference to his tenure of office as "uncertain." He has lived long enough to know most things are "uncertain" and politics doubly so.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: At the same time it will be many moons before the name of the new secretary of agriculture becomes as much of a household word as was that of his predecessor.

Chicago Inter Ocean: It mayn't be a cabinet of "legal luminaries" like Mr. Taft's, but the fourth estate gets its dues, with Editor Bryan, Editor Daniels and former Reporter Lane in the seats of the mighty.

Houston Post: Our patriots want to serve because they love service and not because they love money. Of course, they will want their vouchers to come promptly in order that the business reputation of the administration may not suffer.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: The chief distinction of the new attorney general is that he assisted a republican administration to prosecute, convict and dissolve some of the greatest of the trusts. And that is not a small distinction, by the way.

Indianapolis News: Nothwithstanding the change of administration, there are still some democrats that are not happy. And they won't be happy until they know whether they are going to get a government job or will have to keep on working for a living. And maybe they won't be happy even then.

Not a Sure Sign.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The fact that President-elect Wilson gave up his seat in a car to a woman doesn't necessarily mean that every man who hereafter practices this act of courtesy is necessarily a federal officeseeker.

JOLLIES FROM JUDGE.

The harp that once through Tara's halls
Sent forth its thrilling tone
Neglected hangs on Tara's walls—
They've got a graphophone.

"Does your wife want the vote?"

"No. She wants a larger town house, a villa on the seacoast and a new limousine car every six months. I'd be pleased most to death if she could fix her attention on a small matter like the vote."—Washington Star.

Gerald—Pratley is an awful tightwad!

Geraldine—Is he?

Gerald—I should say as much! He won't even tell a story at his own expense!

"One hundred ways to cook an egg," read Mrs. Newlywed from a new cook book. "Oh, dear! I can only cook this egg once!"

He—If I call pa "pop," why can't I call ma "mop?"

She—If you do, she'll wipe the floor with you.

Gladys—Helen certainly looked happy in church this morning!

Mae—Evidently she had nothing on her mind but her Easter hat!

"A famous actor bought Shakespeare's favorite chair at a sale in London recently."

"At any rate, he will find Shakespeare's chair easier to fill than his shoes."

Spenger (meeting acquaintance)—Hallo, Smart! Oh, I say, do you believe dreams go by contraries?

Smart—I do.

Spenger—Well, I dreamt last night that I asked you for the loan of $10 and you refused.

Smart—Then that proves my theory—you're not going to ask me. Good day!—Boston Transcript.

"Paw," inquired the humorist's small son, looking up from his picture book, "what is a toreador?"

The humorist rubbed his Momussary gland for a minute.

"Well, my son," he replied, with deliberation, "a toreador is a bully boy of Spain."

AN ANALOGY.

Boston Transcript.

"A man resembles a cigar,"
I heard a jester say;
"For he, like a cigar, is bound
To meet his match some day."

Just so, and then the man flares up
And like the "weed" gets red,
Which as a rule precedes the fact
Each soon doth lose his head.

A man, like a cigar, gets "short,"
And sometimes of the town
Becomes the butt—he also may
Be by a friend "thrown down."

Some weeds, and some men, too, are rank,
Some scarcely have a flaw,
Some are like actors, though well puffed
They can't be made to draw.

Wives see another likeness still
(Though this their husbands flout)
A man, like a cigar, is spoiled
If he is let go out.

And lastly, this analogy
Their finish does not mar;
Both come to ashes in the end,
The man and the cigar.