

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE
FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
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BEE BUILDING, FARNAM AND 17TH

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Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the average daily circulation for the month of April, 1913, was 50,106.

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These are dark days to the negro officeholder.

Every little tariff-for-revenue-only act has an income tax all its own nowadays.

In that concert of nations, they are trying to make little Montenegro play the piccolo.

"Clean up," shouts the later ocean to the people of Chicago. Why not? It is a fair proposition.

A college freshman never really knows how insignificant he is until he becomes a sophomore.

It must be said for Mr. Bryan, he has never hid his light under a bushel, nor even under a stein.

Now that the legislature has adjourned, the Anti-Saloon league seems to have suddenly waked up.

Dr. Abbott was never expelled from peace societies until after he formed certain editorial affiliations.

Hoot, mon! Add the dear suffragettes are after the amiable Laird of Skibo. Well, let him hurl a library or two at them.

If Omaha and vicinity is not quite so thickly dotted with historical tablets as is Boston, still it is not for lack of places to put them.

If the Water board will lower the rates as repeatedly promised, the question of rebates for leakage will minimize itself and cease to be acute.

It must be admitted that up to date, barring Mr. Bryan's cabinet portfolio, not many of the federal plunks have yet fallen within the Nebraska democratic enclosure.

Governor Johnson of California denies that he made the remark about putting President Wilson in a hole. It is settled, then, that he said nothing of the kind, but only thought it.

Lincoln now has a home rule charter commission ready for business, which is welcome, free of cost, to all the suggestions which have been made to our Omaha charter-makers.

Senator Thomas of Colorado is said to have lost his means of identity by having his hair cut. Think of what would happen if the senior senator of Illinois should pluck his effulgent locks?

Senator Martine is said to be booming Bryan as the democratic presidential nominee for 1916, explaining that the people have come to know Mr. Bryan, it is their own fault if they have not.

That St. Louis climate seems to have an invariably depressing effect upon Mrs. Dora Dooey-Whitney. Out in Idaho, she is said to walk ten miles to town, but the minute she lands in St. Louis she must be carried from the train to the hotel on a stretcher.

It is said that a law suit may be necessary to determine definitely whether the biennial election scheme begins this year or next. But as every judge's term of office is immediately or remotely affected, judicial modesty, of course, will compel them to pass it on to a referee.

Mrs. Longstreet, widow of the famous Confederate general, has been dispossessed by President Wilson of the postoffice she has been for years holding. When a change by President Taft was supposed to be imminent a tremendous outcry was raised in her behalf chiefly from southern democrats and action was withheld. It remains to be seen now whether President Wilson will come in for as much dire denunciation as was threatened upon his republican predecessor.

Municipal Credit Once More.

Discussion of the reasons why Omaha's municipal credit is not as high as it should be is more than a mere academic debate because it means money to the taxpayers of the city whether its bonds are quoted high or low. But all sorts of ingredients enter into the make-up of a city's credit just as they do into the credit of an individual or a private corporation. Perhaps some light may be shed therefore by the compilation of the financial statistics of cities for the year 1910, just issued by the census bureau, containing detailed exhibits, not only for Omaha, but for all the large cities of the country.

At the close of the year 1910—it should be remembered that this is before our \$7,000,000 water bond issue—Omaha's total debt is given as \$9,001,058, of which \$7,531,579 is put down as an obligation against the city, and \$1,469,479 as an obligation against the school district. Deducting sinking fund expenses and floating debt reduces the total to \$6,552,312, or a per capita debt of \$52.80. It is in this per capita debt figure that challenges attention, because it is larger with three exceptions than that of the fifteen cities next above us in population. In this same column the per capita debt of Minneapolis is given as \$38.19, of Kansas City as \$26.78, of Indianapolis as \$18.71, of St. Paul as \$44.91 and to Denver as \$5.93.

It seems to us that these figures reinforce The Bee's suggestion already made, that some officer, or official body, should be charged with responsibility to give us a financial policy designed to build up Omaha's municipal credit rather than let it drift as it has been, and buffeted about wholly at haphazard.

Democrats and the Tariff Board.

Perhaps Minority Leader Mann should not be so severe on the democrats for rejecting the tariff commission idea, since they are not really in favor of tariff. Congressman Kindred seems to set forth the situation rather happily when he says:

Now I grant that the democratic party is perfectly consistent and logical in opposing a tariff board. For what use or utility is a tariff board without tariff? There can be no necessity for a tariff board when free trade is the goal.

The big thought for the country just now is that in passing under the rod of democratic dispensation it forfeits the principle of protection, which has been in vogue almost continuously during this period of what may justly be termed the golden age of American prosperity. For the whole democratic idea of tariff-making excludes the element of protection entirely. However insistent might be the demand for tariff reduction, it does not seem either safe or wise to dispense with the protective principle, around which, if not positively upon which, our unprecedented prosperity has been constructed. The country might view with more complacency the operation of the new tariff law if, with its revisions of duties, it conserved instead of destroyed the basic law of protection and progress.

And There Are Others.

An interesting parallel to a nearby condition is reflected in a discussion being waged just now in the New York newspapers. It seems that the metropolis has gone to the Catskills for a new water supply, building an aqueduct through some of the choicest land in Orange and Ulster counties, and thereby inflicting, it is alleged, incalculable damage on the farms traversed. Complaint is particularly made against the exemption from taxation of the lands demanded, and the property and franchise in the aqueduct, which, by subtracting from previous revenues, threatens to put some school districts and towns almost out of business's expostulation.

To burden a lot of innocent people in these counties because a bunch of political appointees grew fat out of a barrel filled with grease from Albany and New York City is not fair.

Verily, no spot on this mundane earth has a monopoly of troubles.

Whitman and Jerome.

District Attorney Whitman of New York seems to be procuring a good many important convictions without as much fan-fare as Mr. Jerome, who in the same office some years ago gained a big reputation as a public prosecutor. Mr. Jerome may have been much the better lawyer and a greater terror to evil-doers, yet it does seem that in tangible results Mr. Whitman is doing as well and better than his illustrious predecessor.

Perhaps Whitman is but reaping some of the fruits of Jerome's sowing and cultivating. No man builds well unless he builds permanently. Who knows but the present apparent collapse of certain forms of iniquity in New York was really begun by undermining blows dealt by others who have worked without credit. It seems to be much easier to convict now than before. "The whole atmosphere of the city of New York is surcharged at the present time," said a lawyer for some of the accused, "with a determination to convict."

But seriously, is it any wonder after the upheaval of recent exposures, uncovering systematic organizations for crime, creating the opportunity some courageous officer was bound to seize?

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

COMPILED FROM BEE FILES MAY 9, 1913

Thirty Years Ago—
Marshal Guthrie assumed the duties of his office, relieving Marshal Ames, who defied his star.

Rev. Willard Scott was formally installed as pastor of St. Mary's Avenue Congregational church, last evening with an interesting program, in which the following ministers participated: Revs. Charles French, Hincley, Sherrill, Walright, Brown, Swain, Stewart, Merrill, Hamlin and Gilbert.

Faving work is temporarily stopped by mud and water.

C. L. Smith, of Jefferson precinct, collected \$50 bounty for ten wolf scalps today.

A pleasant reception was tendered L. Kellner of Sidney, at the home of Bernard Kellner on St. Mary's avenue.

The Union Catholic Library association re-elected John A. Craghton, president; James P. English and William P. McDewitt, vice presidents; Edward T. Shelby, secretary; D. J. O'Donohue, treasurer, and Miss Stella Crowley, L. P. McCarthy and J. Mulvihill, members of the board.

J. B. Smith, 1515 Douglas street, was willing to instruct a few promising persons in bookkeeping and help them find situations.

Lytle Brothers have sold N. I. D. Solomon, their herd of Jersey cattle for his Spring Valley farm.

Members of the city council held an informal inquest on the overflow of the sewer, with a view to finding a way to prevent the recurrence.

Twenty Years Ago—
The passenger rate war was fast approaching General Sherman's definition of military combat and railroads were admittedly losing money. The Union Pacific, which met the out of the Denver & Rio Grande, was said to have lost fully \$100,000 in the first two weeks, but it was in a fight to stay and, said General Passenger Agent L. Lomas, would put in a rate of \$1 from Salt Lake City to Omaha if necessary.

Mrs. Fannie O'Leary of Chadron, was in the city, en route to the World's fair in Chicago.

Miss Kreece and Miss Dewarist returned from Kearney, where they visited several days with friends.

Mayor Blake of Sheridan, Wyo., who was in the city, said the assessed valuation of his town had reached \$50,000, with growth rapid and substantial. They were talking of installing a water plant.

Councilman Parker and Chris Specht voted not to approve the bond of V. O. Strickler, newly appointed member of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners, but the bond was approved by the majority of the council and Mr. Strickler took his place on the board.

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Twice Told Tales

Curstalling a Fish Story. When Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia was abroad, he attended a dinner one evening at which the diners were relating their adventures.

"An Englishman, who had recently returned from Africa, related a tale of a tiger he had shot, which measured thirty feet from snout to tail-tip," says the senator. "Of course, every one was astonished, but no one ventured to insinuate a doubt of the truth of the story."

"Presently a Scotchman told a story of a fishing adventure he had just had. He caught a fish which he said he was unable to pull in alone, landing it only after having the help of five friends. He said the fish covered two acres."

"Complete silence followed this story and the Englishman, decidedly offended, arose and left the table. The host followed. Returning in a few moments, he said to the Scotchman: 'Sir, you have insulted my friend. I must ask you to apologize.'"

"I dinna insult him," replied the Scot.

"Yes, he considers that you did," said the host, "with your two-acre fish story. I must insist upon an apology."

"Well, said the offender, slowly, 'tell him if he will take fifteen feet off that tiger, I will see what I can do with the fish.'"

Root's Vein of Romance. Senator Root, visiting one of the American pictures at the recent international exhibition in New York, said it was as poetical as an old storekeeper he had known in his boyhood.

"This storekeeper," he went on, "was always doing kind things and saying lovely ones. I remember a spring when he was having his store repaired. He told the painter to leave a certain corner untouched for the time being. He explained that the young people at that season did all their courting there and he didn't want them to get smugged."

"But," objected the painter, "these young folks would be fools not to know the smell of fresh paint."

"Young fellow," said the old storekeeper, "you've never had a girl; that's plain. If you had, you'd know that when folks are in love everything wet, wet paint included, smells like violets and roses."

Precision of Figures. President Wilson at a dinner in Washington said of a statistician:

"His figures are so precise that one inclines to doubt them. He is like the American sugar planter in Hawaii, who taking a friend to the edge of a volcano, said: 'That crater, George, is just 70,000 years old.'"

"But why the four? George asked."

"Oh, I've been here four," was the reply. "It was 70,000 when I came."

Stories in Figures

Official statistics recently published, show that during the year 1912 only 1,840 aliens were naturalized or readmitted to British nationality.

American exports to Turkey go up about tenfold every ten years. They rose from \$50,000 in 1881 to \$500,000 in 1901, to \$5,000,000 in 1911.

While Russia occupies first place among the grain-exporting nations the empire is, nevertheless, also an importer to the extent of 300,000 tons annually.

Nevada, California, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Vermont have more than 250 insane persons to each 100,000 population.

In Hongkong, where labor is still very cheap and the port is free to the commerce of the world, the rise in the cost of living has averaged at least 15 per cent since 1908.

Egg production in the United States increased from 400,000,000 dozen in 1880 to 1,200,000,000 dozen in 1900 and to 1,750,000,000 dozen in 1912, the exports last year amounting to 19,000,000 dozen.

The tobacco industry in southern Rhodesia is making enormous strides, the 1912 season's crop being estimated at from 2,500,000 to 3,000,000 pounds, against 1,200,000 pounds for the 1911-12 season, and only 600,000 in 1910-11.

The average oil well is never such a gusher as the man who writes the prospectus.

There's no use in being more interested in other people's affairs than they are themselves.

A matrimonial establishment rarely goes into bankruptcy if one of the members is a silent partner.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Pointed Remarks

No man stands on his dignity when he sits on a pin.

A hard head and a soft heart seldom travel in double harness.

Things should be done just to a turn, especially in a vaudeville theater.

Happiness, it may be noticed, is always purchased on the installment plan.

One way to avoid the need of a calendar is to have some notes in bank.

Money isn't the only thing in the world. There must be somebody to spend it.

The ethics of no profession is so high that some members can't jump over it.

A man would not make anything out of it if he did invent a costless carriage.

To always say the right thing at the right time, one must be an accomplished liar.

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Around the Cities

Atlanta will install a municipal garbage crematory June 1.

San Francisco is investing \$4,000,000 in municipal street railroads.

On and after June 1 only bottled milk may legally be sold in New York.

Brookline, Mass., said to be richest town in the world per capita, does not permit moving pictures.

Smiths and Jones occupy thirty-one columns in the new St. Louis directory.

Five hundred marriage licenses were issued in one day in Philadelphia recently. On the same day sixty divorces were granted.

Zamboanga will be the first municipality to own an electric light and power plant in the world per capita. The Moro capital has been authorized to float a \$100,000 bond issue for establishing the plant.

Milwaukee's water department has refunded to the city treasurer every dollar raised by taxation for the establishment and maintenance of the system and has now a plant which the state railway rate commission has valued at \$2,500,000, exclusive of service and gutters.

Oddities of Life

Mrs. Matilda Wynne, an Oyster Bay nee and scrubwoman, leaves an estate valued at \$50,000.

Romping with his little grandson, Frederick Wagner, Pen Argyll, Pa., was blinded in the left eye by an arrow from the lad's toy gun.

Nine persons connected with one family observed the anniversary of their birth at a birthday party given at the home of J. A. Faxon in Chester, Pa.

Mrs. Clara L. Jackson, who lives in Jefferson, Mo., inherited from her mother a penny now more than a hundred years old and still blossoming punctually.

In ridding a "cocking man" in Washington the police found the feet of the fighting gamecocks encased in one-ounce boxing gloves instead of steel spurs.

A kid crook in Chicago on trial for stealing a sapphire ring so mumbled his words of denial that a search of his mouth revealed the jewel under his tongue.

In a boarding house bout against tobacco smoke in Burlington, N. J., the women attacked the male smokers with the fumes from corn-cob pipes loaded with the rank weed. In twenty minutes the men were smoked out and in half an hour three doctors were treating a bunch of mighty sick but victorious women.

Andrew Kline, auctioneer, near Dillsburg, Pa., has a barrel which, instead of being made of wood, is made of plaited straw and in such a way that it is perfectly watertight. Barrels of this kind during the revolutionary times were frequently used. Mr. Kline also has a dozen pewter plates in perfect condition.

Despite the fact that he is 85 years of age, Nathan H. Morgan, oldest resident of Salisbury, N. H., is able to hold two men above the ground clinging to his outstretched arms and has made a record by cutting and sawing eight cords of wood since last fall, besides doing all the other work on his farm.

Tabloids of Science

A German military surgeon proposes portable crematories to follow the army in warfare.

Kerosene will quickly cleanse zinc or enameled sinks, bath tubs and refrigerator linings.

A new fuel for internal combustion engines, invented in South Africa, is made from paraffin.

Locust has the greatest tensile strength among ordinary woods, 2,200 pounds to the square inch.

Paris bakers are united in maintaining a laboratory where the materials made use of by them may be tested.

Japan has made notable progress in the development of hydroelectric power. Nearly 400 companies have put more than \$400,000,000 horse-power at work.

European engineers believe that, as soon as desirable, it will be possible to build aeroplanes with a wing spread of 100 feet and carrying from 10 to 20 passengers.

German electricians have found that snow never collects on transmission lines that carry 100,000 volts or more, even when they are not charged and cold.

It is estimated that an investment of \$200,000,000 would be required to produce mechanically as much nitrogen as comes yearly from the nitrate deposits of Peru.

Several metals, in sufficiently thin sheets, become transparent when heated to high temperatures, but aluminum, despite its lightness, so far has proven impenetrable by light.

It has been estimated by the geological survey that the unclaimed swamp areas of the United States contain deposits of peat which some day may be made to yield 12,000,000,000 tons of dry fuel.

Scientists who plan to explore the Arctic regions in the near future will carry wireless apparatus to enable them to communicate with the wireless station at Spitzbergen, which is only 1,000 miles from the pole.

Prof. Surface of the Pennsylvania agricultural department wants to get rid of the sparrows. He proposes that they shall be fertilized by feeding on grain soaked in whisky, when they can be easily caught and humanely killed.

Nebraska Editors

W. H. Hamer will start a weekly paper at Dawson.

C. D. Casper will move the Herald from Northport to Bridgeport.

James H. Riggs celebrated his fourteenth anniversary as proprietor of the Waterloo Gazette May 1.

Wayland P. Gardner, whose paper at Lenwood suspended publication several months ago, has moved his outfit to Surprise, where he has started a paper. The first number appeared last week.

The literature department of the Wayne Normal school will edit the Wayne Herald the week of May 13. All the news matter for that issue will be gathered and written by the students.

The Valparaiso Visitor has cut down the size of its paper, and gives as the reason that the home merchants do not advertise and he cannot put out a 48 week paper on a \$5 a week income.

GARDENING.

Edgar A. Guent in Detroit Free Press. I hold that gardening's splendid fun. I am the chap that some think odd. I like to rise and greet the sun. To turn and break the stubborn clod. It's great to spend an hour or two, Some care about the hard and giving; But this I will admit to you, I'd hate to do it for a living.

There is no toll that quite compares To delving daily with a spade. And with a front law up to grade. Or bring a front law up to grade. With joy it makes the pulses throb. And starts the heart beating gaily. 'Tis true, glory in the job. But I would hate to do it daily.

Take it from me, you slugsday men. Whose arteries may slug hard barren For lack of work. 'Tis truth I pen; You ought to labor in a garden. Go bend your back above a spade. And strain your muscles with a hoe; There is no more delightful trade, Unless that way you earn your dough.

I glory in the stubborn ground, And conquer it with fertilizer; Now every morning I am found A bright and smiling early riser. It's fun to haul in loads of dirt. And dig out chunks of solid clay; In confidence, though, I'll