

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER... TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION... DELIVERED BY CARRIER...

Why Not Let In the Light?

Confronted with the problem of public or private ownership of its water works, a director of the Greater Des Moines Committee writes The Bee, asking for information about the operation of our Omaha water works. His letter starts out:

We have made every effort to secure the following data from the Omaha water department...

The figures requested are such as ought to be available offhand in the records of the Water board, and, of course, nowhere else; yet it seems plain that the Water board either cannot, or will not, furnish them.

Is there any good reason why other cities desiring to profit by our water works experience should not be accommodated when they make respectful and courteous request? Regardless of the law-making water works books and reports public documents, and giving the public full right to inspect them, why, if the claims of the management are well founded, should it not invite closest scrutiny, and help other communities oppressed by private water works monopolies to realize the beneficial and improved service and highly profitable investment which Omaha is enjoying?

But merely on the score of reciprocity requests for information, such as coming from Des Moines, ought to be honored just as we expect Des Moines public officials to answer our questions when we have some municipal undertaking in which knowledge of what Des Moines has done may be helpful to us.

Some Facts on Alaska. In his annual report the secretary of the interior devotes a very interesting chapter to Alaska, part of which has already been made public, together with some pungent comments on what should be done toward developing that country.

He shows, for instance, that though we have owned Alaska for nearly fifty years, its population, owing to our failure of development, is less than 40,000, a growth of about 1,000 a year.

But inaction can no longer be excused on this ground. We know that, despite our inattention, the country has yielded in these forty-six years an aggregate wealth from its mines, fisheries and furs of \$500,000,000, and that this enormous sum would have been multiplied several times had the federal government exercised a systematic hand in the development.

We know, also, what experts have told us of the inexhaustible coal supplies, and that they are needed, not only for the promotion of industry in Alaska, but to relieve an economic stress in the United States.

It is shown that individual fortunes have been made out of Alaska, even under such unfavorable governmental influences, equal to the amount we paid for the territory. Who would attempt to estimate the fortunes that might be made from its maiden soil, as fertile for agriculture and horticulture and as prolific of mineral wealth as any upon the continent?

It is to be hoped Secretary Lane may succeed in bringing about some actual progress toward the proposed commission form of government which, as President Taft urged, he has again proposed to congress through the president.

On Spotting the Demagogue. Did you ever know a demagogue who did not proclaim his undying devotion to the people?

The fact that they all do it is one of the confusing factors that makes it hard, sometimes, to distinguish a demagogue, off-hand, from the real thing, because, of course, real statesmen also devote their talents to the interests of the people.

But, after all, there is medium of distinction, just as there used to be in the days of old between the genuinely true-hearted and the Pharisees, who liked to stand on the street corners to be seen and heard of men. And this also is true and gratifying, that once the people find the line of demarcation they make the cleavage sure and deep.

Lincoln was nowhere as near to the truth as the author of the old adage that while you may fool some of the people some of the time, you cannot fool all of them all the time. Folks, happily, seem to be getting their eyes open in these latter days, even to some of the most skillful of the fakers.

Up to date Judge McPherson has visited no penalty upon the attorney general of Missouri, who told the judge "you cannot continue to police the state of Missouri for the railroads." Says the St. Louis Republic:

The most powerful upholder of the position taken by Attorney General Barker is Judge McPherson, himself. There is no support which can compare for strength and solidity with that given him by the inaction of the man he attacked.

If those Chicago high school graduates could not name the president of the United States, or know better than to class Wilbur Wright as a social settlement worker, how, one is forced to ask, would their teachers answer the questions?

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

Compiled from Old Files

JANUARY 14. Thirty Years Ago—At the meeting of the Board of Trade the following communication signed by George Francis Train was read:

"Two decades ago you invited me to an oration, thank you, (I did not accept.) I have mailed Berne (in reply to Rosewater's telegram) history of Omaha, Credit Mobilier, Union Pacific, Omaha should subscribe for 100,000 copies to be sent to Commos."

A. B. Davenport, the popular clerk of the Millard, left with his family to visit St. Joseph.

Mrs. Effie Hill is back after an absence of eleven months in the west much improved in health.

The Saratoga Union Sunday school is about to hold a fair. A gold-headed cane, donated by Edholm & Erikson, will be given to the most popular gentleman in Saratoga and a basket of flowers to the most popular woman.

There will be revival meetings in Sherman Methodist church, corner Sherman and Jackson, every night this week. A committee consisting of C. F. Driscoll, Thomas Gibson and General Estabrook will go to Lincoln to look after the interests of Omaha at the meeting of the State Board of Agriculture.

The real estate record notes the transfer of lot 5, block 15, in West End addition from George L. Miller and wife to Alonzo B. Hunt for \$750.

Twenty Years Ago—John T. Clarke returned home after a protracted stay in the east.

H. G. Straight of the firm of J. H. Felbach & Co. of Cincinnati was attending the commission merchants' convention here in the interests of Omaha dealers.

Rev. Frank Crane of the First Methodist church gave his much-advertised address to "men only" at that church, drawing a large audience. He said he appeared on this occasion, not as the champion of morality so much as the champion of the law.

He demanded the abolition of the "burnt" district and called into former Mayor W. J. Broatch, thusly: "The establishment of the burnt district by ex-Mayor Broatch was one of the foulest stains on the escutcheon of this great metropolis, and its maintenance was a living shame to the community and a constant menace to the thousands of young men who come here to seek their fortunes."

Monmouth Park residents, who had lost more chickens from their roosts than they felt they could spare, armed themselves, organized a mob and went to the home of the supposed thieves, which they surrounded and then awaited the appearance of the hunted culprits. Instead some officers of the law appeared, entered the house and took three of the occupants, after the latter threatened to shoot the officers. Live chickens were hurried into a stove to keep them away from the owners.

Ten Years Ago—Overturning all the "dope," including the report that Everett Buckingham would land the job, came the announcement from New York of W. H. Bancroft of Salt Lake City as the new general manager of the Union Pacific. He was formerly general manager of the Oregon Short Line.

George Ade's "Sultan of Sulu" exhibited his excellent harem to a large and most appreciative company of women and men at the Boyd.

The cornerstone of the First Baptist church's new edifice at Park avenue and Harney street was laid by many clerical and lay hands with much ceremony. Dr. J. W. Christie, pastor, had the active part in it, with the aid of Rev. B. F. Fellman of Grace Baptist church, Rev. T. J. Mackay of All Saints' Episcopal, Rev. Robert Yost of St. Mary's Avenue Congregational, Rev. Mr. Armbruster of the German Baptist, Rev. Mr. Walker of Des Moines, John R. Webster and Robert Lansing.

John L. Swanson started on a business trip to New York.

The heads of departments and officials of the Union Pacific tendered a banquet to Horace G. Burt, retired president, at the Omaha club. Mr. Burt was preparing to leave to reside in Chicago permanently.

Rabbi Abram Simon announced as the subject of his farewell sermon at Temple Israel "The Pulpit of the Twentieth Century."

People and Events

William Haas, after an absence of 23 years, dropped in the other day to visit his sisters in Fort Wayne, Ind. They thought him dead years ago.

The main difficulty with the speed of the water wagon is that the occupants, through force of habit, persist in saluting tanks along the road as the wagon struggles by.

The Bay State woman who advertised to sell her husband for \$1,000 discovered that second-hand husbands do not move quickly unless tossed on the bargain counter.

The Iowa State Board of Education required every member of the faculty of the medical school at Iowa City to sign a pledge that he is not violating the state law forbidding "free spitting."

Alderman Henry O'Shea of Cork, Ireland, who has been promoted to mayor, is having his title attacked by the agrarians on the ground that he is a naturalized American citizen. Mayor O'Shea says he never held public office outside of Cork, a claim which ought to make his title clear.

John Weeks, 95, the oldest man in Connecticut state, died recently at the home of a nephew in Newark. He was born in Providence, N. J., June, 1818, and retained his faculties up to a year ago when he became blind. His death leaves Captain Joseph Byrnes, 95, the oldest man in the state.

Seventy thousand Americans have left Mexico since the fighting began and only 5,000 remain to guard \$800,000,000 of American capital invested there. The Americans might be spoiled if they remain, but their property is mostly in the form of mines, well underground, and will be just as good, if not better, after the clean-up.

Mrs. Margaret Beall Connell, deputy clerk of the United States district court, is to be appointed receiver of the United States land office for Utah, and it is said will succeed the present incumbent early this month. Mrs. Connell is the only practicing woman attorney in the state of Utah and will occupy the most important federal office in the state. She lives in Salt Lake City.

The Bee's Letter Box

The "Mission" of the Church.

OMAHA, Jan. 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: Those two lines of your editorial comment attracted my attention. First a question was made: "The Church of God may be oppressed; it can never be suppressed." And the editorial comment added: "So says a religious teacher and writer. Never so long as it keeps to its mission."

"Its mission," well, well, that was a spiritual remark. In view of the fierce attacks on the ministry that seem to be the daily bread for ministers in our city, attacks on almost every conceivable program they may devise, but that extreme worldliness that makes the hardened worldly servant of the church, in view of these caustic, wild attacks so characteristic for our city, what is the "mission of the church?" If it preaches the true word of God, in its Christ-fulness and apostolic power, it is scorned because of its history, its intellectual stupidity, its inability to be the tail-end of the times-spirit. If it engages in a charity activity, it is lashed and hounded because it fails to turn all its energy, the whole of its machinery, into the making of "the bread that perishes." If it externalizes sufficiently to be barely much else than a medical dispensary and a soup-kitchen, a social service committee, a cheap ecclesiastical imitation of the amusement halls, then the snobs of culture lift their high brows upon it and pass by it. It is too "common," too tawdry, too "popular." Should it make earnest of the scripture's charge to live holily in this present world, to draw a line between the safety of the world and the joyful sanctification of the church of the World-Redeemer, then it is "making a fool" of itself.

The "mission of the church," it is a riddle, in the light of the perpetual snarl which our city seems to hurl at the "pulpit pounders," as they are designated in Omaha. It would not be a bit surprising if, after the coarse and hard-hearted attacks on clergymen who opposed the abolition of the "burnt" district, and the snobs which would beat the ministry of the city because they are a set of worthless tags to mere public opinion. A few years ago I read two editorial comments, on different dates, in the Chicago Tribune. The first, a serious article against using oaths in daily talk, was followed by a rich wit upon Admiral Bob Evans, who had the reputation of being a great coward, and in editorial jointly played with the limited creatures who could possibly take offense at "Bob's" harmless strong words.

I believe that the editorial of The Bee was serious. But I cannot help asking, what, in the light of the total situation, is the mission of the church? And who authoritatively decides that question for the church and the world? Are we ministers of the word to depend on passing public opinion that, like the Tribune editorials referred to, says yes one moment and no the next? Is there no voice from the bosom of eternity? Are we members of the Christian church bedraggled slaves of public wishes as fleeting as the winds that sweep by? Is there no Christ-given message, no eternal principle, no immutable foundation? Does the church "keep to its mission" when it grovels in the dust of passing sentiments, or is sucked into the whirlpool of ever-shifting notions of men?

Does the word of God, perchance, answer the question with unequivocal clearness, so that the ministers of the Word have a commission with a charge, and the members of the Church of Christ as well?

It seems to me, after long pondering of the situation spiritually in our city, that the only thing that can rescue clergymen in Omaha from utter despair is to come clear on this question and then "stick!" There is a grave reason why "atop" why the ministers of our city are like travelling men, quick come, quick gone. The church especially ought to rouse itself and ask why the situation is what it undeniably shows itself to be.

ADOLF HULT, Pastor Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Republican Receptive Power. SOUTH OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 13.—To the Editor of The Bee:—In having my article on the "Democratic Eras" printed in The Bee, the types made a change in date different from what I intended. I wrote that the republicans will regain congress next November if the present conditions continue, as sweepingly as they did in 1894. Some one changed it to 1896. We did regain congress in 1894, after we had only elected eighty-eight members in 1892. We held congress in 1896 and regained the presidency.

F. A. AGNEW.

P. E.—Some one told me that some of the labor organizations adopted resolutions commending my article on my collection of collection agencies suing on every claim as being for necessities of life.

Industrial Utopia

Pittsburgh Dispatch: In view of the proverb that money talks, the Ford company's \$1,000,000 co-operation fund speaks in a voice that is heard from one end of the land to the other.

Sioux City Journal: A job at the Ford motor works is likely to develop into a valuable franchise. Hereafter when an employe gets rich enough to retire he may be able to command a handsome premium for stepping aside and letting the man next in line step into his place.

Wal Street Journal: If the newspapers of the day are correctly reporting the latest invention and advertisement of Henry Ford he has in his social endeavor committed economic blunders, if not crimes. They may return to plague him and the industry he represents as well as organized society.

Springfield Republican: Women do not participate in the Ford company's \$1,000,000 fund, and Dr. Anna Howard Shaw says emphatically that it is because they are disfranchised, and that women are "gumps" if they don't see to it. However, the salaried men have votes, but they do not participate either.

New York Times: It is natural that a company so blessed as to have \$10,000,000 of annual profits over and above the modest demands of the shareholders should be optimistic. Therefore, the plan is based on the theory of continuous stock shares. In hard times and lean years the \$10,000,000 available for this bounty would shrink appallingly. The imposing of such conditions upon itself by this company is, moreover, a most powerful incentive to competition. A pledge to give away millions in profit-sharing is a heavy burden to carry in the industrial race.

In Defense of Man

Chester T. Crowell, in the Independent.

I am tired of hearing my sex abused and misrepresented. I feel that the feminist movement is running amuck; that women are being dangerously over-rated and men most ridiculously under-rated. I am in favor of woman suffrage. I am in favor of higher education for women. I think it is time for organized effort to raise them to a higher standard of efficiency. I think that they are at least as fit for the ballot as were the pioneers in this country who first enjoyed its privileges and that they will learn by use to exercise those privileges wisely. I am conscious of the fact there is an ever-growing number of women in this country who have time and wealth at their disposal and who feel free from the multitude of false responsibilities that assail the women in poorer financial circumstances. It is a choice with these women between the turkey trot and cigarette or doing something worth while. I am not unappreciative of the healthy choice they have made in voting their influence toward the feminist movement. I believe that in time these favored women can be the leaders for those of their sex who are not so favored and weld womanhood into a strength for the good of society and the nation.

But I want them to go toward that high purpose with a feeling of appreciation in their hearts for the blessings that have come to them from men. I want them to realize that if they have education it is because men opened schools to them; that if they have wealth men usually bestowed it upon them; that if they enjoy freedom of speech and find much time at their disposal they have men to thank. I want them to plead their cause calmly and tell the men that they feel ready for wider activities and greater responsibilities.

Instead of that, however, the plain man, like me, whose only sentiment toward suffrage and all that sort of thing, when it burst upon him as a problem a few years ago, was one great antipathetic, more opposition—finds such things as this hurled at his unsuspecting head: "If 'this' can vote, why not 'this'?" He finds that the male "this" is an Italian with a bomb, and the female "this" is quite evidently entitled to wear several alphabets of titles back of her name.

This sort of unfairness is reiterated in articles, tracts, fiction and plays, until one feels that he is a regular bomb-throwing radical as he rises to assert that he is as good as his wife. I stand upon the ground that men have stood upon for several thousands of years: "A man is a more valuable unit of society than a woman."

In the course of his normal life he contributes more to the world than she. He is heavier, stronger, more resourceful, more inventive, no less spiritual, and while his brain may be as capable as his, at present his reasons best and is therefore best entrusted with final decision in problems affecting the public welfare.

Men have believed those things for thousands of years, and they believe them today, but even as I write them I feel like one attacked from a thousand quarters, as one who has uttered some unwholesome truth. There are no longer the popular things to say and it appears that those who believe them are forced to silence. I protest against any such condition.

In no spirit of bitterness, but with frankness (and let us hope some mercy), let us examine the record of the sex which has so recently discovered itself downtrodden and unfairly treated by men.

For several thousand years women have been bearing children, and until men opened the door and brushed aside their modesty in the interest of the welfare of the race about all they had ever learned to do by way of assisting themselves through that crisis was to pray.

For an equal number of years women have been cooking food, and they turned the work into a drudgery from the day that they took hold of it. Every single contribution toward lightening their work has been made by men. And while man has never considered the kitchen his proper place, whenever there has been a demand for something more than ordinarily excellent in the way of food he has had to enter to prepare it.

Every attack of man upon some occupation of women has been successful unless today very few of them make the clothes they wear, nor do they even design them. Men have enriched themselves by taking women's work away from them, while women, when they take the work of men, depress prices and in many instances sell their services at such low rates that men must come to their rescue with legislation.

I have no apologies to make for the record of man in dealing with woman. I recognize all his failings of yesterday and today, but in the face of all of them I am proud of what he has done. I look back upon the traditions of my sex without shame and find in them great inspiration for the future; for better relations between men and women, and for the evolution of a woman who will, with the assistance of men, be a far better woman.

I am proud of the fact that men have of their own free will, and under no compulsion except that of their sense of fairness and their love, ceased to make of woman a chattel to be bought and sold.

I am proud that to millions of men polygamy is abhorrent, not because they collectively lack the brute strength to put women back where they came from, but because they have willed otherwise.

I am proud of the fact that history is dotted with instances to show that when women of genius and unusual ability arose they have found their way to leadership without regard to the traditions of race or nation or creed.

I am proud of the fact that men such as stood aside for the women when the "Titanic" went down were just ordinary men, collected at random making no claim beyond the average chivalry of men, nor poked by men as expressing anything higher than the average attitude of men toward women.

I am proud of the fact that every progressive measure upon an American statute book today was passed by men under no fear of women nor compulsion by them, and I hurl back every charge of unfairness they make with the declaration that men are and have been the leaders in the fight for these measures and men will continue to pass in increasing number such laws whether there is woman suffrage or not. These measures I hold to be the outgrowth of a healthy public opinion shared by men as well as women.

It is becoming common to charge men

CHEERY CHAFF.

"Father," said the small boy, "what is a lobbyist?"

"A lobbyist, my son, is a man who is so afraid there will be a mistake made in legislation that he is willing to spend large sums of money to prevent it."—Pittsburgh Post.

Count Emallup: They tell me Lord Ballypat had a narrow escape in America.

Duke Ximixure:—Yes, yes, y'know; while traveling in the wild and woolly west, y'know, he became confused in his terms and called a cowgirl a heifer.—Judge.

It was the fourth consecutive night he had been a way until late.

"What's the old lady worried about?" "Somebody told her there was a scheme to tax gossip."

"I see, and apply the tax at its source."—Kansas City Journal.

"What was the matter with the maid you got the other day? I hear you have discharged her."

"She didn't seem to have sufficient intelligence to get along here. Her cooking was fair, but when she used my husband's tango shirt for a dust cloth we just had to part with her."—Chicago Record-Herald.

"This woman is worth \$400,000. Would you like to see her photograph?"

"Worth \$400,000 and compelled to advertise for a husband? No, you needn't show me her photo. I can imagine what it must be."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"We are never too old to learn," quoted the Wise Guy.

"That's right," answered the Simple Mug. "A man never realizes how little he knows till his small son gets old enough to ask questions."—Philadelphia Record.

Here's the Food for Backbone and Muscle. Haven't you often wondered at the wonderful strength and vitality of the Italian race. Their chief food at home is spaghetti—a food that is rich in gluten—the element that goes to make muscle and flesh. We can follow this example with benefit. A 10c package of FAUST SPAGHETTI contains more nutriment than one pound of the finest tenderloin steak. Easier digested, too—also easier prepared. And what good eating Faust Spaghetti makes! rich, savory, reliable meals. Try it cooked with tomatoes and served with powdered cheese—it's great, as per our free recipe book—copy free. 5c and 10c pkgs. Buy today. MAULL BROTHERS St. Louis, Mo.

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