

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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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 September, 1914, was 56,519.

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It looks, however, as if Ostend were only half way. Choose it on this talk of dragging the Swiss into the war.

"Seeing things" up in the air is no mere illusion in Europe now. Sense of humor may pass current if one has no commercial coin about him.

Lucky for those Brits that the channel happens to be water, and not land. Those Philadelphia warriors acted as if Boston had filled them with dum-dums.

The war has sent the price of canaries up another notch. The cat should worry. Sometimes a man acquires the title of "kernel" because of his resemblance to a nut.

The tardiness of frost this fall ought to make pumpkin pie a popular mid-winter luxury. St. Louis folks are talking of reviving their old-time fair. Well, it was a good one while it lasted.

The way to reform the coroner's office is to abolish it. Why try to reform an unadulterated graft? "B stands for Beltrami, Bossies, Beef, Bread and Butter," says a Minnesota paper. And it might add, also, for "Bunk."

On what strange meat does this our Stallings feed that he hath grown so great? Philadelphia financiers. On the meat of "White Elephants," of course.

Come on, Nebraskans, get a good berth with your Christmas gifts on the good ship, "In His Name," bound for the little folks of war-smitten Europe.

It is the longest session of congress on record since the foundation of the republic. More members of congress, more constituents represented and more business transacted.

Still the hired promoters of the down-town university campus ought to be able to wage their campaign for the benefit of the boarding-house keepers without resorting to such transparent falsehoods.

People of Omaha never had such a large choice of good men for school board places. With two or three exceptions, they could not go wrong by choosing any of the candidates who are in the field.

Colonel Roosevelt has just filed a deed for a burial lot, which the Baltimore American construes as preparations for the obsequies of the bull moose party. That's too grave a subject to be a joking matter.

Omaha is altogether too full of professional hoboes. We have real sympathy for men who want work and cannot get it, but no sympathy for men who won't work. We ought to have a workhouse for won't-workers.



The grand republican rally took place according to schedule, and the torchlight procession was a dandy. From the accounts we learn that the Fourth ward delegation, led with torches by G. M. Hitchcock in the van, followed immediately in the rear of the Irish-American club, and behind it came Master Broatch's company of fifty youths. The speakers were John Rusk, Governor Dawes, Congressman Weaver, Senator Manderson, John L. Webster and Mayor E. C. Clarkson. There were 1,000 torches in the parade.

Freedom of Speech and Press.

That looks like a tough proposition put up to the overseers of Harvard university to dismise one of their most distinguished professors or forego the prospect of a bequest which may reach into the millions. But the decision ought not to be difficult. A patriotic American once made himself famous by his declaration, "Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute."

Another Graft That Should Be Abolished.

The way to reform the coroner's office is not to elect one man coroner instead of another, but to abolish the position altogether. The office of coroner is a graft, and worse than a graft.

Below the Head of the Ticket.

Regardless of differences of opinion as to candidates for governor, no one seriously disputes the superiority of the republican nominees for state offices below the head of the ticket, because in experience, ability and reliability, they are head and shoulders above their opponents.

Guesswork Nominations and Elections.

What really determines the nominations to these minor offices on which public attention cannot be focused is the indifference of the voters or the possession of a catchy name, or luck in clinging to the coat-tails of some popular candidate for some office that is in issue.

Long Ballot Disfranchises the Voter.

Another defect of the long ballot is seen in the fact that it disfranchises a large part of the voters. The ballot is so confusing that it is impossible to exercise the suffrage down the whole length of it, and to deny a voter part of his vote is only a smaller degree of disfranchisement than to deny him all of his vote.

Long Ballot Facilitates Fraud.

Still another thing, the long ballot does not prevent fraud or corruption where the voter wants to be corrupt, and is smart enough to carry out his bargain. These corrupt bargains, furthermore, are not all carried on in densely populated cities, but are worked just as much in country precincts.

The Bee is gratified to know that some of the reputable lawyers of the state are going to the legislature next winter with measures to correct some of the shameful abuses now practiced in our courts.

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SHORT BALLOT AND REFORM OF ELECTION MACHINERY

Address Delivered by Victor Rosewater, Editor of The Bee, Before the Economic League and at the Request of the League Printed for the General Reading Public.

Sections but a Means to an End. "What I have to say about the short ballot will, I believe, be better understood by treating the subject as part of a larger discussion of our election machinery as a whole, for all these details of registration, form of ballot and method of voting are but a means to an end, the end being efficient and responsible government conforming to the duty expressed will of the majority."

Town Meeting the Simplest Form. "The simplified form of voting is that of a town meeting, and it is from this that we must get all the complicated machinery of the present day election has been evolved.

Reducing Number of Elective Offices. "I would reduce the number of state executive offices to three—governor, lieutenant governor and railway commissioner—and leave all the rest to be appointed by the governor and confirmation by the state senate.

Abolish Swallow-it-Straight Party Circle. "Just a few words more with reference to the machinery of the election, because the length, form and size of the ballot are, as I have said, merely a means to an end.

Permanent Registration of Voters. "Here in Omaha, South Omaha and Lincoln—I believe in no other Nebraska cities—we already have registration of voters.

Require State-Wide Registration of Voters. "But what I started out to say is that I would favor state-wide registration and enrollment of all the voters in a similar manner.

Vote-at-Home System Should Be Devised. "I will indulge a still further thought as to the ballot of the future at the risk of being called for being too progressive.

Short Ballot and Simple Election Machinery Safeguard Popular Government. "Give us a short ballot without a party circle, official terms of reasonable length and overlapping, one to a district for legislative representatives, state-wide registration and enrollment, and the vote-at-home, and if the people do not then get the kind of government they want, it will be their own fault."

Futility of Forts

Indianapolis News: The question, "Why is a fortification?" is becoming harder and harder to answer. And those persons who opposed the fortification of the Panama canal still feel that the money was wasted.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: It required actual war to prove that the strongest of modern forts cannot withstand the battering of the most powerful of modern guns.

Springfield Republican: That modern artillery would do enormous damage to anything short of steel armor was known before this war, but the full extent of such damage seems to have been underestimated.

New York Post: It will be difficult, hereafter for war ministers to demand millions for structures that are certain to prove merely the tombs of their defenders.

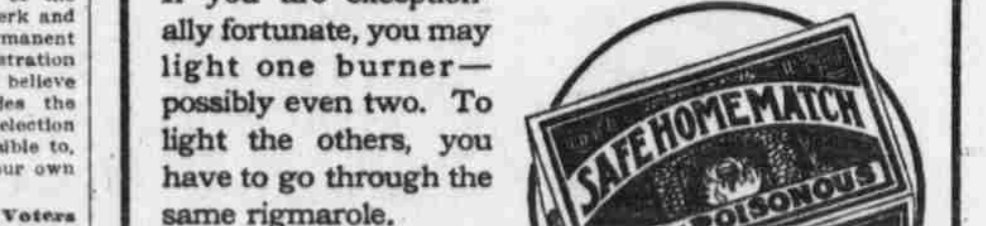
New York World: If forts are so valueless as a protection in time of war as might seem from the experience of Bel-

The superior quality of the Gordon Foot is more apparent after a season's wear. Prove it.



One Safe Home Match will light all four burners

Try to light a gas stove is large and strong. The with a short-stick flame "takes hold." match. We do not exaggerate when we say that you can get as much real service from three Safe Home Matches as from five ordinary matches.



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With one Safe Home Match you can light all four burners. The stick

5c. All grocers. Ask for them by name. The Diamond Match Company

Advertisement for McDonald Shirts featuring an illustration of a man in a suit and the text: "There is Honest Shirt Service in McDonald Shirts. McDonald shirts are made to fit and wear to perfection."