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NOVEMBER CIRCULATION. 52,531

Starse 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 No-vember, 1914, was 52,331. DWIGHT WILIAMS, Circulation Manager. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before one, this 7th day of December, 1914. ROBERT HUNTER, 1 stary Public.

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

Now, get the big glad on for the New Year.

Last chance to write it "1914" without be-

ing called.

Safety first rule: Don't look for gas leaks with a lighted match.

Whose duty is it to see that deadly dope is not dispensed at will?

What did "Billy" Sunday do to Des Moines? We shall soon see what we shall see,

Johnny Bull doubtless also appreciates President Wilson's fine command of English.

The bells that ring out the old year will not carry much of a regretful tone this time.

A tough, troublous, tempestuous old year has 1914 been, but withal with some compensations.

Fifty-seven licensed pool halls in Omaha. The pool hall is another institution to be ranked as a poor man's club.

And here is another catch-as-catch-can marriage performed at the Omaha matrimonial bargain counter ending in early dissolution.

Somebody in Chicago claims to have found a use for street car straps. But the street car companies over the country beat him to it and then some.

The Closing Year.

Characterized by the outbreak of the worst war of history, the year 1914 bequeaths to its successor a heritage of horror, yet relieved by as sublime an opportunity as ever fell to the lot of any cycle, the restoration of peace to the world. For, let us believe that the war will have ended, if even, perforce, in the temporary exhaustion of national energies, leaving lasting lessons of peace, before another year rolls around. And when this return of orderly existence arrives, the saying, "Peace bath her victories no less renowned than war," will take on a new meaning

The shock of the war was the more profound, coming as it did on the heels of a year distinguished by the systematic efforts of nations, our own conspicuously, to advance the cause of peace through a series of treaties subordinating the bulwarks of force to the exaltation of friendly arbitrament. And as the United States led in this world suit in 1913, so it is expected to lead, if summoned, in the more active task of mediating between the warring nations of Europe, at the auspicious moment, whether it be in 1915 or later.

But there is much beside the war by which to remember the dying year. It has its peaceful and orderly triumphs in no small degree. And in these, too, our nation stands forth a leader. It has put into operation the Panama canal ahead of time, an achievement of world-wide character. We have avoided embroiling ourselves in further trouble with Mexico, although failing to effect tangible improvement by our outside influence in the conditions of that distracted land.

Internally, the wear has meant much to the people of our country. It gave us new prodigtes in agricultural wealth, the results of which will be more marked as the floodtide of necessities beats back from foreign shores upon us. It witnessed the completion or inauguration of much new national legislation, such as the federal reserve banking system, provision for building the first great Alaskan railroad, and final, though not wholly satisfactory, disposition of the much-mooted canal toll question.

And now, as a last sweep back over the big things of the year for us, let us not overlook the occasion it has afforded for bountiful America to visualize its love of its ancestral lands by coming to their relief at a time of crucial distress.

Gutierrez' Note of Sanity.

If Gutierrez has the courage and power to back up his words, then his warning to the "generals" in the field to stop summary executions and lend their influence to the establishment of a central authority, which must soon be recognized in Mexico if the country is to be saved, is significant, and marks him as the strongest man yet to succeed to the provisional presidency in this period of revolution and rapine.

But it has been several days since the manifesto, and though conditions seem unchanged, nothing more has been heard from the executive mansion. Villa' appears in print as falling in with the president's declaration, while Zapata is said to have criticised Vills for not killing off the enemy as fast as he might, and Carranza remains in statu quo. In other words the murder-

THE BEE: OMAHA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1914.

Goodby, Old Year, Goodby!

Full knee-doep lies the winter snow, And the winter winds are wearily sighing. Toll ye the church bells and and slow, And tread softly and speak low.

For the Old Year lies a-dying!

In these words Tennyson outlined the sentiment which should prevail among the serious-minded on the eve of a new year. It is hardly to be doubted that the sentiment obtains among the elders, and becomes more pronounced with each passing year, It finds expression in various ways, in the quietude of the home, in thoughtful retrospection and in watch meetings in religious surroundings. Youth, with its abundance of years and energy to burn, regards the going of the old and the coming of the new year as an occasion for festivity and joility, accompanied by various degrees of noise." In the large American cities "the lid" disappears and spiritual exhiiaration omes the noisiest of the noise makers.

Only one clip in the United States gives an organized, semi-officially whoop to the passing year. All other whoops are individual, incoherent. Philadelphia's alone is unlike anything else in the country. Omaha has its Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben, New Orleans its Mardi Gras, Philadelphia its Royal Mummers.

A Gorgeous Affair.

The whole ceremony started on a simple basis years ago in independent good-natured outdoor frolics, in which to help along the fun the participants made themselves up in ludicrous fashion as mokes, clowns, old men, servant girls and a host of other trivial disguians.

The customs that figured in the revels then were homemade. The materials in them represented no outlay. Most of the stuff was simply converted into parading use from some cast-off garment, The parades were a hit, for Philadelphia has even

been strongly partial to the street procession Then some downtown business places got a stroke enterprise and began offering prizes to the cluos

which should make the finest display or which should have the best humorous features. Then were prizes for the best individual attire.

This made the competition keen. But that excitement was nothing to what developed when the munic ipality took a hand in the game, erected a judges' stand on the plaza of city hall, offered some \$5,000 in prizes and invited guests from all over to see the display.

This made a sensation among the clubs, and immediately there grew up the fiercest imaginable rivalry to win the primes.

Broad street, the main thoroughfare of the city, thirteen miles long, and straight as a ray of light. is the parade ground, the court where for one brief day the king must get the glory and the deference that is to him the reward for his prodigal outlay of ney.

Broad street is a wide thoroughfare, lined by handsome residences.

Yet its width is not too great for the cape of the gown worn by this king.

It is a first condition that its spread must take in the entire street from gutter to gutter.

To keep it out of the dirt fifty pages are required to hold up the folds, and these pages, in order to aid the effect, are garbed in colors similar to the gor-

seous robe worn by the monarch of the day. Along the line he goes, scepter in hand, taking the applause. He takes his prizes, he returns to the

clubhouse and reaps more plaudits. Next day at the shop he perhaps borrows money lunch, but he is content.

Observances Abroad.

In England even the amallest of the parish chapels have their decorations of holly and fir, and 'watch night' services are particularly popular in the Methodist and Baptist communities. In grand old St Paul's, in London, every New Year morning in the edifice is crowded to its very doors. While Westminster abbey and other famous sanctuaries are also well patronized, no place to Londoners is more the place to attend on New Years' day than is St. Paul's lifting its beautiful domes above the throbbing heart of the great city.

Long ago, in old England, Yuletide not only marked the jollification from Christmas to New Year's, but until "Twelfth Night," or Epiphany, January 6, put an end to the annual merry-makings. The yule log, or yule clog, still so popular a feature of the holiday season in Europe, is believed to have come down from the Scandinavians. It was a feature of their worship, called Joul, at the time of the winter solutice. In ancient times among many different nations it was usual to kindle enormous fires in honor of Thor. Yule logs still glow in many a chimney corner, in humble English cottages, as well as in the great fireplaces of the lordly manor houses. It is customary to light the yule log Christmas eve, and a ession of logs may be necessary to keep up the festivities which end on the date upon which the three wise men are supposed to have presented their rich gifts to the Christ child. In Germany, Russia and many other countries w Year's evo the day's merrymaking ends near midnight with all going to a "watch meeting" at the church. Many calls are received and paid and one of the chief observances of the opening year is in sending out cards. Enormous numbers of New Year's cards are distributed. Throughout Germany there is the pratty custom of having each member of the household sign thear cards. More than this, any friend or acquaintance who happens to be handy is asked to sign, too. The result is a miniature autograph album. It is often a surprise to foreigners to receive cards from German friends containing the names of unknown persons of whom they have never heard.



Will Women Win the Ballotf COUNCIL BLUFFS, In., Dec. 30.-To

the Editor of The Bee: To this question emphatically answer yes. For it is in harmony with sound logic, comm and the Bible. The Bible teaches us that woman's moral stability is stronger than man's. Remember, it took old satan, the prince of this world, with that satanlo lie, (thou shall not surely die), to cause woman to fall. We see Mother Eve looking at Adam with a wincome smile and a twinkle in her eye, saying, Adam, take a bite of my apple," and for, weak, moral man did not resist. And so it will be with the ballot.

Who is it that treads softly through the silent chamber at night to give a cool drink of water to the feverish boy? It is mother.

Who is it when the boy becomes the age of 21 and goes forth to seek a homo in other lands, that packs away in his trunk a little book called the Bible? It is mother.

And yet we hear the tyrant's voice saying, "Mother, you have no right to say what kind of a country this boy shall live in."

P. S .- Was Paul a bachelor? If Mr. Layman would read 1 Cor., 7:8, 9, it would convince him Paul was not married.

A. MORAINE. P. S .- I thank you, Mr. Editor, for publishing my other little letter, and also for this one if it is not too silly.

Advice for Miss Elsine Dodge.

OMAHA, Dec. 30 .- To the Editor of The Bee: Let me say to Miss Elaine Dodge that I read of her trouble in The Bee. I would advise Miss Dodge to read the Menace, published at Aurora, Mo. It. may help you to solve the problem that concerns you and yours.

Wishing you good luck and God's blassing, I am, J. T.-A FRIEND.

Testimonial to Congressman Lobeck OMAHA, Dec. 30 .- To the Editor of The Bee: I wish to impress on the mind of every voter who reads this so he may ascertain why he votes the republican or democratic ticket. Ninety per cent of the general public vote their tickets as an inheritance of his ancestors, or, in plainer words, because they voted that way before him. Permit me to state that I am a republican, and am one by mheritance. During this European war my father was caught stranded in Asia Minor on the verge of starvation, but with plenty of means here to assist him. but all plans of helping him were cut .110 Now, during that miserable hour of need, when one knows that their old gray-haired father is facing starvation. it certainly is a hard problem to face. In my case I appealed to Hon. C. O.

Lobeck, at that time in Washington, and advised him of the conditions, advising him I was a salesman for a local concern, and wired him \$200 towards my father's relief, and he showed me the same consideration, or more, than he would have shown John D. Rockefeller. It kept him busy hustling from his office to the State and Treasury departments to help me, a common citizen, in disfreas. Now, dear public, you have elected an honorable gentleman that holds a seat in congress, and he is a credit to the White House, and the man that bears brotherly love and feeling to his fellow men, poor as well as rich. To vote for an honorable gentleman like C. O. Lobeck is an honor and a credit to anyone. He has proven to the outside world, especially around the vicinity of my father, that a citizen of the United States can get assistance anywhere on this globe, and this occurrence has brought on most respect to our stars and stripes from across the waters. JOSEPH STEINBERG. 2019 California Street. SOUTH OMAHA, Dec. 30 .- To the Editor of The Bee: I noted letter from the pen of F. A. Agnew as to that city hall meeting. I want to say I stand with that bunch that was opposed to forcible annexation as being unjust as well as unconstitutional. If a majority of the two cities should vote for annexation I will submit gracefully and boost for Greater Omaha, but not so "by force," as it is unAmerican. It is amusing to note the statement from the judge that he had never heard one word in favor of annexation, and I make the same statement. Now some one give us facts and figures and do not simply say "It will be a good thing for South Omaha." I know it will not, and if The Bee will publish same I will give hundreds of good reasons why. J. G. BLESSING.

perfect day and the peace that "Passeth all understanding" with the prayers learned at mother's knee, in the long ago, having the desired effect. TOM J. HILDEBRAND.

CHEERY CHATTER

"Say, Hiram, what do they mean by Stradevar'us" "Ob, a Stradevar'us is the Latin name for a fiddle."-Musical Courier.

Mrs Asker-Do you think the devil really has horns and hoofs? Asker-No; if he had, the Beef trust would have got him long ago.-Philadel-phia Bulletin.

"The duke was about bankrupt when he-married Miss Millyuna." "Then you don't think it was a love match."

with

"No; it was a safety match from the duke's point of view."-Philadelphis Led-

"Do you think it is a sign of bad luck to open an umbrella in the house?" "It is if the owner is around and sees his name in it."-Baltimore American.

Ah, my day is spolled. I came off thout my cligarettes." Algernon will let you have some of

"Dear me! I can't smoke cigarettes with another fellah's monogram on them "-Louisville Courier-Journal.

on If we have failed to use the time allotted, "Tis that humanity has much to learn. "Do you celleve that there is a higher

Groene-Are there any really inde-struct ble toys? Gray-None that i know of, except those that make an infernal noise.-

ASALE that is a sale will begin Sat., Jan. 2. at the growing store of **BENSON & THORNE CO.** 1516-18-20 Farnam Street There's a big difference in sales, you

know, same as there is in every other material thing. Watch and wait and the difference will manifest itself.



THE OLD YEAR.

Goodbye, Old Year! The last line now is

written: The last deed we can do has now been done: The last words we can say have all been

The Old Year's ended and the New be

You brought us sorrows, yes, but they're

forgotten: You brought us joys and treasures un-surpassed: You brought us knowledge that will make the New Year A little better for the year that's past. Your page that once was new and clean

and spotless. Is now filled with the records we have made.

shining, characters are found Some shining, characters are found upon it: Some blots, alas! that time alone can fade.

You gave to us your minutes all un-sulfied: "Tis we who've tarnished them to our

own end You've given us far more than you have

And been to us as one who was a friend.

You've given us your best, each precious

second, Nor asked us for our noblest in return. If we have failed to use the time alloited

And if we did not seem to prize your mo-

Cortain statesmen in Washington are again willing to cut the salaries of somebody besides themselves-postmasters this time-in the interest of sconomy.

If congressional sessions were paid for on the time-limit basis of state legislatures, we would see more business in a given period, and much shorter sessions.

My, but wouldn't it be awful to have \$1,000 chopped off the salary attaching to the Omaha postoffice just before it comes the turn of a democrat to draw the job?

Salem is a queer old spot, known to the world chiefly through a series of unusual happenings-first, the burning of witches, then the burning of the town, now the recalling of a mayor.

It is feared that President Wilson has incurred the sternal enmity of Governor Colquitt of Texas by refusing to sanotron the latter's plan for invading Marico and subsidizing the cotton kings,

The coming year will be an "off year" polit. ically in Nebraska. Nothing doing whatever for the politicians except to pull a city election in Omaha and lay the wires for determining the presidential succession in 1916.

The Bee's annual statistical review of Omaha's progress during the year will appear in tomorrow's issue. This review gives just the racts and figures you want to send to out-oftown friends and business connections. Place your order for extra copies at once.



The old year was duly ushered out with the usual walch parties and entertainments.

At St. Philomena's hall the opereita "Dress Reheareal" was given, with a cast of characters which included these amateur performers; Nellie Thompson, Rose O'Connor, Della Casey, Cella Hanting. Nellie Heelan, Rose Ford, Julia Mahoney, Alice Croft. Mary Dewitt, Rosanna Bradley and Maggie Hellan,

Overland Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers gave their annual ball at Crounse's hall, during which a bander given by the women was presented in a neat speech by Judge Hulf. The committee in charge was made up of F. M. Call, G. C. Fair, M. Murphy, J. C. Sheeby, D. T. Kinney, R. J. Gentlemen, F. W. Perkins, W. H. Bay and G. T. Anderson.

An exceedingly large crowd gathered at the roller skating rink, which provided extra excitement by the distribution of several valuable prizes by lot. M. S. Atkinson and S. W. F. Daley were the only winners present, and whether they carried off the water sot, the cake basket, the nickel-plated roller skates or the doll is not stated.

Messre. Sternsdorff and Cook pulled off a private manquerade at Manuale hall, attended by fifty couplys ed in all kinds of fancy clothes. On the com mittee on arrangements were H. E. Gray, T. C. Jones. W. C. Kelly and W. C. Ward.

At the watch meeting at the South Tenth street shurch a beautiful allver communion set and baptinnal fount was presented, Rev. P. S. Rowe making the more and Hev. E. G. Fowler the response.

unabated and the world is left to wonder whether Gutlerrez, despite his high-sounding note, means what he says and is strong enough to try to carry it out. Meanwhile Mexico is described as being at the very extremity of woe and want and misery, with small promise at present of material improvement.

How Our Court Machinery Gets Clogged.

Speaking to the lawyers attending the State Bar association meeting at Lincoln, Judge Hamer of our Nebraska supreme court explained one cause of the docket's clogging with a frankness that is exceptional. He confirmed the open secret that the judges on that august bench fight in consultation chamber-figuratively, of course -for the preponderance of their own views and convictions, and that while they are so fighting the determination of the cases in hand must wait.

How this operates Judge Hamer illustrated by examples here, although a majority of the court is agreed upon the final disposition that the judgment of the lower court be affirmed or reversed, with instructions for dismissal or new trial, yet is discareed irreconcliably as to the reasons, and the correct statement of the law governing the affirmative or reversal; that until a majority unites in the opinion no decision is handed down, and the case, like Mahomet's coffin, hangs between heaven and earth, with every appearance to spectators of being held there by invisible and uncontrollable forces.

Judge Hamer suggests-we are not sure he recommends-that where a majority of the court is in agreement on the disposition of a case it be so disposed of forthwith, to the relief of the docket and the litigants. But we also see the objections and obstacles of such a solution. In the theory of our law that rests upon precedent, disposal of a case without agreement upon the rule of law governing it furnishes no decision that can be applied to any other case subsequently arising and may produce confusion worse confounded.) Judge Hamer has made one po'nt clear, however, namely, that increasing the number of judges on the bench or giving them assistants through an extra constitutional body of supreme court commissioners, is sure to complicate matters in this sespect, for with more judges to disagree, more cases are certain to be hung up.

The protest against the law's delays calls for simplifying the operation of our judicial machinery, but not for introducing new elements liable to clog it still more.

Postal consolidation of the territory embraced in Greater Omaha has already taken in all our suburbs except Florence. If Greater Omaha can be a single dot on the postoffice map, its unification for other purposes of governmental administration would certainly help in a similar degree.

One candidate for clerk of the house promises to run his part of the legislative session for \$11,409. Good, so far as it goes! Now, let the house invite proposals and award the job to the lowest responsible bidder

French Custom.

Among the many charming fashions of the French. one that should be adopted by our matter-of-fact. practical Americans is that of teaching the young generation reverence and duty to eld people.

Young America is very apt to go about cock-sure of itself. The wisdom of experience is nowhere in mparison to the youthful know-it-all of the Amerchild. Mother and father may be listened to lean with patient tolorance, but when grandmother and grandfather undertake to give the fruits of observation and actual experience the children will have none of it.

In France New Year's day is observed with the beautiful obsisance to these older people, who, seated in stdte, are visited by every child of the family, each carrying either a big cluster of sweet-amelling flowers or a box of delicate bonbons, tied with gay bons, to be presented to those dear old grand dames and sires, who, after fighting the battle with courage, are now patiently waiting for the "peace that passeth understanding."

Bables not yet able to toddle are carried, to give veet, moist kiases and obey the command of the well-bred nurse to "give the box to Grand-Mere," its little hands willingly releasing the package they can scarcely hold. The older children great with laughing faces and wishes for "A Happy New Year" the dear ald grandparents, who, in turn, bestow a biessing on each young head.

Young mothers make their courtesy to beloved as so soon to leave the sight of mortals forever. Fathers just enjoying the first delights of careasing their own babies remember the father and mother whom they recall as having given of their own youth without thought or stint.

Is not this a lovely custom and well worth emulating?

People and Events

One of the problems passed up to the new year by the experts is that of ventilating street cars durng the rush hours of short winter days.

Oklahoma contributed to the galety of the acdson 2.850 crates of mistletoe. The sooner state is Dan Cupid's chief of staff.

The municipal pay-roll shoat of St. Louis has been induced to make its rounds twice a month, and the job of the job holders rivals the enthusiasm of kids at a Christmas tree.

One of the great leakages in rulirund revenue, figured out by an expert, is the breakage of 200,000.00 essa in transit overy year. General efficiency should ' sit up and take notice.

Civilization and War. BEATRICE, Neb., Dec. 30.-To the

Editor of The Bee: There was never a better time than now to "speak up in meetin'," or consider questions of peace and war. Just now when the life blood of nations is being poured out on battle fields, with the German crown prince quoted as saying, "It seems to me that this whole war is senseless, unnecessary and uncalled for."

In face of the facts at hand, why should we be startled at the magnitude and cost in human life and treasure of this terrible conflict.

Since the manufacture of the crudest weapons of warfare in the earliest history of mankind, ingenuity and inventive minds of the human race have been busy, and what are the results? Larger navies-and battleships are advocated to preserve the peace and dignity of nations.

So jealously guarded is the building of guns and munitions of warfare used by some nations that comparatively few men know of the entire construction, last the secret becomes public property; and this among peoples of earth, where the spires of churches, cathedrais and other places of public worship abound, many of which are now rendered useless by the sinews of war.

It was well said by the prophet of old. that "The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart."

Is it possible to believe with Burke, that "Our manners, our civilivation and all the good things connected with manners, and with civilization, have, in this European world of ours, depended for ages upon two principles-"the spirit of gentiemen, and the spirit of religion" or shall we believe they are forever lost? To the mind of the writer there is but one way to stop war, and that it to stop the manufacture of weapons that can be used to enforce peace at the price of human blood.

Let us begin to educate the youth of our land the right of others to live more. and have a being; to help build up, rather than tear down. To go back to mush and milk, and first principles and 1,000 years hence this dominating military spirit of the people of this good old carth will replace them with the motto of "Idve and let live," and nations near and far ready for the bright morn

them out and ask your friends to save the pictures in their paper for you too. See how many pictures of The Twins you can get, and be sure to turn them in to The Bee office before 4 p. m. Saturday, Jan. 2.

You Can See the Twins at The Bee Office