

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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DECEMBER CIRCULATION. 54,211. 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 December, 1914, was 54,211.

Thought for the Day. Selected by Nora H. Lemon. The paradise men seek, the city bright that glows beyond the stars for longing eyes, is only human goodness in the skies. Earth's deeds, well done, glow into heavenly light. —Minot J. Savage.

The "hide" joker in the proposed revised rate tariff was not able to hide long enough to be smuggled through unobserved.

Observe how discreetly Spain sticks to her neutral knitting? The little affair of 1898 furnished an impressive lesson on the costliness of war.

The first batch of legislative bill titles shows so many old familiar friends coming back, it will be safe to count them all present in advance.

Oh, don't be too hard on these imported agents of reform. It is their business to make the cities they visit look sick so they can cure them.

The drawing power of a job in the proposed state printing office is destined to toss into the pit the supremacy of a molasses barrel in fly time.

Bull moosers returning to the republican fold without permission leave behind all hope of membership in the League of the Peace of Righteousness.

It's almost funny to hear the proponent for municipal home rule from those who never unless a chance to oppose the practical application of the principle.

And the same reformers now calling for more money for the administration of the various city departments, objected to the home rule charter because it raised slightly the limits of these very funds.

Still, for outside enthusiasts in welfare work to come here and exaggerate our faults is not quite so bad as for an Omaha vice-chamber to criticize Nebraska making speeches running down and blackwashing the home city.

Now, if some foreboded statesman will bring in a bill taxing bachelors as a running-mate to the bill abolishing tipping, the Nebraska lawmaking machine can settle down to business with venerable mosquitoes in the hopper.

While the American State department is within the strict bounds of neutrality in declining to inquire into a dum-dum bullet accusation, the interests of fair play urge an investigation of the seizure of American sausage casings by the British at Halifax. If this class of ammunition is to be dishonored as contraband of war, a piping scream is due from the eagle.

Allens may lawfully work on public works in New York state. The appellate division of the supreme court so declares, thereby annulling a law prohibiting their employment, invoked in Subway work in New York City. The court's ruling will give employment to thousands of men on work suspended two months ago, and materially relieve the pressure of hard times in the metropolis.

Thirty Years Ago. This Day in Omaha. At the city council meeting the appointment of five new policemen was received from Acting Mayor Murphy: Joseph Rhodes, Fred Fuller, Andrew Crawford, Rollin Fifth and Charles G. Bloom. Joseph Probers, an employe of the Pokrok Zapadu was passing the cigars around with his face lighted up with a heavenly smile, all because of the arrival of a boy baby at his house. The price of the Charly bill tickets is only \$5, and 80 tickets had been sold up till noon. The county board has referred to County Attorney Brown the question of what the law requiring assessors to take a census for the year 1915 means. D. C. Patterson and wife are at the Paxton on their way to New Orleans. E. J. Burey of the firm McInness & Bussey has returned from a prolonged visit to his old home in Ohio. Patrick McNally, the O'Neill pugilist arrived in Omaha, supposedly for the purpose of arranging a fight with Miller.

For a State Civic Center.

Since the voters of Nebraska determined that the state university should be retained on the downtown campus with additional ground for its extension and development, another pertinent suggestion may be permitted. This is for the acquisition of additional ground, to the end that the state house and its related buildings be located on the same campus with the university. The capitol and the university in themselves represent the political and social life of the people of the state. For this reason they should properly exemplify the concrete citizenship of the state, its purposes, its achievements and its aspirations. The buildings now existing at Lincoln do not properly typify the great and wealthy state of Nebraska. Governor Morehead to the contrary, the state house is not such a building as will engender any feeling of civic pride in a patriotic Nebraska breast. It is both antiquated and inadequate and should in due time be replaced. The collection of buildings on the university campus will not inspire the loftiest of ideals among the young people who pursue their studies at this great institution.

What is here suggested is this: That when land is secured to the eastward of the present university, additional land be secured connecting the state house grounds with the university grounds. At the west end of one arm of the L should be located the main building of the new and greater university; at the south end of the other arm would be located the present and later the new capitol and between them the correlated public buildings, all worked out on harmonious architectural lines and forming a civic center for Nebraska in which the citizens would always take pride, and which would in an effective way impress visitors with the importance and progressive character of the state. This plan will cost something, if carried out. The people of Lincoln should foot the big part of the bill for the purchase of the land. This cost can, however, be extended over a term of years without becoming a serious burden. We invite the present legislature to give the matter its attention.

Possibility of Discord Between Allies. What is always a weak spot in any artificial combination of combatants in war is the possibility of discord between the allies, and the term is not here used with the technical meaning it has gained in the present war. The suggestion emanating from Russia, however, that that country is being compelled to bear more than its share of the burden, and that the British are shirking their proportionate part of the joint effort and sacrifice, indicates greater room for friction on the side of the "entente" than on the side of the "alliance." The truth is that Germany and Austria, and their later recruit, Turkey, have gotten along together so far remarkably well. Perhaps the same should be said of Great Britain, France, Russia, Belgium and Servia, considering the hydra-headed leadership and necessary subordination of all to a single plan of operations.

The fortunes of many wars, however, have been decided more by internal conflict between friends than by external force of foes, and it would not be surprising if in the end disagreement among present comrades may not prove a vital factor for settlement.

It's an Ill Wind. "It blows the wind that profits nobody." The year before the Omaha tornado, all the building and loan associations in Nebraska had only \$3,311,000 of tornado insurance assigned as security for loans. At the close of the fiscal year 1913 assigned policies totaled \$14,000,000, and leaped to \$25,361,000 in the twelve months ending June 30, 1914. Doubtless all other loaning agencies required tornado insurance on improved property, boosting the total to a figure which must have left a snug margin of profit above the losses paid in Omaha.

Sale of Ball Players. The most repugnant aspect of commercialized sport is now being brought to light, through proceedings before Judge Landis at Chicago. It is not called for here to take one side or the other between the Federal league and its opponents. What is to be condemned is the barter and sale of players between magnates. This practice has reached such a stage that it is a scandal rather than a credit to the greatest outdoor sport ever devised for man's betterment. While the exchange of players, either for kind or for cash, may have had a legitimate purpose in its origin, it has been distorted from that purpose and has been abused by managers and magnates alike, until it has become a menace rather than an advantage to the game.

For several years the commercial phase of the sport has been emphasized, until it has all but overshadowed the other features of base ball. The wrangling magnates ought to realize and very soon, that their quarrels are of very little concern to the people who patronize the base ball parks in summer. Unless they do, and take steps to restore some of the real glories of base ball, the professional game is in grave danger.

The scheme to elect supreme judges by districts aims to distribute the membership of the supreme court, but the constitution requires every judge when elected to make the state capital his permanent residence. Could the object sought be likewise obtained by putting the court on wheels, and compelling it to hold sessions in rotation in each of the judicial districts? Why not? Is not one as sensible as the other?

According to the report in the Republic, at St. Louis, the neutrality meeting held in the Coliseum there Sunday sang "Deutschland ueber Alles," hissed the name of Secretary Bryan, endorsed the Hitchcock bill and clinched its neutrality by the announcement that films presenting the German side of the war will be exhibited in the same building January 24.

Revision of tax laws so as to distribute equitably the burdens of government is a live issue before the legislatures of New York, Massachusetts and Wisconsin. If one or all of these states evolve an equitable plan of taxation, their will be the honor of blazing the way through a jungle of discrimination and injustice.

Philadelphians are turning out in vast numbers to hear Billy Sunday's message of deliverance. Rev. Billy's performance surpasses the fondest expectations of saints and sinners, especially the part he underscores as "Kicking the Devil in the Sins."

Views, Reviews and Interviews. BY VICTOR ROSEWATER.

THE VOICE of Henry W. Yates will be missed from the public forum in Omaha, where for nearly fifty years he has had a prominent part on one side or the other of nearly every public movement or civic controversy. Mr. Yates was a democrat, but a born democrat rather than a democrat by association. Coming from Maryland, he brought with him the old style of southern democracy—he never acquired the prairie variety. He was a Grover Cleveland democrat and a J. Sterling Morton democrat, but not a William J. Bryan democrat. When the break came in 1905 Mr. Yates followed the gold standard, and he openly opposed Bryan then, and again in 1908—although, if memory serves me right, he did get behind Mr. Bryan's fading standard in 1908, when it was beyond help. In later years he was an active partisan in the educational campaign for the reform of the banking and currency laws, which resulted in the recent federal reserve bank legislation, and the final manifestation of his energies in public were in opposition to the suffrage agitation, which he combated by presiding over a number of anti-suffrage meetings.

From the very early days the Yates home was a center of social activities in Omaha, sharing the prestige with the Parkers at "Happy Hollow," the Kountzes at "Forest Hill," the Woolworths at "Courtland" and only a few others. So far as my personal recollection goes, the Yates lived at the corner of Nineteenth and Capitol avenue, in a roomy square house—it is there still—and an invitation to the parties, receptions or dinners there was highly prized as a mark of distinction. When Mr. Yates built and removed to his new home, a magnificent "Hillcrest," the social center of Omaha took a shift westward, continuing to move in that direction, however, until it had passed that hill and to another hill beyond. The Yates home was the first of our modern private mansions, and was for a long time pointed out to strangers with boastful pride. Mr. Yates was a lover of horses and an expert horseman himself. Riding back and forth to his bank on a beautiful chestnut or black horse he was a familiar figure until the speed of the automobile forced him to give up riding as a regular exercise, and even to abandon his coupe for faster locomotion.

Mr. Yates was from time to time a prolific copy producer for the newspapers. He read a great deal, and thought a great deal, and liked to write on current topics, preferably on subjects bearing on money and banking. He was deeply concerned by the present European war, and my last interview with him was in connection with an offer to review and analyze for The Bee's news all the official state papers that had been published to illuminate the outbreak of hostilities. We chatted together briefly in his office in the bank and I walked a few blocks with him as he was going to keep an appointment for a directors' meeting of the electric lighting company. The nub of the conversation was that he felt sure he could set forth in a couple of columns the gist of all the diplomatic correspondence in such a way as to leave no doubt in any one's mind as to just how the war had come about, and who was to blame.

Did you see a resemblance between the picture of Prince von Bismarck printed in The Bee the other day and Charles H. Piekens, the general manager of the Paxton & Gallagher company, so long president of Ak-Sar-Ben? The next day's mail brought Mr. Piekens a cutting of the portrait, on which a friend had inscribed: "Since when have you been wearing regimentals?"

Louis N. Hammerling, who is here for a meeting of the publishers of foreign language papers of the state, has had a remarkable career. He is a native of Austria where his folks belong to the nobility, but he came to the United States as a young man to do something by himself. My acquaintance with him dates from the 1908 republican national convention, in which he was a member of the Pennsylvania delegation chosen from the Wilkesbarre district. He has already amassed a small fortune by activities in various lines, particularly in organizing savings and home-building institutions for working people, and had a following in Pennsylvania that made him a powerful political force. He was for a long time in marshaling foreign-born elements in support of the republican ticket in that campaign, and was afterwards considered by the president for a diplomatic post, but had no ambition except to go back to the land of his birth, where, I believe, international usage barred him from being received as an ambassador from another country. Out of his campaign work he developed a national association embracing nearly all the foreign language papers of importance in the country, pooling their interests so far as they are mutual, and of this association Mr. Hammerling was and has continued to be the national leader.

The Nebraska legislative reference bureau is publishing in bulletin form a series of historical studies, prepared by graduate students at the state university, full of material specially interesting to people who try to keep posted on our civil progress. A recent number deals with the subject of "Bank Deposit Guaranty," relating the history of banking in this state with painstaking care so far as it goes, but overlooking several important points. It passes by altogether, for example, the peculiar and so far as I know, unique experiment tried when a law was written on our statute books permitting the assets of a failed bank to be retained by the management on condition of giving an improved bond to pay out all creditors in full. Needless to say, the law was repealed after unfortunate trial. This is just in the nature of a suggestion of another chapter for the author, E. Clark Dickinson, to add to his booklet.

The latest bulletin in this same series, prepared by Niels Hendricksen Debel, purports to be a history of the direct primary in this state. It, too, is full of useful information, instructively presented, but likewise neglects a great deal of direct primary experiment in Omaha and Douglas county, which gave the spur to the movement that culminated in Nebraska's first direct primary law, applicable only to this county, and only later made state-wide in scope. I hope that the authors of future studies along these lines will comb the ground up here as assiduously as they do down at Lincoln.

People and Events

The business uplift in the east is reflected in the opening of nine mills, which will give employment to 5,000 men. Five have already started; four are scheduled to start before the end of January.

Illinois joins Arkansas and Missouri in giving the mule a certificate of character. "The Mule," says Judge Landis, "is as good an investment as a government bond." The mule can't kick on that.

The retiring Governor Blease of South Carolina establishes a topnotch record by pardoning 1,000 convicts during his term. At the present time penitentiary tenants are as scarce as real news in a war bulletin.

The fairly moderate winter temperature enjoyed in the west this far is accounted for by the heated intensity of competition between Medicine Hat and Calgary. Blankets of snow alone prevents local prairie fires.

The Boston Transcript claims to have solved the mystery of supposed albatross carrying green and red lights, reported moving in the vicinity of Portland, Me. One of the number proved to be a drug store dodging revenue officers.

According to government returns there are 25,631 single women, who pay an income tax and \$5,212 bachelors. Owing to the rule forbidding giving of names and addresses, the matrimonial market will not get a rise from the information.

The affectionate pull of the dental profession is no less astonishing, verging on the speechlessness, than the voracity shown in spreading knowledge of the toothache, aches. Announcement makes that systematic professional care of teeth chases rheumatism, screaming out of one's system.

The Bee's Letter Box

Here Are the Names. OMAHA, Jan. 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: Kindly state who were the delegates from the Second ward to the republican convention which named Frank E. Moores for mayor, at which convention he defeated W. J. Broatch for the nomination. A dispute has arisen and I am called upon to decide. Thanking you for your compliance, MICKIE GIBSON.

Editor's Note: The Second ward delegation was made up of F. Brown, Fred Brining, Frank Franch, C. Hart, Fred Hoy, Joseph Kavan, C. H. Kessler, Anton Kment, A. M. Stemberg.

A Jeremiad on Fake Economy. LINCOLN, Jan. 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: I desire to announce through your widely read paper to my friends in Douglas county who are applicants for various positions that it is impossible to obtain any under present circumstances. Aspirants from Douglas county can pass the test of the most critical examination, nevertheless I cannot "put them over." Retrenchment is the motto of the distinguished legislators, consequently the hired help must be reduced similar to the railroads and other corporations that let the axe fall on the section hand working for \$1.25 per day while the president of the road with a salary of \$75,000 annually is not molested.

Lo and behold, the governor's message contained one passage which read as follows: "I have great confidence in your desire to keep down expenses in this session." Let us take a glance at the expenses that are to be kept down. At the solicitation of some overzealous and watchful legislator the postmaster furnished federal employes as substitutes for a brace of "peg-legged" gladiators or near cripples who left their limbs on the battlefield or elsewhere. Here is where the federal government is scabbing. I am not advocating the employment of seventy-five when fifty could do the work, but there is more logic, consistency and charity in employing seventy-five to do the work of fifty than endeavoring to make twenty-five do the work of fifty.

If the advocates of retrenchment are sincere let them be practical. I would suggest to reduce the house of representatives to fifty members and abolish the senate entirely and hold sessions only every four years. JERRY HOWARD.

Discussing Preaching. OMAHA, Jan. 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: It is not the first time that The Bee has distinguished itself in religious editorials as the recent one on "Two Kinds of Preaching" commented on enthusiastically and in Billy Sunday spirit by "A Layman" in yesterday's issue. Why should not the journalistic world review the big and central affairs of the Christian church, if it can do so with actual understanding and sympathy for the church and sympathy for it. When "A Layman" then adds his interest in the issue, further attention is called to matters vital to all communities and to the world.

Only I think it were better if "A Layman" always signed his name, as anonymous letters on central religious themes lack the frankness and the guaranty of sincerity of mind that a signed article is more liable to. When "A Layman" is right in urging a style of preaching which hits the sinful human heart hard. Gladstone once said: "You preachers are not hard enough on your people, and therefore your results are less." When, however, "A Layman" puts up as model for a pastor a certain noted revivalist and his methods, he forgets that the scriptures teach that "the gifts are many." It would be a pity, if all preached and "punched" (quoted from "A Layman") as some revivalists do. St. John had no such style, nor St. Paul. Yet we would not say that these apostolic preachers were inefficient, would we? Then it must be remembered, that in all denominations, where the word of God is always taught and preached, not lectures given in lieu of sermons, the consciences will not need slapping, filthy language of the sport-ground, roaring incrimination as condiment, hair-raising gestures, and vile sarcasms. It is, in fact, a grim irony on the effects manner of the pulpit of the past in some parts of Christendom that where formerly the "Sweetness and Light," "civility righteousness," "modern culture" essayists held sway in the pulpit, they vie with each other in gathering funds for the most rabid, slavish "punching" and nerve-racking evangelists who are feed enormously. Where formerly earnest preachers of the sound word of God, law and gospel were suited at as woefully antique, they endure all manner of vituperation and religious vilification. Still more, those who are as formerly continuing with the unmistakable biblical style of preaching, but averse to the present riotous evangelism that burns out of men, in the long run, the serious sense of the Eternal, are charged as spiritually dead and uninterested in the saving of souls.

There are churches, denominational, I mean, who believe in and practice continual soul-awakening, not merely a few weeks of fearsome revivifying and then back on a holiday jaunt of pulpit lecturing and saying of smooth things. Better than all the spasmodical revivifying is constant pastoral teaching and preaching of all the word of God, the law unto knowledge and grief of sin, the gospel for faith and redemption in Christ. Always seeking to save souls, always seeking to convert the unsaved, always awakening the dead and the drowsy, always telling men of their lost estate apart from Christ is infinitely better and productive of infinitely more lasting spiritual results than this American method of short campaigns of fierce earnestness and long campaigns of delightful worldliness. It must be remembered, too, that a denomination which emphasizes teaching applied to heart, conscience and life, to the understanding and to the whole personality, does not endure and does not need the intermittent fever of hot revivification, as do they who neglect teaching and whose preaching naturally must be more efferevescent. I suppose if I were pastor of a denomination that laid less stress on teaching the word of God to the children, to the youth, to the grown, I should at times feel a furious need of toribid revivifying onslaughts.

When all is said the church's strength will never for any length of time lie in these spasmodic efforts, but in a renewal of the biblical spirit in them who have the office of the ministry and in the serious reception of law and gospel by the laity. No preacher today needs to "punch" and do all the revivification to save souls in Christ. The argument that the degeneracy among the cultured church folk and the uncultured submerged mass is so great that nothing

but this cyclonic preaching will help is faintly routed by the preaching of St. Paul, who never "dumbed it" in preaching Christ "unto wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption." Yet his church work at Corinth was almost wholly among the slaves. If "A Layman" will talk things over with his pastor the latter will certainly do all the normal biblical "punching" endurable even to "A Layman's" ears. If "A Layman" will personally confess his own sins and outstanding weaknesses to his pastor and give him inside information, I am quite persuaded that the pastor shall be able to meet all the needs of the old Adam. Provided his pastor is a man of the scriptures!

ADOLF HULT. Pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church.

SMILING REMARKS. "You know, there is an air I heard lately humming through my brain this morning." "That's no air; what you hear in your brains are their wheels humming."—Baltimore American.

LADY LAUGHTER. Baltimore Sun. Ah, my Lady Laughter, Shadows fade and bloom; Where your feet are dancing Only violet bloom; Sparkling of the sunshine, Summer of the dew-splend of the roses. When the skies burn blue. Ah, my Lady Laughter, How shall I be sad When a golden bubble You turn sorrow glad; Ripping of a river, Surging of a sea— Ringlets of the Rhine-gold, Dimples on your knee. Ah, my Lady Laughter, Spring is in the lane; Silver in the sunbeam, Shimmer on the pane; Bugging of a bird's note, Rustling of a stream— Fairies in the front yard Bringing home a dream. Ah, my Lady Laughter, After you the spell, Morning on the hilltop, Blossoms in the dell; Butterflies on light wings; Clover top to clover— Suddenly the night sings— Then the whole thing over!

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