THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietor. BEE BUILDING, FARNAM AND SEVENTEENTH Entered at Omaha postoffice as second-class matter.

Remit by draft, express or postal order. Only two-cent stamps received in payment of small se-counts, Personal checks, except on Omaha and castern exchange, not accepted.

OFFICES. Omaha-The Bee Building.
South Omaha-23 N street.
Council Bluffs-4 North Main street.
Lincoln-2 Little Building.
Chicago-30 Hearst Building.
New York-Room 196, 285 Fifth avenue.
St. Louis-552 New Bank of Commerce.
Washington-725 Fourteenth St., N. W.

CORRESPONDENCE Address communications relating to news and editorial matter to Omaha Bee, Editorial Department

DECEMBER CIRCULATION.

54,211

State of Nebruska. County of Douglas, as.

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.

DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager.
Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before
me, this 2d day of January, 1915.

ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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

Thought for the Day Selected by Freda M. Langton

The greatest sorrows of the world are due to the choice of gold, in place of God, as the "Lord

Optimism is in the air. Get in line!

The house at Lincoln doesn't even care to talk about that resolution, much less vote on it.

It remains to be seen whether Governor Morehead's economy maxims will survive cold storage treatment.

Boring for oll is again under way in Nebrasks, but the people will still get theirs from the same old source.

Between the shake-up of the war and the

shake-down of the earthquake, life in Europe is a mighty uncertain proposition. Every admirer of beauty affirmed by tradi-

tion will resent the assumption that the queen of Sheba were diamonds to enhance her charms.

The dispute between the senate and the house over the payroll will very likely finish as such wrangles usually do. The payroll will not

Proceedings in the police court are losing the picturesque quality of early days. Judicial dignity is getting mighty stiff, no matter where

The report of the Hapsburg royal family investing in American securities is welcome evidence of forehanded sanity in the ruling circles of Europe.

The fact that George W. Perkins has cheered up sufficiently to give a banquet to political associates indicates that the country is a fairly good place to feast in.

Victor Emmanuel is just now giving the world a good illustration of what a king can do for his people, an example some other European monarchs might well emulate.

Appealing to the authorities to step the carrving of small rifles by small boys is commendable, but safety first suggests the need of parents applying the strap to the right spot.

Prof. Mills, the distinguished fresh air stren, would command a much larger following if the article he extols could be canned and delivered at the right temperature, regardless of the seasons.

A novel application of the "safety first" principle crops out of the program for the fleet parade to and through the Panama canal. Separate vessels are to be provided for the exprosidents, but whether the last ex-president shall be first and the first last is a delicate point in the etiquette or precedence which the officials have not solved.



As the result of Colonel Hosgiand's recent work smeng the newsboys a branch of the National Iment association has been organized with these officers: President, Captain Joseph Slade; vice presidents, John A. Turnbull, Mrs. John A. McCague, recording secretary, John T. Bell; corresponding secretary, L. O. Howard; treasurer, L. M. Rheem; hoys' committee, Loudon G. Chariton, Walter L. Front and

The Bee is asking why the customary exchange of greetings between Omaha and Council Bluffs sleighing excursions have not yet taken place. "There is now very fair sleighing, and the annual trip across the ice could be made with perfect safety."

The trieghous company has filed complaints against three men for breaking their wires, while cutting down

The number of sleepers in the jail tonight was forty-three, the largest number of homeless vagabonds ever congregated at one time in the memory of the jailer. The tramp nulsance is rapidly increasing, and the fame of Omnha as a tramp's refuge is spreading. Governor Glick of Kansas was in Omaha yesterday visiting some of his friends

Louis Heimrod has recovered from his late serious

The Union Pacific band's annual ball and masque took place hast night with Harry Jackson officiating as moster of deremonies, and Misses Boysen, Ahiquist. thereing and Touser looking after the floor.

Wheat and the War.

The soaring price of wheat gives present need for attention to the food question. Europe's requisitions on our stores are having an effect that is perfectly natural, although it is not at all improbable that some portion of the rise in price of wheat is due to the speculative activity of gamblers in grain. The fact remains that Europe is shorter than usual in the matter of food supply, while the demand has been intensified by the operations of the armies. Food is more imperatively necessary for an army thanerms and ammunition, and the governments engaged in the great struggle are merely exercising ordinary prudence in protecting the commissary department of their military organization.

It is unfair, though, to blame the farmers for the advance in price. A very considerable portion of the crop of 1914 was out of the hands of the producers long before the sensational advance in market price began. If those farmers who still have their wheat in their bins are holding back for still higher prices, they are but emulating the grain dealers, who have the wheat in storage, and who are exacting the utmost in the matter of value. It would hardly be reasonable to expect the American farmer to enter on a world-wide philanthropic movement at this time, and sell his wheat for less than the market price, especially when it is morally certain that some middleman would step in and read an increased profit through a second sale.

Regulating Loan Agents.

A bill introduced at Lincoln has for its object the further control of the men who loan money on chattel mortgages or personal security at exorbitant rates of interest. The move is in the right direction, for it deals with one of the abuses of modern society. The operation of the "loan sharks" in the past has been marked by oppression of their victims, and a source of great distress among those who can not protect themselves. Until a better plan can be devised for assisting those who are suddenly brought to the necessity of securing financial help through borrowing, the "loan shark" will operate, but his operations should be so restricted and regulated that he can not fasten an unreasonable burden on those whose misfortunes he turns to his profit. The poor man who is compelled to borrow is also compelled to pay a rate of interest no legitimate business enterprise could afford, and for this, if for no other, reason is entitled to all the protection the law can give him. The loan agent knows how to protect himself.

The Case of the Dacia.

The rights of neutrals, and especially the right to trade with belligerents, are coming in for a thorough consideration, as a result of the exchange of notes between the United States and Great Britain. One of the most difficult phases of the question is presented by the case of the Dacia. This vessel was owned by Germans, and sailed under the German flag. Since the beginning of the war, its registry has been changed, and it is now proposed that under the American flag it shall carry a cargo of cotton from a United States port to one in Germany. To this procedure Great Britain enters protest.

At the beginning of the war, when a great fleet of vessels sailing under the German flag was laid up at various American ports, it was proposed that their registry be changed. This was objected to at the time, but the point was not fully settled. In one case, that of the Robert Dollar, a vessel engaged between North and South American ports, the change of registry was effected, and the vessel safled under the American flag, although the British warships interfered with its first voyage. On the Pacific coast several other vessels have changed from German to the American flag, and are engaged in the carrying trade. These instances support the contention that the Dacia may be allowed to make the trip that is now requested by the secretary of state as a temporary arrangement.

If the right to change registry may be established, it will go a long way towards the establishment of the American merchant marine under the proposed ship purchase act. Without this provision, however, the law would be of little avail. The sooner this principle of international law is defined and fixed, the better it will be for all nations.

Cole Blease Goes Out.

Governors of South Carolina have figured to American history from the very beginning of things, but none of them ever attained the place achieved by Cole Blease, who has just voluntarily withdrawn from his office. In the early history of the Palmetto state, it was not uncommon for a governor to take to the high ground when a royal commissioner from England approached the shore. Later on, a governor of South Carolina gained immortality by reason of a colloquy with the governor of North Carolina. These characteristics were nothing as compared with those of the latest of the line.

Cole Blease will be remembered as the governor who emptied the penitentiary, who quarreled with the state supreme court, who ejected from office all who did not fully agree with his personal and peculiar views, who wrangled with the president of the United States, disbanded the militia of his state, and openly announced that he would not try to enforce all the laws or protect all the citizens of his state. And he didn't overlook many opportunities to do things that outraged conventionality and ignored law and

precedent alike. His name likely will not burden the news columns of the papers to so great an extent in the future, but he long will be held in mind as an example of what a governor ought not to be.

The chairman of the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations, Frank P. Walsh of Kansas City, says the investigation in New York City is "to find out whether or not the principles of democracy are being respected and maintained in our great basic industries." Accounts of the principles of democracy in the basic industries of Missouri go to show that Mr. Walsh wastes time and money in going beyond Jefferson City for information.

It is admitted without argument that there were no illiterate aliens among the eighty-one citizens of Terra Haute, Ind., who entered pleas of guilty to the charge of conspiracy against free and fair elections.

In the Wake of the War

Albert of Belgium.

Arno Dosch, the war correspondent of World's Work, tells the following incident: On an afternoon late in October the town square in Fornes was full of military automobits and a few provision wagons. I did not see any field pieces or machine guns. Every last one was right upon the firing line. My feet were tired from walking over Belgian blocks, and I held tenaciously to sidewalk passing around the square, though it was mostly taken up with cafe tables and baby trees in soxes. At one point the tables were empty and a single sentry was sauntering up and down. I stopped to ask him the way to the gendarmerie, and in the niddle of giving me the directions, he came to at-

tention, as a door opened behind me, and saluted. Two men came out of the door, one rather tall with an easy manner, and smartly dressed as a genral in the Belgian army. The other was older, also general, wearing, if anything, the more gold braid of the two. They entered a waiting automobile and drove off as casually as two men at home might leave

"Something about the first of the two men impressed me as familiar. I had only seen his back, but that had arrested my attention. I thought possibly had seen him at the beginning of the war in Brussels,

so I asked the sentry his name. That is our king, Albert,' he said quite simply. "During the next couple of days I saw the king of Belgium a number of times. He spent his nights at a small villa on the seashore at La Panne, a hundred yards possibly beyond the hotel where I had spent mine. He passed through the streets as unnoticed as any one of the other Belgians who had retreated from Antwerp and Ghent ahead of the army, but preferred the chilly nights in an unheated seaside hotel in Belgium to comfort somewhere beyond. It seemed to be s point of courtesy on the part of the Belgians not to other their king with coremony at this trying time. doubt if he cares much for ceremony, anyhow. Searching around for a single adjective to describe him, I should call him off-handed. His manner, even then, while alert, was casual. It is easy to see why the Beigians love him. If kings had always been as simple and direct as Albert, I am inclined to think nocracy would have langquished."

Driven Mad by the Carnage.

When Wilhelm Lamezus pictured the hero of The Human Slaughterhouse,' as crazed by modern carnage, amid companions whining, raving and shricking in ungovernable delirium," says the New York "he lost his position as a German school-There may be some consolation in the verification of his prophecy. One respect in which this war made by machinery upon men transcends all other wars is the hosts it has driven to literal madness; hosts so great that all the armies have organized psychopathic wards under expert physicians to cope with them. Many of the insane will never recover. Their twisted intellects for half a century to come will remind Europe of what it has suffered and wherein it has sinned.

An Oxford professor of classic languages, crawling on his belly to kill his fellow men in trenches at dawn, describes soldiers from a company near him as coming past in driblets, driven insane by shell fire. Every circumstance favors the machine against the The cold, the sodden trenches, the days of waiting, the enemy never seen, the knowledge that at any moment a shell may plump down in one's retreat, or a mine be sprung beneath it, the menace in every bush or stone or bit of cover, all sid in the ruin of the mind. Frequent changes of the men at the front, diversions behind the lines when the men can be spared, are not enough to avert the calamity that is for many of them worse than death.

It was different in the olden days, when could see the enemy, and the bands played, and flags waved in the free air, and the excitement of the charge carried one along with his fellows. The war of machinists has developed a hideousness beyond the power of man to endure. Is this the crowning triumph of

foldier's "Tombstone." "The first time I saw the young French soldiers on the battle line," writes Estelle Klauder, "I said

" 'What well-got-up young fellows they are-they all wear wrist watches! "But a closer look showed me that what I took wrist watches were, in reality, 'plaques'-white discs like a watch face, set in black leather bracelets, which gave each young soldier's name, age, number, killed the plaque would be cut from the soldier's wrist and sent in to headquarters, and thus accurate lists of the slain would be compiled. These plaques are called by their wearers, tombstones.

"Sarah Bernhardt used to sleep in her coffin. Thus she excited a good deal of awe. But what is sleeping in your coffin alongside of dragging around your tombstone chained to your wrist?"

Cheerful Fatalism.

The Manchester (England) Guardian is printing daily columns of letters written by soldiers at the front. Most of them show good descriptive and narrative ability, and there is frequently a touch of humor -the typical British mask for bravery. A classic expression of this "cheerful fatalism," as it has been called, is afforded in the following: "We are going strong. At first we had a day or two of starvation Then vaccination. Next inoculation. Some have had isolation. We're going out soon, and some of us will meet annihilation. What, O!"

Twice Told Tales

Scripture dThrift.

In a certain New England village not so many years ago, the little old lady who kept the village store used to do up small parcels in the leaves of Bibles left by representatives of tract and Bible societies. She kept the sacred volume back of the counter and tore off one leaf after another as purchases were made.

One night business was pretty brisk and the leaves of the fat Bible were torn off with more than usual

"Dear me! Dear me," gasped the thrifty soul as she tore off another leaf from the Epistles for a hurried customer's parcel, "guess I'll have to be getting another Bible pretty quick. They're thick, but they get used up fast when trade is good."-New York Times.

An Awful Possibility.

Breathlessly he rushed into the barber shop. Hishat, collar and necktie were off in a trice and he aprang into the chair over which old Fritz presided "I want a shave and a haircut and I have only fifteen minutes," he said.

Ild Frits stopped to consider. After a few seconds

"IVtch do you vant th emest" "A shave."

The shave took about eleven minutes. As Fritz removed the towel from his customer's neck, he said:

Mine friend, don't nefer again ask a barber to cut your hair and shafe you in fifteen minutes, pecause some time you might find a barber vat would do it."-Youth's Companion.

People and Events

Some suffrage doings are expected in New York state this year. Gvernor Whitman's wife heads the list of patronesses for the big suffrage banquet to be given at Albuny on the 20th.

Mills college for women, nestling among the sunny hills of Oakland, Cal., points with pride to a superior grade of teaching so attractive that every one of its graduates have become wives within five years after leaving school. Their talent in the culinary art gives them their pick of the male mob.

Colonel Everett O. Foss of Dover, N. H., who has just celebrated his eighty-fourth birthday, is probably the only man in the country who has seen two presidenta assuminated. He was in the Ford theater the night that President Lincoln was shot, and he was the first man to rush to the assistance of President Garfield when he was shot down by Guiteau in the Pennsylvania railroad station at Washington in 1851.

The Bees Lefter Box

"Suggestion" from Dundee. OMAHA, Jan. 14.-To the Editor of The Bee: Allow me to make a suggestion on the question of annexation. The citizens of Omaha and surrounding cities and villages each have a right to their views, but this constant discussion with considerable feeling throughout these years is not bringing about results, which should be sought by all fair citizens. We have, as I understand it, a law which permits the annexation of cities and surrounding cities and villages by the vote and consent of each-that is, the marriage of the two municipalities is with the consent of each, and there is no force permissible and citizens generally are opposed to force or any "force bill' which joins municipalities without the

consent of both. If, as some say, the financial conditions of the city of South Omaha are bad, and the financial condition of Florence also in poor shape, I cannot see why at present Omaha citizens would wish to add to their burdens the burdens of those two cities. I could see why they, if those conditions are true, should desire to be relieved of them and have them placed on

the city of Omaha. The proper way to approach this whole matter is to wait until 1918, the sitting of the legislature preceding the next census year, when there will be an argument for annexation which does not now exist, that is, the argument of population that it would give Omaha. And in the meantime, those favoring annexation, who are mostly in Omaha, and for the purpose of showing an increased population, should be friendly with the adjoining cities and villages and adopt the system of education and kindness rather than that of antagonism and force against which all people, especially in this country, rebel. DUNDRE CITIZEN.

On the German Side. BENNINGTON, Neb., Jan. 14.-To the Editor of The Beet As an interested reader of The Bee's "Letter Box," please permit me space for a few remarks. I think the writer of a few articles, which appeared recently over the signature of J. F. Waybright, has made himself a fine example of the saying, "fools rush in where angels fear to tread." A sense of fairness, if not of common decency, requires that if accusations are made, at least an attempt to prove them should also be made. "J. F." evidently possesses neither of these. But not only does he not even attempt

to prove any of his awful accusations against Germany, but if he would have paid the least attention to current reports, he might easily have seen that many of his assertions, intended against Germany, fit exactly the case of his allies. I think Mr. George Gowin, in an article published here January 5 has really very ably answered "J. F's." clumsy vituperations. But let me nevertheless call attention to the following glaring contradictions, "Germany searched the world in vain for an ally." (by J. F. Weybright, January 5th;) but not even any unofficial report is cited by him in proof of this assertion, on the other hand, the daily newspaper reports show the opposite to be true. England, trembling lest she yet be whipped with the whole pack of her allies, is working frantically to induce Portugal or Greece or Roumania or Bulgaria or the United States to help her. Having dragged all the available savages of her colonies in to fight her war. she "is said" now to be recruiting among the suffragettes and the gorillas of the jungie. Then here is another one of J. Fa.

'driving the flower of the German nation into the slaughter pen like cattle." Now even Germany's enemies cannot but marvel at the unity and heroism of the people, from the highest to the humblest. old and young, in this war, forced upon her, all eager to fight for their country, ready to conquer or to die. On the other hand, Austrian officers at Przemysi repeatedly stated, that the Russian hordes were !iterally driven forward by the knout, and in England a recent speaker practically admitted, that her "young unmarried men could neither be driven nor coaxed to fight for their country. The case was most fittingly stated by Mr. George Gowin thus: "Germany will fight to the last German, England will fight to the last-ally." I want to congratulate Mr. Gowin on his eminenty fitting statement.

Mr. Weybright is also wrong when he calls the Turks "the most barbarous and degraded nation." If only somewhat conversant with recent history, he might easily have seen, that the Turks never committed such acts of barbarism and atrocity as the English in India and South Africa, and as for his admiration of Japan's civilization, I hope he does not intend for Americans to imitate too much of it, for instance General Nogi's example of disemboweling his wife and himself in honor of the dead emperor Mutschite.

Finally, in regard to the statement: "The moral sentiment of the world is against Germany," let me suggest, that Mr. Waybright verbally means "The New York World"; anyhow, his statement is quoted verbally from a recent New York newspaper containing an article which is probably the dirtiest piece of journalism, that ever soiled a daily, virtually calling on the nearly ten millions of Germans in this country to turn traitors against their fatherland and help to make it Russian province.

I do not believe, like Mr. Blessing suggests, that Mr. Weybright is of German descent. I believe he is either a "Hinglishman" or hopelessly daffy, both is probably the same. Probably he canbe blamed so much for this, but as to his uncharitable disposition, he ought to sak the Lord to make his heart as soft as his brain.

. E. V. NUSBAUM.

Nebraska Editors

The annual meeting of the Nebraska Press association will be held in Omaha April 12 to 14. A daughter was born to Editor and

Mrs. Flint E. Holmes of the Helbrook Observer last week. George D. Lawson of Worthington. Minn., has purchased the Benson Times

from Ernest M. Jacobberger. M. D. Leggett, who purchased the St. Paul Republican a few months ago, has sold the paper to F. L. Carroll, former owner of the Ashland Gazette.

A. J. Kirkpatrick has sold the Lewiston Post to Lee Peckham of Pawnee City. Mr. Kirkpatrick has been appointed deputy treasurer of Pawnee county.

Thomas M. Kelley, who was recently appointed postmaster at Republican City has leased his paper, the Harian County Ranger, to B. C. Miller of Marion, Neb.

Editorial Shrapnel

Washington Post: The more the government ship-purchase bill is studied, the more serious appear to be the obstacles in the way of successful operation of sir; but I think I can support your daughter on that paternalism that is dangerous in time of Father (enthusiastically)—Support her. more serious appear to be the obstacles war and ruinously costly in time of peace. my dear hoy. Why, you can support her entire family on it.—Boston Transcript St. Louis Republic: The feat of that captain who took an American ship tice?" Does Dr. Piliers enjoy a large practhrough the mines to Bremen was remarkable, but even more remarkable is have time the fact that for forty years, when the

North Sea was not mined, no American merchant ship even tried to get there. Pittsburgh Dispatch: Few, if any, of Uncle Sam's submarines are said to be fit for war service, according to official King Hassan, well beloved, was went to reports. Is this the fault of congress or the people, who have not been niggardly in supplying the funds, or is the responsibility with the spenders of the appropria-

Pittsburgh Dispatch: The German- Long live this proverb! While the world American protest against American ex-Germans cannot get any of them, as to of peace would not be heard from.

Philadelphia Ledger: To talk prosperity instead of adversity has the same effect on business that the substitution of a stone road for a soft mud highway has upon transportation. It makes it easy for prosperity to arrive, for it smooths the way. So, let us all talk up and not down for the next six months and see what comes of it.

SAID IN FUN

"There is beauty in this portrait of my wife."

No. He has to work so hard he docen't ve time to anyou anything but Mrs. Hers enjoys it. Birmingham Age-

THE NEW DAY.

James Buckham.

when aught went wrong on any project failed: Tomorrow, friends, will another day!"
And in that faith he slept and so pre-

American protest against American exports of arms and munitions of war is so entirely based on the fact that the Germans cannot get any of them, as to With courage for its never-ending fight.

permit the conclusion that if Germany No one, I say, is conquered till he yields had a line of trade open these advocates. And yield he need not, while, like mist from glass, God wipes the stain of life-old battle-fields From every mornin- that He brings to pass.

New day, new hope, new courage! Let this been,
O soul, thy cheerful creed! Wimt's
yesterday,
With all its shards and wrack and grief,
to thee?
Forget it, then-here lies the victor's

STORE OF THE TOWN

BIG REDUCTIONS

In Men's, Young Men's and Children's **High Class Clothing and Furnishings**

> Still continues at the "Store of the Town," and the public is showing its real appreciation of reliable merchandise.

SATURDAY

In Our Children's Department we will Sell 53 Children's Overcoats, in sizes 2+ to 9 Yrs. That Sold up to \$12.50, for-

\$4.75

BROWNING, KING & CO.

GEO. T. WILSON, Manager

ELIZABETH is to be given next, and she is one of the prettiest, sweetest dolls we ever saw. She has light hair and blue eyes, and is styl-

> The little girl that wins her will surely be delighted.

Elizabeth will be given free to the little girl under 12 years of age that brings or mails us the largest number of dolls' pictures cut out of the Daily and Sunday Bee before 4 p. m. Saturday, January 16,

ishly dressed in the very

latest fashion. She has a

blue dress, blue hat and

blue shoes and stockings.

Elizabeth's picture will be in The Bee every day this week. Cut them out and ask your friends to save the pictures in their paper for you too. See how many pictures of Elizabeth you can get, and be sure to turn them in to The Bee office before 4 p. m. Saturday, Jan. 16.

You Can See Elizabeth at The Bee Office

Boys' Skates Free



Barney & Berry American Club, Nickel Plated, Tempered Welded Steel Blades. Sizes to fit.

This picture, of one of the Skates will be in The Bee every day this week.

Cut them all out and ask your friends to save the pictures in their paper for you, too. See how many pictures you can get and bring them to The Bee office.

The Skates will be given Free to the boy that sends us the most pictures before 4 P. M. Saturday, Jan. 16.

