

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.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. By carrier, By mail. Daily and Sunday, \$4.00 per year. Daily without Sunday, \$3.00 per year.

REMITTANCE. Remit by draft, express or postal order. Only two-cent stamps received in payment of small accounts.

OFFICE. Omaha—The Bee Building. Council Bluffs—11 North Main street. Lincoln—312 North Main street.

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

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.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me, this 24 day of January, 1915. ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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

Thought for the Day

Do not keep the alabaster boxes of your love and tenderness sealed up until your friends are dead. Speak approving, cheering words while their ears can hear them and while their hearts can be thrilled as a maid happily by them.

Unlike other necessities of life, the postage stamp sticks to the old price. Before long, we will see whether the re-constituted supreme court will speed up or not.

The cordial warmth of the approaching primary handshake is not likely to relieve the strain on the furnace.

According to his son's estimate, Rockefeller has given away \$250,000,000. Any one see any of it spilling around here?

While lacking in battle thrills the charges and counter charges of the foreign offices of Europe help to keep the war bulletin editors on the jump.

In view of his experience in the past, President Wilson must excuse the country if it refuses to consider him "a bad actor" in the granddaddy part.

It is so rare that a judge has resigned from the bench except to take another office that it is no wonder curious folks look to see what is back of every resignation.

The mere fact that Iowa democrats can shake the plum tree and pocket the fruit does not even remotely assuage the anguish of "deserving democrats" in Nebraska.

Were it not for the sobering effect of war, the chancelleries of Europe would explode with amusement over the indictment of "a secret pact" as an unprecedented crime.

The mere fact that a majority of the Board of Control are lawyers does not imply lack of business ability as much as it demonstrates superior speed in getting there first.

Two former Nebraska attorneys general have formed a law partnership. But we have more than two of them. If all these ex-generals would get together they would present a large and glittering array.

Judge Ben Lindsey's slam at the Colorado legislature is not as great an insult as it looks. It is simply a means of breaking into print. Without publicity as a safety valve the judge could not keep his lid on.

If our club women have the notion that they are not invested with enough citizenship rights to make complaint of law violations, they should rid themselves of that delusion. Any person of sound mind and legal age, regardless of voting citizenship and regardless of citizenship altogether, may file complaint against a law breaker.

Advices have been received that the consecration of Rev. Dr. Worthington as bishop of Nebraska will take place at Detroit on February 21.

Rev. T. F. Clark lectured at the First Methodist church last evening recounting his experiences when traveling through Europe and Asia.

Local wheelmen are discussing the definition of "amateur," which has a special bearing on Omaha bicyclists, being brought up by Patterson, who raced here some months ago, the definition being laid down by the president of the eastern league.

Judge Walsley has returned from a trip to Chicago.

Guy C. Barton and family left for the east, intending to scour in Washington, Florida and Nassau during the rest of the winter.

A snow meeting was held at the city hall in response to a call issued by the local trades assembly to discuss a proposed law to abolish the convict labor contract. Ed Walsh served as chairman and Ed Haynes as secretary.

Mrs. Thomas Mulvihill and child have gone to St. Joseph on a visit to friends there.

The Glee club in reorganizing has already secured some 15 associate members, and hopes to raise the number to 25.

A Note of Warning to the Railroads.

The chief reason the old-fashioned railroad managers got themselves "in bad" was their mistaken policy of resisting to the last ditch every demand made upon them by the public.

The Bee gives this note of warning to the railroads that have been trying to impress the people that they have turned over a new leaf and want to be dealt with squarely, and to deal squarely with their patrons: that they will get in bad again if they resort to their former tactics.

It seems to be the old story of "giving an inch and taking an ell"—having edged up here and there on freight rates on a showing of excessive reductions and inadequate returns, the disposition is now to boost freight schedules sky high all along and to push the raises to the limit of what the tariff will bear.

Another place where the railroads need a reminder is in their renewed efforts to raise passenger rates. The passenger fare from Omaha to Chicago, for years on a 2-cent basis, is to be boosted 25 per cent if the present program is carried out.

Our railroad friends must not delude themselves into the notion that the people have forgotten all these things or that overdoing the rate raising business now will not produce a reaction, which they will wish they had not invited.

State Banks and Federal Reserve System.

One significant part of the report of the federal reserve board is that which relates to the relations of the state banks with the new system. For the period of the report, which begins with the passage of the federal reserve act and ends with the close of the year 1914 it is shown that ninety-three state banks and trust companies have been converted into national banks, and nine state banks and four trust companies have been admitted to membership in the system, while applications from fifty-one state banks and trust companies were pending.

It will be remembered that one of the strongest arguments in favor of the banking bill when it was up for discussion, and one of the promises of the democratic platform, too, was that it would embrace state as well as national banks, and thus carry its benefits far and near to the people of all sections of the country.

Put Them to the Test.

The Dodge anti-nepotism bill has been nipped in the bud by the senate for the avowed reason that it aims only at nepotism in the Omaha city government, leaving the same evil to continue unmolested in other jurisdictions.

Governor Johnson of California gives assurance that he will oppose every attempt to alter the alien land law passed two years ago.

As the governor and a majority of the legislature are political allies, the assurance means peace on a delicate topic. Besides, California and Californians have invested millions in two showy expositions and political freebooters will not be permitted to divert attention from the main chance.

One of the disqualifications alleged against our minister to San Domingo is his defective table manners. Hereafter all applicants for diplomatic appointment under a democratic administration should be required to undergo a preliminary examination in dining etiquette.

When the cruel war is over and legislatures have dispersed, the people may give some attention to the uplift suggestions of Rockefeller, Guggenheim, Perkins and Undermyer. For the present the headlines serve all needful ends.

If the small boys had their way, the auto and street cars would be compelled to stop business while the roasting season is on.

On Constitution-Making

Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler.

"In general let me say that my views are that the constitution should not have put into it any matters of detailed legislation that can possibly be kept out. We should avoid the unfortunate and hampering policy that has been adopted in many western states of putting the merest details of public administration into the constitution. It goes without saying that this leads to the breaking down of the fundamental distinction between constitutional principles and legislative acts, and that it tempts to a constant tampering with the fundamental law. I am in favor of:

"The short ballot. I understand this to mean that all of the state officers now elected by the people, with the exception of the governor and lieutenant governor, should be appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by the senate, for a term as long as his own and made subject to removal by him for cause, publicly stated, and filed with the senate. There is a question in some minds as to whether the office of controller should be so treated. Personally I believe that it should. I am not raising under this head the question of an appointive judiciary, although I believe in that policy simply because it seems to me at the present time to lie outside of the range of practical politics.

"Revised Legislative Procedure.—This I understand to mean that the governor and heads of departments appointed by him should have the right to sit in either house of the legislature, and to take part in debate with the limitation that heads of departments shall participate only in debates on subjects germane to their several administrative jurisdictions. In such cases it should be the duty of the governor and the heads of departments to answer at stated times and upon due notice, interpellations addressed to them by members of the legislature in regard to public business or policy.

"The governor should have the right to initiate legislation in the sense that it should be within his power in submitting a message to the legislature to accompany any legislative proposal, which should be dealt with by the legislature precisely as if it were a bill introduced from its own membership. "I do not believe that the governor should have the right to refer to the people measures initiated by him which are rejected by the legislature. There should be two restrictions upon the right to introduce bills to the legislature. No bill should be introduced into the senate unless three senators, whose names should appear upon the bill, were willing to join in standing sponsors therefor, and no bill should be introduced into the assembly unless five assemblymen, whose names should appear upon the bill, are willing to join in standing as sponsors therefor. This is in effect the system prevailing in the House of Commons as regards private bills.

"Moreover, no bill appropriating public money should be introduced into either senate or assembly except by the committee of the senate or assembly charged with reporting money bills. The object of this provision is to lay the foundation for a genuine budget. The terms of senators should be lengthened to four years and those of legislators to two years, and sessions of the legislature should be biennial instead of annual as now. In case of emergency or exceptional need there should be special sessions of the legislature called either by the governor or on the request of two-thirds of the members of either house. The legislature should have the right to pass a concurrent resolution from the senate or assembly for the purpose of appeals as to the constitutionality of any legislative proposal before enacting it into law.

"Lengthening the Governor's Term to Four Years.—I do not approve of a referendum at the end of two years as to whether there should be a new gubernatorial election or not.

"Home Rule for Cities.—Standing by itself this is a vague and uncertain phrase. For me it means the complete control by each municipality of those features of municipal business and housekeeping which do not involve directly the exercise of the sovereign power of the state; or which are not under our American system of government functions. In drawing the line between these two classes of undertakings, I would give the benefit of the doubt to the municipality in order that its measure of local control might be as large as possible. An inspection of the bills introduced at Albany each winter dealing with New York City affairs or amending the charter, would indicate the business of the legislature would be cut down nearly two-thirds if a workable scheme of municipal home rule were provided by the new constitution."

Twice Told Tales

A Soft One.

This one is told on a certain pugilist, who is far better acquainted with the big names of flat chronology than with those in the school history-books. Having reached England in the course of his pugilistic travels, he was patronized by a nobleman with sporting tastes. A week-end visit to the country estate was in order.

The gentleman personally conducted his guest about the mansion, and when they arrived at a certain pretentious bedroom he said with pride: "Here, sir, is where the great Nelson slept."

"The pugilist stepped over and touched the high, white-covered bed appreciatively. "Geel! he remarked, "leave it to the Battler to pick out a soft one."—Everybody's Magazine.

The System.

Prof. Hugo Munsterberg said at the German-American Chamber of Commerce in New York: "It is no wonder England has so many colonies. Look how she got them! It's the system!"

"England, you know, would send an expedition headed by a missionary to some outlandish tropical place or other. The missionary would disembark on the white beach. He would gather the natives together under a palm, and, holding up his hand, he would say: "Let us pray."

"Then, while all the natives had their eyes shut in pious prayer, up would go the English flag."

Sheep Old Man.

"You're an old married man. What do you do when your wife begins to scold?" "Encourage her. I talk back—discreetly, of course. I say tantalizing things. I make foolish excuses. I stamp and get husky."

"But doesn't that make her a good deal madder?" "Of course it does. That's the intention. I want her to get so mad that she won't have any voice left to ask me for money."

"Geel! I wonder if I'll ever get as hardened as that!"—Brooklyn Eagle.

People and Events

A nameless college professor sends over the paragraph circuit the statement that "the best work of the world is done by men over 40 years" but left his own age to be guessed.

Mrs. Yutaki Minakuchi of Memphis, a former Kentucky society belle, appears to have received her due. She is suing for divorce from her Japanese husband on the ground of desertion.

Out in Stockton, Cal., a woman made a fasting score of forty-five days and reduced her fighting weight by thirty-five pounds. She still carries 138 pounds, which is well within the heavyweight class.

Two panhandlers at Point Pinosan, N. Y., after feasting at the spectacle of a policewoman, were caught in the act of street begging and marched ahead of the sheriff officer to jail. The officer laughed last.

Besides thirty-nine newspapers printed in English, New York City has ten in Italian, seven German, seven Jewish, three Greek, two Hungarian, two French, two Bohemian, two Croatian, one Spanish, Serbian, Syrian and Chinese.

The Bee's Letter Box

Appreciation for a Teacher.

OMAHA, Jan. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: We have many bright, capable and efficient teachers in our city schools whom we have cause to appreciate.

I would not underestimate the worth of any of them, but I wish to make particular mention of Miss Bertha Thoeke, eighth grade teacher of Clifton Hill school. I have had occasion to note her relations with her pupils, which are ideal and out of the ordinary. My son just having finished that grade under her.

She has more than a teacher's interest in those who come under her supervision. Every child has her affection; there is no discrimination; in the development of any special talent they may have outside of their school work she gives the encouragement the young mind needs.

At best a teacher's tasks are arduous, and when we find one so thoroughly capable and deserving it is the duty of every parent to give the moral support and commendation she so much merits. D. E. A. PARCET.

Uses Unparliamentary Words.

SILVER CREEK, Neb., Jan. 26.—To the Editor of The Bee: Your Lincoln correspondent says the legislative committee of the Farmers' Congress, in session at the Lindell hotel, adopted five certain resolutions as to what a warehouse law should provide for, and represented that the Farmers' Congress, and the farmers, would stand by them.

I wish, through The Bee, to say to that legislative committee that if they took any such action they are a set of unmitigated frauds—both individually and collectively. The Farmers' Congress gave that committee no authority, directly or indirectly, to do anything of the kind whatever. Members of that committee know perfectly well every one of them, that the late Farmers' Congress at Omaha adopted the following declaration, and that it stands today as the deliberate expression of the judgment of that congress as to warehouse legislation:

"We are opposed to the enactment by the legislature of any so-called warehouse law whatever."

That is what the Farmers' Congress said, and what it meant. CHARLES WOOSTER.

Intermittent Annexation.

SOUTH OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: "The time has not come when South Omaha with a gag in its mouth shall be led as an ass to the slaughter."

The above remark is attributed to Rev. Robert L. Wheeler of South Omaha in an anti-annexation speech delivered Tuesday night at South Omaha.

The writer has always entertained the highest respect for Rev. Wheeler, but in this instance he will have to serve as the example in order to point out most vividly the pure selfishness that is behind the opposition to annexation.

The writer has been a resident and taxpayer of South Omaha for many years, and has an unquestioned right to favor annexation. There are honest citizens of South Omaha who are not in favor of annexation, which is their right, but as a rule the most prominent in the anti-annexation movement are those who have only personal interests at stake.

To illustrate: When the question of annexation was first submitted to the people of South Omaha for a vote Dr. Wheeler was just as bitterly opposed as at this time. If memory serve me right his son, Perry McEl., was then principal of the South Omaha High school. The next time the question was up Dr. Wheeler was for annexation. His son at this time was in the insurance business. Now Dr. Wheeler is opposed to annexation. His son holds the office of city clerk in South Omaha.

The above may not be the real reason for Dr. Wheeler's switch, nevertheless it is a remarkable coincidence. ANNEXATIONIST.

"Why's" for the Wise Ones.

FULLETON, Neb., Jan. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: A great deal is being written concerning the Hitchcock bill which is an American unparliamentary, looks like a sentimental measure. If the senator had been sincere for humanity, why did he not present a similar bill to stop the shipment of arms into Mexico.

During the Balkan war there was no outcry against this. Why?

We have thousands of Slavs in this country, but they did not demand that the United States prevent the shipment of millions of war, nor was there any claim made that we were not neutral because we did not have such a law.

Some pro-German sympathizers are continually referring to England's treatment of this country during the revolutionary war. They forget that that war was unpopular in England and that it was forced on England by a German king and that hordes of Germans fought under George the Third's banner against us. Why do they forget that France helped us and now they want us to do something that France would have every right to consider an unfriendly act? W. M. PIERCE.

Preaching and Power.

BEATRICE, Neb., Jan. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: Probably there is no better place to give vent to human expression than in the columns of The Bee, because it is an open avenue for human thought. Another reason, it is not confined to the narrow confines of time, doctrine or politics.

The mind of the man with reverent head or that of he who follows the plow or works in the ditch can find a place if his language is expressed in fairly good English. The writer belongs in the latter class and is appreciative of his opportunity.

I have, indeed, been interested in recent articles entitled, "Two Kinds of Preaching," "Different Kinds of Preaching," and "Discussing Preaching." Now these articles concern the ministerial force, or "captains" of the gospel ship as much or more than anyone else, because upon their efforts, supposedly, rests the final repose of the soul of man, consisting of eternal joy, or endless punishment of an excruciating nature after the physical man passes away.

There are people today who believe the eloquence of the local minister lacks "punch"; they haven't got the "hit-'em-from-the-shoulder" style of the traveling evangelist.

The evangelist who comes today tells stories from the pulpit that tickles the ear, that gets the money, and is gone tomorrow, seeking new pastures.

These traveling evangelists have no greater source to draw upon for sermons and themes to entertain than the local minister, but somehow or another the farmer has the edge, convert the people, get the money and go, leaving the latter to wrestle with and keep in line those converted by the lack-in-the-pulpit style of preaching that is beyond a knowledge or license not yet issued to him.

Briefly stated, the writer's hat goes

up for the home minister because he is one of us, he spends his money with us, he shares our joys and sorrows and when the time comes for crossing the "great divide" his words of comfort are as a lamp under our feet. There is a "fellowship of kindred minds," the flow of the sympathetic tear is genuine and real and the power of the home minister is just as great as any traveling evangelist, but is not always correctly measured. T. J. HILDEBRAND.

THE PEOPLE'S SONG OF PEACE

Joseph Miller. The grass is green on Bonner Hill, The waters sweet in Brandywine, The sword sleeps in the scabbard still, The farmer keeps his flock and vine, Then woe would mar the scene today, With vault of battlefield or fray?

The brave corn lifts in regiment, Ten thousand sabers in the sun; The farmer keeps his flock and vine, The bannered tussels toss and run, The neighing steed, the bugle's blast, These be but stories of the past.

The earth has healed her wounded breast, The cannon flows the field no more, The heroes rest! O, let them rest! In peace along the peaceful shore! They fought for peace, for peace they fell!

They sleep in peace, and all is well, The fields forget the battles fought, The trenches wave in golden grain; Shall we neglect the lessons taught, And tear the wounds again? Swear! Mother Nature, nurse the land, And heal her wounds with gentle hand.

Lo! peace on earth! Lo! look and fold! Lo! rich abundance, fat increase, O, rise and sing a song of peace! For Theus roams the land no more, And Janus rests with rusted door.

"Well, the New York stock exchange is open again, Mrs. Nuzick." "I'm so glad. Now those poor men can go off the curb."—Buffalo Express.

"It's pretty hard to sleep on an empty

A BIG INFLUENCE

It is surprising the wonderful influence good digestion has on your general health. It not only promotes strength, but also keeps the liver active and bowels open. Therefore, watch the digestion and as soon as any weakness is manifested resort to HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS.



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ADVICES FROM EARL FILES

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