

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.

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JANUARY CIRCULATION. 53,714

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss. Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the average circulation for the month of January, 1915, was 53,714.

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 Estelle Brown. Never withdraw from the ideal—realization follows.—Horatio Dresser.

Senatorial wind storms are like nature's product in one respect. Both kinds blow themselves out.

Bulgaria is about to pass the hat in the United States. Who will vouch for Bulgaria's neutrality?

The senate at Lincoln appears to know its own mind about as well as some of the Omaha hordes that are flopping back and forth on questions before them.

Once more Omaha is given assurances of the early construction of needed viaducts. Railroad promises in this regard rival political promises in paucity of performance.

The senate having passed the bill to prohibit the "dope traffic," it is now up to the house to get this needed law before the governor for his signature as soon as possible.

The plan to place school janitors under the shelter of civil service rules is interesting chiefly as a measure of the heights to which statesmanship ascends in catching a job.

Canadian have just been apprised of the war tax measure adopted by their government. As usual, they lag behind their Yankee cousins. We had ours several months ago.

The Omaha Real Estate exchange has voted for and against the municipal electric scheme. A motion to appoint a committee to discover where the exchange "is at" is in order.

The new city directory gives Omaha a very handsome increase in population, the only drawback being that the directory man is usually able to find more people than the census taker.

President Wilson is proving that he still has the single-track mind. One point may soon be determined—whether the executive or the legislative branch of the government passes the law.

It is gratifying to know that Nebraska hotel men are satisfied with the present condition of the laws governing their vocation. We were almost fearful they might want to cut off another inch from the length of the bedsheet.

The British reply to the American note is said to be too long for immediate transmission. Johnny Bull may use all the words he wants, if he will just pay due respect to the Stars and Stripes.

Rotating names on the ballot may have the result of inducing voters to adopt the party circle. The careless voter is not likely to trouble himself very much in pursuing the name of a particular candidate through the ramifications of rotation.

Thirty Years Ago. This Day in Omaha.

Robert Eason of the firm of Paxton & Gallagher returned with his wife after a three month absence to England. Their homeward trip occupied twelve days owing to a severe storm during which the vessel narrowly escaped being wrecked, and Mr. Eason, among other passengers, suffered injuries, with the consequence that he is still hobbling around on crutches with a sprained ankle.

The "Adams-Egan Gagey company" arrived in Omaha and a finer looking lot of ladies never came to this city with any company.

The Times-Dispatch Publishing company has been incorporated by Patrick A. Glavin, John A. Mors, Michael B. Gern and Herman Goldenheim.

The following local talent are rehearsing for a presentation of "Julien Dawn" for a benefit for Miss Carpenter Booth in the near future: Messrs. McDonald, C. K. Crain, W. O. Sanders, G. V. Gallagher, E. A. O'Brien and the Misses Bohlen, Genevieve Lagersted and G. Nasel.

Assistant Postmaster Woodard says that the mails which have been delayed the last week are again running smoothly.

The partnership between Logan & Saxator has been dissolved by mutual consent.

E. E. Dandy, Jr., 306 St. Mary's avenue, offers \$2 reward for a black setter dog with his name on the collar.

The New Rate Decision.

The Interstate Commerce commission has further complicated the railroad situation by its announcement of a decision which will permit the transcontinental lines to promulgate rates intended to meet the competition established by way of the Panama canal on traffic passing from coast to coast. It has been obvious from the time work was commenced on construction of the canal that a condition would arise at the time of its opening which would require some readjustment of the freight traffic schedules, or these land carriers would be effectually barred from participating in the transportation, at least of the bulkier articles of commerce, for whose movement haste is not a determining factor.

As at present indicated, rates on commodities from the Missouri river territory will not be seriously affected, so that there should be little or no local disturbance of business. But the decision will again open up the whole question of long and short haul, a debate which has not yet been satisfactorily settled, although it was in some measure disposed of by the "Intermountain" decision. The ultimate determination of this question will have an immediate effect upon the rate situation and directly upon the business of the entire inter-mountain region.

Putting the Case Plainly. The notes directed to Germany and Great Britain, respectively, in connection with the "paper blockade" and the use of the American flag by British ships in home waters, are very temperate in language, but firm in tone. The representations on part of this government are respectfully, but plainly, set forth, so that neither of the belligerents concerned will be at a loss to understand just what attitude the United States government proposes to assume in the premises. It is quite probable that the first effect of this notice will be to permit the belligerents to readjust their positions. Out of it should come a newer and better definition of the rights of neutral shipping, and a clearer conception of the special privileges of unneutralists.

Carranza's Latest Bad Break. The forcible expulsion of the Spanish minister from Mexico is in effect an act of war, and would, under ordinary circumstances, lead to such a situation as would render difficult escape from actual hostilities. Before such outcome may be reached in the present instance, the question of the responsibility of the Carranza government will have to be determined. So far, this leader of revolutionists has not been formally recognized as either de facto or de jure head of the Mexican people. For this reason Spain will be compelled for the time, at least, to put up with the affront. In the meantime the United States is liable to be held as sponsor for both Carranza and Villa. While the situation is both delicate and embarrassing, it is the very natural outcome of "watchful waiting," and the inconspicuous meddling of our secretary of state in the revolutionary affairs of a neighboring republic.

The Long Distance Oratory Record. In the interest of the truth of history objection must be made to the score awarding Senator Jones second place in the oratorical endurance record. Senator Jones talked for thirteen hours and fifty-five minutes. This gives him third place, being out-talked by Senator La Follette of Wisconsin and Senator Allen of Nebraska. The former at this writing holds the champion long-winded belt, with a score of eighteen hours and forty-three minutes, on May 29-30, 1908. Senator Allen holds second place with a score of fourteen hours and twenty-three minutes, on October 11, 1898.

The message of peace and friendship delivered to the United States by the Japanese ambassador at Washington may be accepted as sincere and unequivocal. Japan has everything to gain by maintaining cordial relations with the United States. It has much to lose by a contrary policy. The Hobsons of Tokio no more represent the temper of Japan than the Hobsons of Alabama represent the temper of the United States.

Why should the water board, which was created for the purpose of looking after the city's water supply, be burdened with the further duties of looking after city lighting? Or, to view it from another way, why should not the water board have its powers extended so as to give it entire governmental control, and abolish all the other legislative and administrative agencies?

The Russian Duma has voted \$2,000,000,000 for the war. Parliament has given the British ministry a blank check for the same purpose. The French Assembly and the German Reichstag are yet to be heard from on the second appropriation for war. President Paul Krueger of Boer memory possibly had the world war in mind when he spoke of "the price that staggers humanity."

The Political Caldron

This principal political hot spot this week is the possibility of the annexation bill going through the emergency clause, in which event the city commission primary campaign would take on a different aspect. It would be a city commission campaign, and South Omaha will be in the running with its hair in a braid and with bells, to use a little slang.

Mayor Tom Hoctor of South Omaha says he hopes the emergency clause will be retained if the bill is going through. He is ready to jump into the fray. Of course, Florence, Dundee and Benson will be heard from and will have to be reckoned with. The speech-making territory would be increased, and in other ways it would add zest to the campaign.

Harry B. Zimman, who has announced himself as a candidate at the city commission primaries, was over at the election commissioner's office the other afternoon, discussing the political situation with Deputy Henry Ostrow. "I hear some of the prospective candidates saying they are not ready to announce themselves, but are in the hands of their friends, meaning that if their friends gather in large crowds and insist that they file, then they might file," remarked Mr. Zimman.

Charles L. Saunders, now serving his country in the legislature at Lincoln, has stated that he is not ready to say whether he will make the race for the city commission this spring. His name is being frequently heard in this connection. "I wish to wait until there are some definite developments before I decide this important matter," said the senator. He declined to say what developments would favor his candidacy.

Germany and Denmark. PLAINVIEW, Neb., Feb. 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: Allow me to answer Rev. Sorenson's communication of February 8 in a short way. There is absolutely no ignorance nor prejudice shown in my former statement that Germany and Austria were never aggressive.

Misusing the Flag. Indianapolis News: We're a little too careful about our flag to be pleased when anybody goes for purposes of disguise, however flattering such action may be. Couldn't ships that feel the need of something of the kind put on a set of false whiskers?

Twice Told Tales. Not So Very Cheap. The man who wishes to economize was advised by a friend to go to a certain restaurant. "Mighty cheap," said the friend. So the would-be boarder went there. Next day he met that friend.

It's Open to All Alike. SOUTH OMAHA, Feb. 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: I note the annexationists have no trouble to be heard through your "produced" paper. F. A. Agnew says out of the "word" Smith, H. and The Bee "know" this will never be done, even if the Magic Circle becomes a part of Omaha, but I hope we never will. Expectantly "Tome," which is unaccountably.



Brief contributions in timely topics invited. The Bee assumes no responsibility for opinions of correspondents. All letters subject to condensation by editor.

Editorial Snapshots. Baltimore American: No doubt if the democrats have their way the income tax will go after the man lower down still, thanks to democratic policies, the average income can manage pretty well to keep out of sight.

St. Louis Globe Democrat: In other wars ships doubtless raised flags they were not entitled to use, but the world did not immediately learn about it. The cable, telegraph and wireless have greatly changed war conditions.

Philadelphia Ledger: Uncle Sam's appendix was removed when George Washington cut out the "enlarging alliances," and all hypotheses were detested when James Monroe laid down the doctrine. America is a complete car, with no coupling plain.

Louisville Courier-Journal: Central African savages make "flour" by pounding to powder a variety of insects plentiful in that region. An American may corner wheat, but no single African can catch all of the bugs, so living remains cheap in Africa.

Brooklyn Eagle: Canada is to pay \$500 to relatives of the duck hunter killed near Fort Erie, and \$5,000 to the man who was wounded. As the figures vastly exceed the per capita amount we paid to China on the Rock Springs tragedy, or to Italy on the New Orleans lynching, the United States may regard the Fort Erie incident as closed.

New York World: Nebraska has a genuine westward-the-course-of-empire idea of a law forbidding its presidential electors to vote for a second-term. Let us make light of the fact that the Electoral college is created and has its processes prescribed by the highest document in the land. What's the federal constitution before advanced states?

Philadelphia Ledger: In ancient times starvation rather than assault was the regular method of reducing a besieged city. In modern times the stoppage of food supplies for combatants in limited areas has been a natural adjunct of military operations. But never before has a belligerent proposed to reduce a great nation with its teeming millions largely by stomach pressure.

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"In perhaps fifteen or twenty years, depending on the financial condition of the country, the locomotive will pass almost altogether out of use, and all our main trunk railroads will be operated by electricity.

"A new fertilizer will spring into existence, containing a large percentage of nitrogen. This will be drawn from the air by electricity, and will be used to increase the productivity of the land. Even now this is done to a large extent in Sweden by government ownership."

"All our water power will be utilized to an extent now almost unthought of, and will be used with great advantage, both industrially and for railroads."

"My objection to the Morehead-McAlister commission is in suppressing a lot of just testimony as this of Edison. That testimony was carefully collected, together in typewritten manuscript, composed of about twenty-five pages of matter from some of the most able statesmen and scientists in the country. The chairman of the commission suppressed that matter, and has not been sufficient fair to turn back the manuscript."

"The legislature has been so cowardly as to suggest an appropriation of \$15,000 to make another farce of the subject. But behind this matter of suppressing this subject in this way is the plan to establish a municipal electric plant in Omaha. If the state furnishes electricity to Omaha for \$20 per horse-power, there will be no room for a municipal plant, and the municipal plant will not be able to sell current outside of Omaha. That is all there is to the \$15,000 fiasco."

"It is my idea that about 80 per cent of the present legislature will be left at home hereafter if important subjects are passed up on any such plan. Is the last republican ticket a lesson, or will it be necessary to repeat it? I heard an old song once—'Work for the night is coming.'"

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Lines to a Laugh

"Jobson's wife thinks he is a wonderfully smart man." "Yes, and it works out all right. She thinks he's wonderfully smart and he thinks she must be smart to realize how very smart he is, so they get along splendidly."—Boston Transcript.

"Did you ever notice how dusty some pictures look at close vision?" "Don't speak so loud! I told my girl she was as pretty as a picture."—Cornell Widow.

Tenderfoot—Whaddya diggin' the big hole for? Trapper—Wildcat. Tenderfoot—By gawd, I've often heard of wild-cat mines, but this is the first time I ever saw one!—Judge.

"Jiggs says he can't warm up to his work." "Certainly not; he makes artificial ice."—Buffalo Express.

She—The diamond in this engagement ring is awfully small. He—I told my jeweler it was for the smallest hand in Boston.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

"Do you think your bashful friend was offended at the dinner we gave him?" "Why should he be?" "Well, I think we had sheep's-head fish."—Baltimore American.

"You have your father's eyes," declared grandma, looking earnestly at the young girl. "Yes." "And you have your mother's hair." "No; this is sister's hair." faltered the girl. "And she said I could borrow it."—St. Louis Post Dispatch.

VALENTINE TO MABEL. Clinton Scollard in Judge. Mabel, you're a dream! Apple-blossom snow, Strawberry and cream— Thus your color shows; Lips that shame the rose; Eyes where ahem! shine; Such a saucy nose! Do my Valentine!

Mabel, you're a dream! Hair that glints and glows, Like the morning beam; When the darkness goes; Seen from head to toes, What a faultless line, With a peep of nose! Do my Valentine!

Mabel, you're a dream! You're a dream divine! This is all my theme— Be my Valentine!

To California. Choice of Routes via Rock Island Lines. By way of El Paso and Tucson—the direct line of lowest altitudes—route of the "Golden State Limited"—foremost transcontinental train to California. Through standard and tourist Pullmans via Colorado and Salt Lake City—the great scenic route across the continent. Low Round Trip Fares March 1st to Nov. 30th—Circle Tours, Scenic Routes to Pan-Pacific Expositions, 1915. Automatic Block Signals. Finest Modern All-Steel Passenger Equipment. Absolute Safety. Write, phone or call at Rock Island Travel Bureau, 1323 Farnam Street, for tickets, reservations, information. J. S. McNALLY, Division Passenger Agent. Phone Douglas 428.

Busy Bee Boys and Girls. We have a grand surprise for you. We will give a Bicycle next. You can have your choice of either a Boy's or Girl's wheel. It is a famous WORLD MOTOR BIKE. It has a 20-inch Frame with Coaster Brake, Motor Bike Handle Bars, Eagle Diamond Saddle, Motor Bike Pedals, Motor Bike Grip, Luggage Carrier Holder, Folding Stand, Front and Rear Wheel Guards, Truss Frame and Front Fork. This picture of the bicycle will be in The Bee every day. 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, Saturday, March 6th. The bicycle will be given free to the boy or girl that sends us the most pictures before 4 p. m., Saturday, March 6th. Subscribers can help the children in the contest by asking for picture certificates when they pay their subscription. We give a certificate good for 100 pictures for every dollar paid. Payments should be made to our authorized carrier or agent, or sent direct to us by mail.