

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR. The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietor.

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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.

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Thought for the Day

Selected by Frederick B. Pates. The man that hath no music in himself, nor is it moved by concord of sweet sounds, is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spoils.

Mayor Jim is going to hear from the Woman's club next.

See America first! Do it right by seeing Omaha on the way.

King Ak-Sar-Ben will be on the job in the fall, and never mind the weather.

Maybe a little inquiry into the efficiency of that postoffice efficiency board would be in order.

Soldiers hug the trenches, sailors hug the shores. Safety first is rooting around the world of war.

That Omaha Indian supply depot needs saving now if it ever did; watch the progress of the game.

After all, the New Mexican jingo does not differ from Massachusetts and Alabama brands. Hot air is too cheap to be dangerous.

Down at Lincoln they are inclined to draw pretty fine distinctions these days, especially as between "lobbyists" and pure patriots.

The supreme test of law efficiency will be staged when electric light meters are commanded to tell the truth in the monthly bills.

Some folks in Omaha are inclined to think the "efficiency" report wasn't altogether based on what the inspectors found out at the post-office.

The kaiser is following up his record in the present war by making good on his talk about establishing a submarine blockade in British waters.

Many a fatal affray has taken place that wouldn't if the parties to it hadn't been "heeled." And this applies to nations as well as to men.

That Omaha is a pretty good place to trade is fairly proven by the efforts of its commercial rivals to place the Gate City in an unfavorable situation as regards railroad rates.

The war on its eastern front is putting new jawbreaking names on the map instead of shooting any off. This is not what was expected of either Von Hindenburg or Grand Duke Nicholas.

Considerable progress is being made by the democrats at Washington in their attempt to break all records for expenditure, and they may be able to do so. Also, they will be busy for the next few months explaining why it was necessary.

Word from Chrysenne tells of the accidental death there of Captain Edwin Pollock, Ninth Infantry, well known in Omaha, and only a few weeks ago retired by a board sitting in special session in this city.

The thaw has set in convincing people that the Arctic severity of the winter is a thing of the past.

The Harney street lot in the rear of the store of C. S. Goddard was sold today for \$9,000 to H. G. Clark & Co., who, it is said, will erect a four-story building on it for business purposes.

A special meeting of the Board of Trade conferred with Mr. Charles E. Howe, a Boston architect, recommended by Charles Francis Adams on plans for the proposed new building. The membership fee was also raised to \$50, and 25 members applied for admission in consequence of a canvass that is being made.

J. S. Tobett has been appointed division freight agent of the Union Pacific with headquarters at Salt Lake City.

T. L. Kimball and P. F. Shelby, and General Freight Agent Miller of the B. & M. have gone to Chicago for a meeting of the executive committee of the continental committee.

Mrs. E. M. Hooper lets it be known that she may be consulted as a clairvoyant and trance medium at the northwest corner of Eleventh and Cass at any time between 11 A. M. and 10 P. M.

Senator Fall of New Mexico says General Villa could "take the United States in two weeks." Evidently the senator has not heard what happened to the Mexicans who tried to "shoot up" a strip of Nebraska last week.

If the jingoes have their way, Uncle Sam will soon bristle with guns and other weapons; but the old gentleman will do very well without too much of these warlike trimmings.

The Hotel Fontenelle.

Omaha will formally note the opening of the splendid new Hotel Fontenelle this evening, and with that ceremonial will mark the beginning of a new era in the city's life.

From the very beginning of things to the present, a patriotism unquenchable has marked the residents of Omaha, to the end that every crisis has been met and every swell in the tide has been turned to advantage. It was this spirit that brought the Union Pacific terminals to Omaha in the far past; it was this spirit that led to the fuller growth and development of the city in the '80s; it was this spirit that, when the outlook was the darkest, financed and directed to its magnificent success the great Transmississippi Exposition; it was this spirit that built the great live stock and packing industry here, and that is making Omaha one of the great grain markets of the world; it was this spirit that has made the Omaha banks and wholesale houses, factories and retail establishments, solid and reliable institutions, and has given Omaha a standing in which its citizens have justifiable pride.

When the tornado tore its way through a beautiful residence district two years ago, wiping out many lives and scattering in bits hundreds of splendid homes, the spirit of Omaha rose, and with the indomitable courage of its united citizenship, the city faced the crisis and came out of the wreckage fresh and fair, and full of a new determination. And in that time the Hotel Fontenelle was born. Omaha men of means and public spirit have built this hotel as an evidence of the Omaha spirit. It stands high on the hill top, where it typifies the soul of Omaha, courageously determined on further achievement.

To Mr. Burbank, the manager, and his associates, The Bee again says, "You are welcome; you will like Omaha, and as you share in the prosperity of the city, you will be glad your lot has been cast among us."

Taylor and the University.

The gentleman from Custer wants to do something to the University of Nebraska that will bring about the segregation of the College of Agriculture from the other colleges of the institution. His public expressions, in committee and on the floor of the house, have not been very coherent, nor do they definitely state any purpose, but he has said enough to warrant the conclusion that his desire is to divorce the study of farming from the study of languages, literature, mathematics and other forms of polite or scientific learning.

If this be his purpose, Mr. Taylor is working along the wrong track. One of the great advantages of having the College of Agriculture connected with the other schools of the University of Nebraska is that it permits the agricultural student to gain a wider knowledge and broader grasp of other sciences than those which pertain strictly and exclusively to farming. It must be kept in mind, too, that farming today consists of something more than the mere turning over of the soil, planting of the seeds, cultivation of the growing stalks and harvesting of the crops. The properly equipped farmer is a scientifically trained man, versed in the science of botany and its various branches, with a knowledge of chemistry and a working grasp of the fundamentals of animal physiology and anatomy. Some of these branches are taught at the agricultural school, but others must be taken in connection with the general university course. If the divorce that Mr. Taylor pleads for is granted it would necessitate duplication of equipment, instructors and plant to properly provide for the needs of the agricultural school. Other objections are obvious.

It is plain that the College of Agriculture will suffer if it be segregated from the University of Nebraska. The strongest argument presented in favor of the consolidation of the great university on a single campus, and one which applies with as much force today as ever, was that through that consolidation the students of agriculture would gain great advantage by reason of accessibility of the other schools in which they must take part of their work. It would be a grievous mistake to deprive these students of their opportunity to acquire elements of broader culture which should properly accompany scientific instruction in farm methods. Mr. Taylor's zeal is misdirected.

The university administration has little cause for apprehension so far as an honest inquiry into its details of management is concerned, but it has cause to apprehend the effect of making the university the subject of partisan debate or division. Keep the university safely out of politics, and it will prosper in spite of material obstacles.

The Railroad Campaign for Higher Rates.

The Nebraska Railway commission calls attention to the condition that has developed in connection with the railroad campaign for increased passenger and freight tariffs. It is that commercial clubs and similar organizations are being persuaded by the railroads to pass resolutions making requests of the railway commissioners that the asked for increases be granted. The danger in this lies in the ex parte presentation of the plea. The Nebraska commissioners direct attention to the fact that the commissions of fifteen states are now acting together to give calm and careful consideration to the railroad petitions, and will be thereby better enabled to determine if the advance in rates is justified. For this reason it is suggested that organized bodies of railroad patrons exercise a little prudence in connection with the manifest effort of the railroads to enlist public sympathy for their cause.

Eastern newspapers are wasting valuable space in publishing the text of the "declaration of London" governing naval warfare, and approved by warring and neutral powers. It is one of "scraps of paper" shot to pieces by the war, and is beyond hope of resurrection by newspaper pulmotors.

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Serbian Ambitions

Associated Press Correspondence.

NISH, Serbia, normally a town of some 20,000, has been transformed by the war into a city of more than 100,000 souls. The stranger within the city gates wonders where all the people seen on the streets sleep at night. The small public park, as well as the two principal shopping streets, are as crowded during the daylight hours as Broadway and Fifth avenue on a late afternoon. The problem of caring for the thousands who fled here from Belgrade and the northern communities of the country when war was declared has been a difficult one.

Every house with vacant rooms was commandeered by the government, but even this action failed to provide shelter for hundreds of fugitives from the battle districts. In the dilemma in which the Serbian people found themselves the American Red Cross mission came as a veritable Godsend. Everywhere the Associated Press correspondent has traveled he has encountered evidences of good work done by American citizens and has everywhere found grateful appreciation on the part of the Serbian people. This appreciation was officially expressed by M. Milosh Petronievitch, one of the administrators of the diplomatic press bureau, who speaks English perfectly.

"Our constitution," said M. Petronievitch, "and all of our institutions are really modeled from those of the United States of America, and some day we hope to be really an American state here at the end of Europe and the beginning of Asia. That, as well as the sympathy and aid for our wounded sent us by the American Red Cross during all three of our recent wars, accounts for the very warm welcome we shall always give to any American who cares to come out and study us at closer range."

"We are not so hospitable to all foreigners. Serbia is more accustomed to having enemies than friends. From the time the Serbian empire came under the Turks in the fourteenth century, until its liberation in the early part of the nineteenth century, Serbia was cut off as a state from all the rest of the world. Her Turkish tyrants had but one idea, to destroy the soul of the race, the memory of its glorious and martial past, of its aristocratic traditions and of its racial unity with the other Slav peoples. Its chivalry perished in the great battle of Kosova in 1389. Kosova is a vast plain about 100 miles southwest of Nish, where the battle of Turkish conquest between the forces of Sultan Murad I and the Serbian emperor Lazar was fought in the fourteenth century. This great battle ended with the complete overthrow of the Serbian empire and the 500-year domination of the whole of southwest Europe by the Turks. This domination included all the peoples now comprising the Balkan states. All of the sons of the noble Serbian families were carried off to Constantinople to form the famous guard of the Janissaries. They were reared in complete ignorance of their parentage, and with but one ideal, the sultan. A certain number of the great Serbian families escaped into Russia, Austria and Montenegro. From these and subsequent emigrations have sprung the members of the race who are today outside the kingdom of Serbia, Bosnia, Herzegovina and Dalmatia are integrally a part of the kingdom, though detached from it by European politics at the congress of Berlin."

Mr. Petronievitch pointed to a large map which hung in his office, showing the ancient confines of the Serbian empire, as well as the marginal line of the frontiers of that Greater Serbia, the creation of which is in some quarters regarded as the cause of the war. He said as it may, it will certainly be one of the most important changes in the map of Europe if Serbia and its powerful allies are successful against the Germans and the Austrians.

"You can see," continued Mr. Petronievitch, "how difficult has been the position of Serbia, with the Turks on the one hand, longing to conquer what they had lost; the Austrians, on the other hand, urged by the Germans, whose own expansion could only take place by pushing the Austrians into possession of all the Slav kingdoms of the Balkans, thus leaving free the German provinces of Austria for Germany. There is no doubt in our mind that Germany has ever promoted its designs. A part of the plan always has been to keep the states of the Balkans from any federation or cohesion among themselves. This might have been more difficult had not several of the states had German princes for rulers. Serbia and Montenegro, you know, with the exception of Italy, are the only states of Europe that have rulers of their own blood and faith."

"Bulgaria, once allied to Serbia in feudal times and whose liberation from Turkey was effected by Russia, has ever been the working ground of that Austro-German diplomacy which has been so active at Constantinople. The Bulgarian war of last year, as well as Turkey's participation in the present war, was the outcome of this diplomacy and intrigue. Serbia has been wiser than Bulgaria or Turkey. We have not been any too fond of strangers. Too many of those who have come in the guise of friends have turned out to be Austrian spies. There never was a country so beset by spies and mischief makers of all kinds as Serbia has been during the last fifteen years, or since the German emperor made up his mind that a European war would be the only means of acquiring new territory for Germany."

"Serbia is trying to demonstrate to the whole world that its civilization is on as high a plane as that of England and America, and even though its resources and facilities are not greater than those of some of the American states 100 years ago. It was the history of the American Revolutionary war, read by Kara George, grandfather of our present king, which inspired him with a desire to lead his people in the uprising against the Turks in 1804."

Twice Told Tales

Misplaced Admiration.

The late W. W. Rockhill, who died in Honolulu, had a deep and intelligent knowledge of the Chinese. "We Americans," Mr. Rockhill once said in New York, "don't understand the Chinese. We misread them as a visiting Chinaman once misread an accident in Broadway."

"As this Chinaman was passing beneath a huge electric sign on which a man was at work, the man slipped and fell on the Chinaman's head."

"Well, well," said the Chinaman to himself, admiringly, as he rose from the pavement; well, well, how will these wonderful Americans advertise next?"

—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Carmen.

Mme. Calve, the famous Carmen, said, as she sped under azure skies and bright, warm sunshine over the blue Mediterranean toward snow and ice and New York shores.

"There's a story that illustrates the spirit of Carmen. If you keep this story in mind you won't go far wrong in playing the part. It's a story about a beautiful girl, Carmelike girl, whose husband said to her on their wedding day:

"Now I've married you, and remember this—the first time you deceive me, I'll kill you."

"The girl blew a cloud of cigarette smoke into her husband's face, laughed carelessly, and said: "And the second time I deceive you, what will you do then, dear?" —New York Times.

Theory and Practice.

During a school tea a kindly lady sat regarding one of the young guests with evident alarm. Undismayed by the lady's glance the young help-dish washed plate after plate of bread and butter and cake. At last the lady could stand it no longer. Going up to the urchin she said:



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

Try It.

SOUTH OMAHA, Feb. 22.—To the Editor of The Bee: Should like to answer E. W. W. on annexation in this morning's Bee, but I am afraid anyone opposed to annexation cannot get a hearing through the Omaha papers. In the first place, this man is afraid to sign his name. If he had of told the truth he had nothing to fear by his signature. Says we have no improvements. I say there is not a city the size of South Omaha that can show a better record in the United States. Another person says: If annexed we would get all kinds of high school and factory improvements; this I also say, we have now, put up by the tax payers of the Magic City and best in the world, and a new tannery; also as for the efficiency of our offices Omaha can show us nothing. J. G. BLESSING.

Utilize Water Power.

NORTH LOUP, Neb., Feb. 18.—To The Editor of The Bee: Suppose the present legislature adjourns, not having passed a few measures demanded by the people. Their prospects as future officeholders will be materially lessened. The powerful lobbies want adjournment in hope of defeating those measures. Various men of the office-holding class have been urging that water power legislation be uncertain, speculative and theoretical. This writer is not the first to advance the issue. Thomas A. Edison says: "In perhaps fifteen or twenty years—depending on the financial condition of the country—the locomotive will pass altogether out of use, and all our main trunk railways 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 arability of the land. Even now this is done to a large extent in Sweden (by government ownership)."

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

"Twenty-five quotations from statesmen and scientists of the standing of Edison may be produced in strong support of water power. The object is to keep down legislation in order to monopolize the country's resources. We have the rivers with the power, there is no question, but can we turn the power to electricity by proper methods of engineering? The proper way to find what may be done is to appropriate \$100,000 and appoint a competent man to do the necessary work by which to find the engineering facts. If the matter is placed with the Board of Irrigation, see that the state engineer is in sympathy with the public demands. To do anything less will mean failure. General Grant discharged some good lieutenants, not for what they did, but for what they failed to do. This legislature should not adjourn until these matters are fully adjusted. Opposition comes from the lobbies."

WALTER JOHNSON.

Railroads and the People.

SILVER CREEK, Neb., Feb. 22.—To the Editor of The Bee: I wish publicly to express my unqualified approval of your editorial in The Bee of this date on "The Railroads and the Public," and in so doing I am sure that I am quite in accord with public sentiment generally—at least in the state of Nebraska.

You say: "If the railroads had always pursued the policy which is now being adopted and had treated the public with the frankness that has finally been forced upon them, there is no doubt they would have been met with equal frankness and fair treatment."

That is true. The people would always have been fair to the railroads, if the railroads had been fair to the people; but, as you say, they took an opposite course. Their purpose was "to exact all the traffic would bear," i. e., to skin the people to the limit, and for more than a generation they have been doing it to the queen's taste. About a year before our legislature reduced passenger fares to two cents per mile, as I now remember, I wrote Gen. Charles F. Manderson, then general solicitor of the B. & M. railroad company, proposing to him that he should use his influence to have the railroads agree together on an anti-pass bill to present to the next legislature, and of their own accord to reduce fares to two and one-half cents per mile, assuring him that if the railroads would do so, and treat the people to do the right thing by them, they would have no further cause of complaint; but that if they would not they might expect fares to be reduced to two cents per mile. General Manderson wrote me back a nice letter, which I have today, but there was "nothing doing," and the war went on. And now when they find themselves defeated and crushed throughout the whole United States, they come to us (the "people") with soft, pleading words and winning smiles, streaked with crocodile tears, and ask us to now give them of our substance since they are no longer able to rob us of it. Well, maybe the people will consent to do it, but, in my opinion, the railroads will not find them so complacent as a dozen railroad presidents lately found the president of the United States, who, notwithstanding his pre-election utterances against trusts, and all that, had not been long in office before he went over to Wall Street and the corporations "body and breeches."

I spoke of "crocodile tears." Take notice then that at this very minute, while the railroads are spending some hundreds of thousands of dollars, they have wrongfully taken from the pockets of the farmers, in paying for newspaper articles to make the farmers see that they ought to consent to still further robbery, the Union Pacific railroad company is resorting to every means in its power to take from farmers in Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado and Wyoming millions of acres of lands worth perhaps on an average, \$100 per acre, that they have been farming for more than a generation, and which the company claims as a part of its right-of-way, but which it has not used and from the nature of the case, never could use, in the legitimate operation of its road.

If the people of Nebraska were permitted to vote on the question, outside of those under the immediate control of the railroads, not one in one hundred would vote to give the railroads an increase in rates.

The people can easily see through this thin railroad veneering of honesty and fair dealing, which would instantly peel off if they should succeed in their present purpose of securing an increase in rates.

—CHARLES WOOSTER.

Editorial Shrapnel

Houston Post: The war cost the allies just \$10,000,000,000 this year, not to mention the loss due to deaths, suffering and non-production. It's a great old drunk that will leave a headache for many a year.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: Carranza's arrest of 180 priests after their failure to pay a ransom of 500,000 pesos furnishes another indication that he is not in the revolution business on the advice of his physician.

Wall Street Journal: Wonderful how the local authorities can solve the wheat problem primarily connected with millions of acres of land in the west, and are unable to solve financial problems right under their eyes.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: England reports a new howitzer that can be heard twenty miles away. One cannot resist the sweetly solemn thought that this new piece of ordnance can maybe be heard almost as far as Tipperary.

GRINS AND GROANS.

"Pa, I was the most popular boy in our class." "Did you pass?" "No. That's just the reason. The teacher liked me so well that she decided to keep me in her room for another term." —Detroit Free Press.

"You approve of your wife's public speaking?" "Yes," replied Mr. Meekton. "I'd rather she told her views about economics and sociology to the throng than

have her handing them out to me as little bedtime stories.

"An equine" saluted the village bore. "What are you doing for your rheumatism these days?" "Examining the doctors one after another," snarled the old codger, "to see how much they don't know!" —Judge.

THE PARAGON.

He never made his mother any trouble. Never waded in the water or the slush. Never swiped his mother's jam or cake or jelly.

Never grumbled when she fed him milk and mush. Never hooked a ride behind a wagon. Never punched a sneering bully in the nose.

Never crossed the street before a speeding auto. And he never—almost never—tore his clothes.

He never caused his teacher any trouble. Never tampered with a pen when it was bent. Never threw a single spit-ball at the ceiling.

Never used the phrase, "I wish I hadn't went." He never, never, never broke a window. Never put explosive substance in his ink.

Nor, even when the teacher wasn't looking, did he ever give a pretty girl a wink.

He never made his neighbors any trouble. Always seemed to be afraid he'd put them out.

Never raising a stir by citing an opinion. And no one else's ever dared to doubt. Now you'll think his path was, maybe strewn with roses—

No—the fact is he was met with much abuse—

For the boy who hasn't spunk to make some trouble. Is too bloomin' good for any earthly use.

Omaha. BATOLL NE TRELLE.

That Delicious, Natural, Salt-Sea Flavor in oysters indicates that they have been packed in their own juice; that they are sound and wholesome; that preservatives have not been used. If you would have the finest oysters in the world, get Booth Guaranteed Oysters. They are put up in hermetically sealed cans to preclude contamination with foreign odors. They are classified according to size—"Standards," "Selects," and "Jumbo Counts," but the size has nothing to do with the quality. Every oyster is guaranteed. Order from your dealer today. Booth Fisheries Company Seafood Branches in All Principal Cities