

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

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JANUARY SUNDAY CIRCULATION. 47,925

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss: Dwight Williams, circulation manager, says that the average Sunday circulation for the month of January, 1916, was 47,925. DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 23 day of February, 1916. ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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

Congress evidently doesn't care a continental for the continental army.

At any rate, the groundhog has saved his reputation for at least two weeks.

It's a cinch but that Secretary Daniels will not resign, no matter what happens.

That's a good one—the president wins the confidence of congress by losing the confidence of his strongest cabinet minister.

The first spring frost has been observed on the whiskers of Mars. Now look out for a fresh drive on winter's trenches.

Denying the kids any of the pleasures of youth may be disagreeable, but it sometimes saves considerable pain and expense, if not a vacant chair.

Since the beginning of the fracas German armies have captured 19,700 pieces of artillery. The collection insures a souvenir cannon for every park in the empire.

The rainbow raiment for men at a minimum cost of \$2,000 a year, will be exceedingly helpful to federal revenue collectors in spotting income tax victims at a distance.

If any cross-roads village can buy one piece of auto-fire equipment for, say, \$5,000, Omaha certainly should be able to place a single order for eleven of them at a better rate.

However, the one-term plank will not be lonesome at St. Louis. The Baltimore outburst for economy and "reduced cost of living" is even more conspicuous as dead timber.

As governor of New Jersey, it was "the open door" and "walk right in," while now, as president, not even his own secretary of war could get a hearing except by writing a long letter and sending it over by special messenger.

The coming democratic ratification meeting at St. Louis will continue through four days. Party patriots unable to get the enthusiasm out of their systems in ninety-six hours are assured permanent relief by calling for the hotel bill.

That foolish postal clerk made the mistake of his life when he reached out for money-order money that didn't belong to him. If he was so eager to get rich quick he should have smuggled himself into the district clerk's office and intercepted the fees that came over his counter before they reached the treasury.

Straining Neutrality to Limit. The Entente Allies seem bent on straining the neutrality of the United States to the utmost limit. In threatening a boycott of American ports, in event this country holds its position as to armed merchantmen, the Allies are assuming to dictate action that may be taken, as well as the terms. If the French, English and Italians are minded to arm their trading vessels, and thereby turn them into ships of war, it is no concern of the United States so long as they remain away from American waters, except as such action relates to world commerce. In going about the world, it is not always possible for Americans to travel on neutral ships. Under the proposed action of the Allies it will, therefore, be necessary for those whose business calls them into faraway ports to now and then assume the risk of traveling on a belligerent vessel that has been deprived of rights granted to noncombatants. Complications possible from this source are apparent. The German warning that neutrals travel only on neutral ships cannot always be complied with.

The United States has already enforced this rule against Germany, by requiring the internment of converted passenger boats, and could not in justice be expected to extend to belligerents on one side privileges denied the others. The suggestion of the Manchester Guardian that the United States signify what guaranty Germany will give to secure its pledges is beside the point. The United States can only reiterate that Germany has made the pledge. No guaranty other than the faith of the imperial government is offered.

The case is fast coming to a point where neutrals must assert themselves more effectively than by merely issuing protests to which the belligerents pay little or no attention.

Nebraska's Wonderful Exhibit. Governor Morehead's little address, delivered by long distance telephone, to the convention of commercial clubs in Washington, might well be delivered to the citizens of the state, so far as its informative value is concerned. Nebraskans know in a general way the prosperity of their great commonwealth, but they are not always posted on its details. The governor touched two high spots, one the fact that Nebraska spends \$13,000,000 a year on its public schools, the other that the state is out of debt and has \$10,000,000 loaned on approved security. No state in the union can make a better showing under these heads. The population of the state is still fewer than 1,300,000, while its total wealth is well over \$2,000 per capita. It is a leader in all that makes for the progress of the race. The industry and thrift of its people, and their intelligently applied efforts have lifted Nebraska to the very front in the list of prosperity, and will keep it there.

Preparedness for Service. Eighty-two midshipmen at the Annapolis Naval academy have been dropped from the rolls because of failure to keep up to the standard of scholarship set for the institution. These young men come out of the several classes in almost equal proportions, showing that mental incapacity may be developed anywhere along the line during the four-year course of training. The percentage of failure indicated there is rather higher than at other great schools, and suggests that the tests required may be too severe. This will serve as occasion for continuance of the discussion started last summer, when the inquiry over alleged "cribbing" was under way. It is admitted that the United States requires a high standard of efficiency from young men trained at its military and naval academies. The course in mathematics and allied sciences is especially comprehensive and severe, but not beyond the mentality of a large number of students, as is amply shown by the long list of graduates from these institutions. Discipline is strict, and yet not more so than is expected in service, where the safety of all depends on the first product of discipline, implicit obedience.

The career offered by service in the army or navy is attractive, but is out of the reach of duffers or laggards. Neither establishment offers any prospects for a man unwilling to work hard from the time he enters until "taps" are sounded for him. It is this quality of industry and readiness that has ever distinguished the graduates of West Point and Annapolis. They are prepared in efficiency. It is not disgrace to fail to come up to the standard required, but it is a distinction to meet that measure and, therefore, it is not likely that the course of study at either school will be modified to make it easier to turn out officers for army or navy. Thousands of bright boys all over the country are eager for a chance to try their mental equipment over the course.

Demand for Tax Exempt Securities. When congress whipped the income tax law into shape the "interest upon obligations of a state or any political subdivision thereof" was exempted by general consent. The exemption practically was effected in advance by a "gentleman's agreement," which stilled the opposition of certain states to the constitutional amendment permitting the tax. To tax public securities, it was contended, meant an impairment of their value and a restricted market for obligations necessary to conserve public needs. Results justify the event. During the last half year the market for state and local securities has enjoyed a boom. Evidence of growing demand was manifested in the premium paid for Omaha school bonds, one of dozens of similar active biddings. A more recent sale of \$25,000,000 4 per cent New York state canal bonds occasioned a moderate bargain rush among local bankers. Many reasons for the demand are current, the most generally accepted being the known abundance of money in the country.

But a subtler and less known factor presses upon the market and for reasons springing from the income tax exemption. The New York Financial World estimates that during the past year tax exempt securities to the amount of \$875,000,000 have been purchased by banks, estates and individuals. Nor is there any likelihood of the demand easing up. The fairly certain prospect of congress increasing the tax on large incomes will be a supporting force for taxless securities for an indefinite time.

The situation growing out of the exemption present the novel aspect of the federal government conferring benefits on states and minor political divisions, which becomes at once an effective means of defeating the object of the law.

Making Men Over as Good as New. German orthopedists are listening to surgeons tell of wonders accomplished in their repair shops. By a happy union of plastic surgery and modern mechanics, they have succeeded in making over human wrecks, sent in from the battle carnage, and are turning them out as good as new. Artificial hands are coupled onto wrists and made to perform as if they grew there. Severed nerves are united, and about every form of damaged anatomy is patched up or renewed by processes that seem to be quite efficacious. This opens a still broader vista for the encouragement of these eminent menders of men. Why can't they go a little farther, and by adapting Prof. Loeb's biological experiments to their present achievements, produce the synthetic man? This, added to other output of the laboratory for uses of armies, will dash the hopes of the Allies, who now expect to win by exhausting Germany's supply of men. Still, an outsider might want to know why it wouldn't be as well to stop the human waste altogether.

Despite the temptations of all the "war babies," Omaha real estate continues to look like the best buy for all who want good profits and safety first.

Views, Reviews and Interviews

A GUEST at the Creighton Founders' day banquet, I had to listen to the address by Congressman Volmer, which he entitled "Americanism," but which contained so little Americanism that I struck one and all as wholly out of place. I am sure the authorities of the university who invited him to deliver the address of the evening were as disappointed in what he said as any of those present. Mr. Volmer's first offense was to declare that, contrary to his usual practice, he had committed his remarks to writing and would read them in order to be sure against being misquoted in the newspapers—as if the newspapers had anything to gain by misquoting him or could possibly make him say anything that would put him in as bad as what he did say—and then he declared that he had taken particular pains to avoid touching upon any controversial subject, or giving utterance to anything to which anyone could dissent, and forthwith proceeded to reel off a succession of dogmatic assertions, denying America and its institutions and lauding the superiority of German achievement in every field of activity, with hardly a statement which would not have been challenged except for the rules of polite society that demand a respectful hearing for an invited guest. As I listened to the tirade upon everything American, I wondered if such an utterance would be tolerated upon a similar occasion in any German university, from any German subject who thought so little of his own country and so much of some other country that he could find nothing German that did not suffer by comparison.

The founders of Creighton university and the worthy scholars who have since administered it for them subscribed to an Americanism entirely different. The fortune upon which Creighton university is founded took its inception from the building of the Pacific telegraph, which, while it made Edward Creighton a millionaire, at the same time was a patriotic enterprise that saved the Pacific coast states to the union through the long ordeal of civil war by bringing them into instantaneity and close communication with the other states and the government at Washington. It is indeed too bad the impromptu orator from Iowa, if he wanted to talk about "Americanism," missed entirely his grand opportunity of holding up the lives and characters of Edward Creighton and John A. Creighton as types of patriotism and public spirit for the present-day youth to emulate.

I attended another banquet-board function last week, assembling the officers and agents of the German-American Life Insurance company, which is one of the growing home institutions with the seeds of greatness in it. This company has had its office in The Bee building ever since it was started, beginning with hardly room enough for three desks, but steadily expanding until now it occupies nearly half of one floor. I was glad to call attention to this fact, and also to the observation of my neighbor, that alongside of us were sitting the representatives of two different banks, indicating that the company maintained at least two bank accounts, and in that connection I was reminded of this other story, which I told.

It was some years ago that I was serving as a member of the Board of Review, checking up the city tax list in an endeavor to equalize the assessments upon the different lines of business. The law under which we were acting provided that, as it doubtless does now, that commission brokers be taxed upon the average amount of capital employed in their business and we summoned the different brokers and commission men before us to furnish the needed information for that purpose. A few days after it was all over I met a firm associated in business with one of the grain commission men whom we had had on the carpet.

"Well," says he, "Mac put a good one over on you when he was up there about his assessment." "He did, did he?" I parried. "How so?" We made him bring his bank book up and show us. "Why, at \$100,000, you did. He wasn't afraid to let you see his bank book, but he showed you only one book, when he has accounts in three different banks." The death of Harry Cummings leaves a wide circle of sorrowing friends. I never knew a man who was a more "likeable" fellow when once one really got acquainted with him—he was so wholesome and whole-hearted, so equitable in temper and temperament, with so much of the we-are-on-the-same-level spirit. He never essayed anything startling or sensational or professed superiority, but entered fully into the occasion whatever it was. To see a man of careful and sober life with every outward appearance of an athlete, answer the call almost before the seriousness of his illness is realized, is calculated to make us pause and ponder. I know no one to whom the death of Harry Cummings comes harder than our mutual friend, Dr. Hoffman; these two have for many years taken lunch together every Monday noon, that both were in town, and don't believe either of them ever let anything that could be deferred or sidetracked interfere with this standing engagement with one another. I know that the doctor will find every wash-day cloudy for many moons to come.

A man often has to go away and come back to cultivate a real appreciation of his own home town. I never go to another city and return without seeing new advantages which we have here over what other places offer. That other folks have the same experience, I gather from a little postscript added to his card of market quotations by W. W. Bingham, who he sends me which reads as follows: "In January my wife and I made a trip as far south as New Orleans. Of course, we enjoyed the change. There are many interesting things to see, but after all we returned home well satisfied that we live in one of the best cities in the best section of these United States. That we who live in this great middle-west do not fully realize what a real 'God's country' is until we go away and learn what our neighbors in the south, east and west have to contend with. If you cannot succeed here it's not the fault of the country." If you have any doubts, take a trip and try it out yourself.

Thirty Years Ago This Day in Omaha

Compiled from Bee Files. McNish, Slavin & Johnson's minstrels gave two performances at the Boyd to crowded houses. The Western Sport, formerly published in Denver, has been transferred to Kansas City, and with branch office in Omaha, will have publications at both places on the same day. Thomas and Frank Riley have gone to join their brother, Edward Riley, at Hot Springs. T. F. McDonald and family will shortly remove to New York City, where Mr. McDonald will engage in the practice of law. J. A. Swisher, who has represented Wood Bros. at the South Omaha Stock yards for some time, has returned to Chicago. Mr. Howe, of the firm of Howe & Kerr, went east to buy goods and will visit the leading furniture manufacturers of the country. The report of the Omaha City mission, signed by Alfred C. Kennedy, secretary, shows total receipts for the year of \$67, of which \$16 constitutes a balance still on hand. The ladies of the Seward Street Methodist Episcopal church gave a Valentine party at the home of Mrs. J. E. Newman, 228 Campbell street. Miss Addie Johnson and Miss Julia McCune were attired in fancy dress to represent Uncle Sam's mail carriers and were kept busy distributing Cupid's missives.

SECULAR SHOTS AT PULPIT.

Louisville Courier-Journal: "Billy" Sunday preaches in Trenton, N. J., a sermon attacking monarchs. Not at all tasteless, as the sin of monarchy is rare in that neck of the woods. Pittsburgh Dispatch: A distinguished visiting clergyman says men are not properly appreciated until they're dead. Something like that has occurred to us, but innate modesty gave the other chap the benefit of the doubt.

Washington Post: A New York clergyman suggests that a fellow should see his best girl in the suit before marrying, but most of the clergies have concluded to wait for the spring styles that have been pronounced.

New York Post: The announcement that the Presbyterian church of Canada has voted by a decided majority in favor of union with the Methodist and Congregational churches in all further expansion, should go far towards settling a vexed question in Canadian church history. If church union is ever urgently desirable, it must be so in the sparsely peopled Canadian West, where the slender resources of many have been depleted by the war.

Ohio State Journal: One of the speakers at the Conference of Church and Rural Life, in the discussion relating to the decline of the rural church, said there was some discrimination practiced against the country preachers, in that none of them were ever chosen delegates to the big church convales. The people who were sent to these august assemblies were the bishops, the D. Ds. and the other big preachers of the various city congregations. The country preachers were cut out entirely and the country church was utterly ignored, and still people wondered why the country church was losing caste and impotence.

BRIEF BITS OF SCIENCE.

Salt put in hot water will make it hotter, just as it makes cold water colder. Elderdorn is one of the poorest conductors of heat, hence its use as a bed covering. A German substitute for sole leather withstood six weeks' test of the severest character.

The under-sea origin of chalk is indicated by the presence of minute sea shells which are revealed by the microscope.

Gold, silver, copper, quicksilver or mercury, iron, nickel, tin, zinc, lead and aluminum are the ten materials generally to be found in every house.

A German scientist's theory is that women can talk more than men with less fatigue because their throats are smaller and they tax their lungs and vocal cords less.

English railroads have provided cars for transporting automobiles in which the ends open the full height and width of the cars, and which have floor supports for bracing their contents. Of the 80 species of ferns native to this country a few have become more or less serious weed pests. The most troublesome are the hay-scented fern and the brake. According to a recent bulletin of the Department of Agriculture, cutting off the tops close to the soil surface twice a year for two years will kill out nearly all ferns. The best times to do the cutting are just previous to sprouting, or about the middle of June and the middle of August, in southern New York.

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

Only eighty-three arrests for drunkenness were made at the San Francisco exposition last year, although nearly 15,000,000 persons passed through the turnstiles. John B. Marshall of Sunbury, Pa., found the address of six Bloomsbury girls in a bottle floating in the Susquehanna river. In a joint letter they said they wished husbands, who must be dashing and strotty temperate.

The longest chance in the world, taken by a thief who stole a bagful of going alarm clocks, proved a losing one, even though when caught he cunningly explained like this: "I run a boarding house and bought these to make the roomers get up on time."

The Western State bank of St. Paul, Minn., has received a letter purporting to be from the man who robbed it in December and telling some "amusing portions" of his experiences while committing the robbery, all of which must appeal to the Western State bank as very humorous, indeed.

Commendable progress toward the best modern ideals is indicated by the announcement that the people of Iloilo, island of Zambosang, Philippine islands, that unnecessary cruelty to horses and cattle driven through the public streets will not be tolerated. Especially noteworthy as a sidelight is the following and last sentence: "This applies to Americans as well as others. In fact, this department knows no favorites in the strict enforcement of its duties; please observe this carefully."

AROUND THE CITIES.

Detroit has adopted electric taxicabs, having twenty-seven in use and twenty more under construction.

Balt Lake City's telephone company picked up a bunch of property last year. The company cleaned up \$2,224,000.

New Orleans' gross income for this year totals \$2,864,128. Most of it comes from real and personal property assessed at \$24,137,467.

Jinney's are accused of clipping the revenue of St. Louis street railways by \$200,000 last year. The company carried 22,771,000 passengers.

The St. Louis Times figures the taxable personal property in the city at \$2,000,000, yet the total assessed value of all real and personal property is only \$62,000,000. Values there shrink mightily at assessing time.

St. Louis newspapers are agitating for supervision of bakeries, which will insure clean bread. The city has 600 bread making plants, which are at present unrestricted as to the quality of goods put on the market.

St. Paul is thoroughly convinced that its depot is not desirable either as an art exhibit or a public convenience. The railroads refuse to abolish it and some councilmen threaten to condemn it and push it into the river.

Sioux City owners of the Auditorium are going through an experience similar to that of the late owners of Omaha's Auditorium. The gloom of the stockholders is lightened by the hope of unloading the elephant on the city.

St. Joe councilmen, after preaching economy, are cruelly asked to practice the preachment on themselves. An order is pending which proposes a cut of 30 per cent in all city salaries. The author of the measure solemnly says he is not a humorist.

People and Events.

Of the printing of books there is no end, but there are limits. Last year's output in this country was the smallest since 1906, consisting of 9,734 books and pamphlets, barely two-thirds of the record for 1914.

Drug stores are putting out of "something just as good" in the dry bolts of Oregon and Washington. Experts say that the so-called whisky tablets, dissolved in water, produce a jag that is a hummer.

A St. Louis patriarch of the Jones family, 82 past, carried his spine cat-fashion the other day and rebelled against washing dishes. His first drive for liberty brought him to a divorce court, where he aired his troubles.

Another alarmist doctor breaks into print in Chicago with the news that 15,000,000 American school children have defective eyes, bones and teeth. The doctor did not count them, that being an unnecessary detail.

Mrs. Carrie Wright of Marshfield, Ore., is all right except in one respect. Her husband is not a naturalized citizen, which makes Mrs. Wright all wrong, politically. When she sought to take a seat in the city council and dignity the assembled scribes, the latter declared her ineligible and respectfully showed the lady to the door. Isn't that the limit?

A legislative committee snooping around New York for avenues of easy money, bumped into Theodore Shonts, president of the Interborough Rapid Transit company, which operates the subway system. Mr. Shonts draws a salary of \$100,000 a year. Besides, the directors handed him a bonus of \$100,000 on one occasion and later a Christmas present of \$100,000. The information impressed the committee that directors who direct in that fashion are sorely in need of legal direction.

Colonel John B. Cotton of Galesburg, Ill., one of the three survivors of "the Jayhawkers of '63" gathered friends about him on the evening of the 4th inst. and recounted his party's experiences in crossing the plains, deserts and mountains sixty-seven years ago. The party struck out from Galesburg, April 1, 1849, passed through Council Bluffs, then known as Kansasville, and over the site of Omaha, and had no trial or adventure of consequence until they headed southwest from Salt Lake. Hunger, thirst and desert dust took three members of the party, but the remainder struggled on, enduring appalling hardships, and finally reached the Santa Clara valley, February 4, 1850. Colonel Cotton was 18 years of age when he made the trip.

WHITTLED TO A POINT.

Stupid men are never satisfied with themselves. I've met a man who hasn't been tempted in sure of his honesty. Even a prohibitionist makes no kick about the horn of plenty. Some people can best make their presence felt by their absence.

The last step in a questionable undertaking may be a lock-step. A distant manner doesn't lead enchantment to one's view of friendship. It takes a woman chauffeur to steer a baby carriage through a crowd.

Procreation is a banana peel that has caused the downfall of many a man. At forty a man knows about half as much as he thought he knew at twenty.

Any woman may drive her husband to drink, but she can't make him take water. A girl may be able to pose as an angel during courtship, but after marriage she sheds her wings.

If all the world's a stage it's up to each of us to contribute something toward the elevation thereof. The mother who will deliberately admit that some other baby is as smart as her's, isn't to be trusted.

We honestly believe that the man who tackles the beautiful snow with a shovel will make more money than the one who writes poetry about it.—Chicago News.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.

"That stinky fellow's young bride is going to get stuck on one thing in her married life." "What is that?" "After pin money."—Baltimore American.

"We expelled the deacon for mixing religion and politics." "Mix'n religion and politics?" "Yes, he'd go to a political meetin' an' he'd fall asleep in the middle of a speech, I can't understand."—Washington Star.

"How is your boy Josh getting along with his book?" "First rate," replied Farmer Cortesall. "He's learned a whole lot." "Knows more than you do, I bet." "I won't say that, but he kin tell me a lot of things I already know in language I can't understand."—Washington Star.

Husband—Why don't you put your mind on it and get a good book? Wife (Sweetly)—I don't think I know how, I don't seem to have any faculty in selecting books to live with.—Life.

Bobby (Trying to Get Away)—Say, pa, wait a minute. Didn't you tell the callers last night that I couldn't be beat for mischief? Father—That's just what I did, you young rascal. Bobby—Well, then, what do you mean by beating me now?—Boston Transcript.

DEAR MR. KABBIBLE, MY FRANK, WHO IS A TRAVELING SALESMAN, PROMISED TO SEND ME A COLORED POST CARD FROM EVERY TOWN HE VISITS. HE DID NOT SEND ME ANY FROM DES MOINES OR OMAHA—WHAT CAN IT MEAN? WOULD THERE BE A NICKEL PIECE IN THOSE TOWNS?

Evangeline—How do you like my new hat? Cordelia—I think it is charming. I had one just like it last year.—Philadelphia Ledger.

"Professor, I picked up this hairpin at Pompeii. Do you think the Pompeian women wore hair pins such as this?" "No," he answered briefly, "nothing." "Helen was silent a moment, and then asked, 'But how do you know when you are done.'"—Harper's Monthly.

Helen annoyed her father with questions while he tried to read the newspaper. One evening, among other things she demanded, "Papa, what do you do at the store all day?" "Oh," he answered briefly, "nothing." "Helen was silent a moment, and then asked, 'But how do you know when you are done.'"—Harper's Monthly.

TACKLING YOUR WORK.

Edgar A. Guest, in Detroit Free Press. How do you tackle your work each day? Are you scared of the job you find? Do you wrangle the task that comes your way?

With a confident, easy mind? Do you start right up to the work ahead? Or fearfully pause to view it? Do you start to toil with a sense of dread?

Or feel that you're going to do it? You can do as much as you think you can.

But you'll never accomplish more. If you're afraid to try, you're young man. There's little for you in store. For failure comes from the inside first. It's there if we only know it. And you can win, though you face the worst.

If you feel that you're going to do it. Success! It's found in the soul of you. And not in the realm of luck. The world will furnish the work to do. But you must provide the pluck. You can do whatever you think you can. It's all in the way you view it. It's all in the start that you make, young man.

You must feel that you're going to do it. How do you tackle your work each day? With confidence clear or dread? What to yourself do you stop and say? When a new task lies ahead? What is the thought that is in your mind?

Is fear ever running through it? If so, tackle the next you find by thinking you're going to do it.

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NEW ORLEANS and the MARDI GRAS The Ideal Way to See Them Under the Auspices of the ILLINOIS CENTRAL Third Annual Mid-Winter Vacation Party to the Southern Metropolis will leave Omaha Friday, March 3d, and Chicago Saturday, March 4th, 1916. Includes several days' visit in New Orleans and visit to the Vicksburg National Military Park on the return. The cost is moderate and includes all expenses from Chicago except meals in New Orleans. Send for a beautifully illustrated Booklet entitled "New Orleans for the Tourist," and also Mardi Gras literature. For tickets, sleeping car reservations and further information address the undersigned. E. NORTH, District Passenger Agent. 407 South 15th Street, Omaha. Phone Douglas 264.