

## THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietor.

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Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the average circulation for the month of February, 1916, was 14,225 daily and 12,612 Sunday.

Dwight Williams, Circulation Manager.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me, this 13th day of March, 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.

Rushing haddock to the front gives the situation the old reliable sign of war.

Maine municipal elections have gone overwhelmingly republican. Straws point the way the wind blows.

The political escalator is a dangerous contraption to climb, especially for candidates loaded down with odious records.

Omaha wants a new Union Depot. Jump in, you others newspapers. When we land the prize, there'll be glory enough for all.

So long as doctors disagree on the proper care of the baby, safety first warns fathers to stick to the old reliable system of leaving the task to mother.

Forty thousand pesos is said to be the price placed on Villa's head. In view of the lean and hungry look of the peso the premium is much below the risk.

The primary election in Des Moines turns out to favor the "Liberals," but whatever that may mean in a dry capital of a dry state will require a diagram to demonstrate.

The patent office renews its assurances that perpetual motion is impossible in practice, but a fairly good imitation may be seen in "Bob's" naturalization fee grabbing department.

Omaha's national banks make a showing, with their nearly eighty million dollars of deposits, in response to the comptroller's call last fall, that is dazzling to the eye. It must have been raining money hereabouts without anybody realizing it.

What the water works audit proves conclusively is that our meter rate is still too high. Omaha water users could easily be supplied at 15 cents a thousand gallons the same as Lincoln water users without involving the water district in a deficit.

Brother Charley's name has now been filed as a candidate for governor on the populist ticket as well as on the democratic ticket. We should think the brother of a former secretary of state would have risen above attempting to perpetrate this moth-eaten political fake again.

The federal supreme court sustains the practice of a minority of states in upholding the validity of unrecorded deeds made prior to bankruptcy. Eight states win and ten lose. The right of the majority to rule encounters a knockdown in courts as frequently as in politics.

Experience with the sensational rumor factories operating for months prior to the war for the liberation of Cuba suggests the need of discounting reports from the Rio Grande. Coloring alleged news to suit the interests served may be expected from that quarter, and if taken at all should be smoothed with salt.

Thirty Years Ago This Day in Omaha

Compiled from Bee Files.

The western executive committee of the Knights of Labor, headed by Thomas Nathan of Denver, arrived in Omaha and established headquarters in the Canfield house, where they were cloistered until a late hour with railroad employees of the Union Pacific.

They will remain here to negotiate certain concessions for the employees from the road.

The remains of Senator Miller of California went through Omaha accompanied by members of the family and a congressional escort composed of Senator John P. Jones of Nevada and Representatives J. B. South and J. McKenna of California. Polk Lafoon of Kentucky, B. L. Milliken of Maine, J. B. Morgan of Mississippi, Thomas Sprague of New York and W. R. Pittsboro of Iowa.

Dave Brown of Omaha is married to Miss Sarah Wain of New York before a company of friends at Germania hall. The groom is in the employ of DeBlank &amp; Prince.

Detective Charles J. Emery has returned from a business trip to Dakota.

Miss Sadie Booth, after two months in Lincoln, Ohio returned to Omaha to resume her work in the office of the clerk of the United States court.

A disruption is threatened in the First Baptist church, growing out of a circular letter sent by W. T. Seaman to members of the congregation denouncing the tobacco habit and those addicted to it. The letter was a direct shot at the pastor, W. J. Harris, who announced Mr. Seaman in church publicly denied any such intention, whereupon Mr. Harris read a notice calling a meeting of the church members to take action towards selecting a new pastor.

That federal judgeship salary will no longer go to waste. But, my! How it pains those hungry democrats to see a hold-over republican still drawing \$8,000 a year as postmaster of Omaha!

## Is It the Right Time?

Is it, or is it not the right time for Omaha to strike out for a new Union Depot? The fact is that the need of modern and more adequate station facilities has been evident for a number of years, but when the project was first urged, it made little headway because of the feeling that the condition confronting the railroads was not encouraging, and the disposition of our people was, and still is, not to be unfair in their demands.

But conditions have now changed on both sides: Omaha needs a new Union Depot today more than it ever did, in fact, has made marked progress along every other line of municipal growth and development, while its railroads have stood still or gone backward in accommodations for incoming and outgoing travelers. The one thing we want right now, in the way of public improvements, more than anything else, is a new and creditable Union Depot.

On the other side, all our railroads are once more either on "Easy Street" or on the up grade. They cannot again excuse themselves with the "poverty plea," and they must admit that in depot facilities they are treating Omaha shamefully shabby as compared with other cities with no better claims.

This, then, should be the right time for Omaha to start after the new depot, and keep after it until we get it.

## Delaying Work on Preparedness.

Senator Borah very properly urges that congress expedite the plans for the new army and navy, instead of frittering away its time in inconsequential discussion of matters of less vital concern. If the work of preparing for national defense, which has been so earnestly requested of the congress by the president, is to be done at all, it ought to be done promptly. Mr. Wilson, at Cleveland recently, said no man could tell what a day might bring forth, and it was therefore imperative that we put ourselves in readiness for any event. At the beginning of the present session, in December, pledges were made by the executive and by the floor leaders that preparation for national defense should have precedence over all other business in congress. Three months have now been spent in futile oratory, a tribute to the obstructive ability of the group of pacifists within the democratic party who follow the leadership of the late secretary of state in his opposition to his former chief. Democratic factional differences are responsible for the delay that may mean much to the nation, if the president knows what he was talking about at Cleveland and elsewhere. Congress ought to speed up and do something, one way or the other.

## Alcohol as a Substitute for Gasoline.

A forest ranger, carrying on research work at the University of Wisconsin, announces that experiments have shown that alcohol can economically be substituted for gasoline as a source of power. This is not a new discovery. More than ten years ago the Department of Agriculture carried on experiments to determine the power value of alcohol, as well as its fuel value, and careful tests were made. Independent tests were made at different places throughout the country, with the general result that alcohol showed under working conditions from two-thirds to five-sixths the efficiency of gasoline. Following these experiments an amendment to the revenue laws of the United States was passed to permit the manufacture of denatured alcohol for domestic uses. It was expected the farmers, who were then taking up the internal combustion engine for farm operations, would use the farm refuse, cornstalks, potatoes, and the like, to produce alcohol for their own uses. The law was so drawn as to perfectly protect the government against any abuse by distillers, but it practically prevented the farmer from taking advantage of its provisions. The cost of making alcohol under the present law puts it out of reach. Reasonable provisions, that will reduce the price to a figure within reach, will permit the adoption of denatured alcohol as a fuel and as a source of power.

## Child Labor Bill in the Senate.

The Keating-Owen bill, for the federal regulation of child labor, which passed the house and is now pending in the senate, is being vigorously attacked by the powerful agencies of the American Manufacturers' Association. Appeal is being made to the reactionary democrats that the law is a contravention of that most sacred of democratic dogmas, state's rights. The measure is designed to control the employment of children by excluding from interstate commerce all articles into the manufacture of which enters the labor of children under the age of 14, and limits to eight hours per day employment between the ages of 14 and 16. The proposed law is being further attacked on constitutional grounds, as being an undue exercise of the police power.

In cases from Oregon and New York, involving similar points, the supreme court has held that the police power of the state properly may be exercised to protect posterity by preventing the exhaustion of women and children in industry. This principle has been so well established that it seems to be here attacked only as a pretext to permit the democrats to continue their pose as champions of progressive legislation and yet fail to enact the laws to carry out their promises. The southern cotton states are at present chiefly concerned in the defeat of the bill. Northern states already have child labor laws, but the great textile industry of the south is based on the employment of immature boys and girls, and under present conditions it is impossible to secure the passage of state laws to restrict the employment of children in southern cotton mills.

Great public interest is felt in the pending measure, which has the support of all organizations devoted to the uplift, and its course through the senate will be closely watched.

Various exponents of "American rights" persist in agitating the atmosphere and befogging the issue. The effect is to make clear their anxiety to get America in on their side of the controversy.

That federal judgeship salary will no longer go to waste. But, my! How it pains those hungry democrats to see a hold-over republican still drawing \$8,000 a year as postmaster of Omaha!

## The Mystery of Speech

Garrett Z. Service.

WHEN you were a boy, the first time you tried to whistle, in imitation of older boys, you probably uttered an unusual and uncontrollable squeak. Your ear told you that you were not reproducing the sounds that you had heard from the others, and you tried again. You called your eyesight to your aid, and observed how the others puckered their lips, and occasionally wet them with their tongues. You took advice from accomplished whistlers, who, if they were particularly interested in your efforts, put their hands on their hips, stooped down close in front of you, and showed you exactly how to manage the living instrument. You tried over and over again, and when you hit upon the proper sounds you were careful to remember just what shape you had given to your mouth and lips, and just what force of breath you had exerted. Thus, by dint of imitation and second of practice, you taught your vocal apparatus to produce the series of sounds which were in your memory.

It was self-education, and when it was finished you could whistle any tune that you heard, because your lips and vocal chords were trained to produce, instinctively, vibrations in the air responding to the sonorous concepts in your mind, your ears always acting as critics and guides.

Having attained this degree of skill, it was easy for you, if you had a talent for music, to whistle tunes of your own invention, because all tunes are made up of certain fundamental notes, and you had learned how to set the air vibrating to the wave frequencies of those notes. Babies and birds learn in the same way how to produce vocal sounds corresponding to certain auditory impressions. At first these impressions may not be connected with any mental concepts.

They are purely physical responses to external influences. Every species of bird has its own single "song," which is characteristic of the species, and an individual bird seldom gets beyond the universal family song of its species. But the human child soon acquires a wide acquaintance with many sounds, and learns to connect them with what we call mental states, and thus to express its thoughts to others by setting of certain vibrations in the air. This is the beginning of language.

We need not enter into the dispute as to whether or no the mind is something essentially independent, temporarily dwelling within the body and acting through it, for, in either case, the management of the nerves and muscles to produce physical effects corresponding to mental concepts must be acquired by practice and must be limited by the capabilities of the bodily functions.

Speech is perhaps man's highest distinction from other animals, and it is very interesting to trace its gradual rise in the human species. If we begin with the brains of the earliest types of men that have yet been discovered among the fossils contained in the upper layers of the earth, we find that there is a certain development of those parts of the brain which have been recognized as associated with the power of speech (they lie at the sides of the front half of the brain), and that there is no similar development in the brains of any lower animals, though the man-like apes have the rudiments.

Take, for instance, what has been regarded as the most primitive human skull yet discovered, that of the "Piltdown man," found in England a few years ago. Elliot Smith, a high authority, has said that although the brain indicated by that skull, which may be 125,000 years old, was the most primitive human brain that he has ever seen, yet it already showed a considerable development of those parts which in modern man we associate with the power of speech. To avoid misunderstanding it should be said that, of course, in these cases, the brain itself has not been preserved, but anatomists can tell what the form of the brain must have been from study of the skull that contained it. A jaw which was found not far from the spot where the Piltdown man's skull lay has been regarded as belonging to the same individual, and this jaw is ape-like in character, thus showing, as Prof. Osborn has pointed out, that speech must have come some time before the jaws were still ape-like.

Quite recently it has been asserted that the particular jaw in question did not belong to the Piltdown man, but to an anthropoid ape which may have been contemporary with him, but this does not affect the conclusion that the earliest man began to speak while their jaws were still the jaws of apes. But who can imagine what they said?

## Twice Told Tales

Well, why?

Representative Bowditch of Ohio, whose vigorous anti-suffrage speech was the feature of a suffrage debate, sat at a recent dinner party in Washington beside a suffragist.

The suffragist, desirous of showing woman's serenity of spirit, said: "Mr. Bowditch, why does a woman, when she marries a man, take his name?"

But Mr. Bowditch, desirous to show woman's sheltered and easy economic position, smiled and answered: "Why does she take everything else he's got?"—Philadelphia Bulletin.

After the wine.

"I want to buy a car," said Felix Spatter, "and it must be a car that combines a reflex starter, a duplex finisher, radio-active cylinders, Heuffeloffers spark plug, hot air reverse."

"My dear sir, have you had your lunch?" beamed the salesman.

"Why, no, I—"

"Well, lunch with me, and we'll talk it over," said the salesman, and they repaired to Beany's eatery, the most expensive place in town.

After the two had consumed a repast of Philadelphia scrapple, Denver game pudding, San Francisco honeycomb cutlets, Springfield fritters and Des Moines rhubarb pie, they each drank a quart of champagne, and the auto salesman footed a dinner bill of \$23.50.

"Now we'll talk autos," he said.

Felix Spatter waved his hand.

"I won't insist on all those provisions now," he said, genially. "They're only things I've heard people talk about, anyway, and I don't know the first thing about 'em. All I'll do is insist on my original intention of not paying more'n \$250 for a car."

Excusing himself, the auto salesman reached under the table, picked up one of the empty champagne bottles and sent it tinkling musically into a million pieces against Felix Spatter's solid ivory head.—Louisville Times.

## People and Events

With all the power and dignity which envelop Jersey courts, a magistrate at Bayonne reduced the beer allowance of a workman from 50 cents to 10 cents a day.

Married men are steadily gaining ground and wrestling small chunks of freedom as time humps along. A judicial Solomon in New York upholds the right of a husband to pick his own clothes. Any interference with that right is denounced as usurpation.

A foot-warming device for traffic policemen has been given a tryout at Pittsburgh and pronounced good. It consists of a plate at the street intersection warmed by electric current. The copper absorbs the current through his sole and calmly defies rheumatism and kindred ills.

Henry Siegel, pinched in New York for operating an insolvent bank in his department store, is out of jail and back in Chicago, determined to win a fortune and pay off his debts. He admits making a fatal error in leaving Chicago for the east. The east thought so, too, inasmuch as it did not tolerate Chicago methods as exemplified by Siegel.

## The Dees Letter Box

As to Parents Nuzzling Children.

ENROUTE EAST, March 13.—To the

Editor of The Bee: While passing through

your state I bought a copy of The Bee

and thus had the good fortune to read

Ella Wheeler Wilcox's article on nuzzling

children. This is not the first time I

have had the pleasure of reading this

writer's articles and poetry. But why

does she consider herself fit to be a child

welfare pedagogue? Has she qualified

herself by actual practice. I would assume

that (Mrs.) Ella W. Wilcox is the

mother of a large family of a marked

degree of perfection as regards morals. Dr.

Wiley is an authority on pure food

mother, but the doctor has qualified as an

expert.

I wonder if Ella W. Wilcox ever thinks

that she may be mistaken in her naive

philosophy. Of course it reads well and

appeals to the kinder sentiments of

those who have no children. But such

publications accomplish good or bad

results? Having qualified as an expert

I venture to disagree with the writer—at

least with her method. It is becoming a

luxury amongst so-called child welfare

to berate and belittle parents. Often the

only qualifications for such denunciation

is a somewhat overdrawn imagination in

the mind of the writer that she is en-

dowed with unusual powers of discern-

ment.

It is, I think, something like ten years

since the child welfare came on the

stage displacing our long lamented

maiden aunt. Like the aforesaid aunt,

their plant always was that very wicked

and ignorant parents were willfully

letting their children go to the devil. Since

their arrival I should assume that children's

morals would radically improve. Has

such been the case? I am inclined to

think not. Is it not possible that this

interference in the course of nature is ac-

complishing more harm than good?

A mother, even if she be not a shining

light amongst women, will accomplish

more real good without interference than

a whole army of philosophical writers.

A father who is a good provider will

be a much better friend to his children

than a whole platoon of Wilcoxes.

FRANK STEVEN.

## Greater Need of Recreation Caused by European War.

OMAHA, March 14.—To the Editor of

The Bee: The place of a playground in

a community depends upon the ideas as

to life's meaning held by the community.

Everyone wants to get the most possible

out of life, but not all have the same

set of satisfactions. Personal happiness

to some means forgetting life's hardships

in a stupor due to drugs or alcohol; to

others the sense of successful completion

of a loved piece of work, while to still

others it takes the form of earning by

self-sacrifice and service, the joy of feel-

ing his own efforts have contributed some

vital elements toward the happiness of

his fellow men. The best type of human

social organization is undoubtedly that

in which this last ideal predominates. In

American communities it can safely be

assumed that such an ideal is one of the

most potent of local forces. It is the big

objective of almost all parents, in work-

ing for their children. It is the vital prin-

ciple of church, benevolent and charitable

organizations. Our nation had its birth

in an association of the colonists to "pro-

mote the general welfare" and "secure

the blessings of liberty."

Henry Bruce says that more ineffi-

ciency has arisen in municipal work in

the past from inefficiency service programs

than from either graft or incompetence.

Men in positions of importance to their

fellow citizens have failed through faulty

objectives rather than through dishonesty

or laziness. They have not recognized

certain definite ends as the goods they

ought to deliver as finished product of

their work. The next important element

in which community work has failed has

been in poorly worked out machinery or

organization, designed to accomplish their

definite work program. The last point

of weakness has been the personal effi-

ciency of the worker.

In view of a community's ideals, there-

fore, the first thing is to work those

ideals into a concrete objective toward

which to work. The service program

must be definite and free from general-

ities.

To work out such a conscious plan is

the first business. It necessitates care-

ful analysis of needs and local possibi-

lities, physical and financial. Conditions

of modern life have changed far more

than we are conscious of, and our ten-

dency to cling to old ideas is a powerful

drag on effort to make new adaptations.