

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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APRIL CIRCULATION. 57,808 Daily--Sunday 52,223

Dwight Williams, circulation manager of the Bee publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the average circulation for the month of April, 1916, was 57,808 daily and 52,223 Sunday.

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

All main lines now lead to Chicago. Branches read for St. Louis.

Another ten days must pass before the salvation of the country can be assured by the nominations.

The set of the sentiment towards Hughes is now so strong that the Wilsonites are more than ever alarmed.

Omaha will be glad to welcome the army back from Mexico, and doesn't care how soon the boys get home again.

June may have better days than May has produced, but a lot of showing will be necessary to convince the people.

Secretary McAdoo has appealed to "Charlie" Lobeck for help. If he gets it, he'll do more than Omaha has ever done.

Italy's year of war is back at the starting point. In this respect, Italy does not differ much from its shooting associates.

Two dead by drowning in Lincoln stretches across bathing resorts a safety first sign large enough for bathers to read.

Still the increased assessed valuation of Nebraska railroads lack a few points of reaching 50 per cent of the owners' selling value.

St. Louis is painfully backward in coming forward with pre-convention gossip. It is presumed the convention will be held as scheduled.

Considerable indignation has been wasted on the river and harbor bill, yet it is not the largest slice of "pork" on the congressional frying pan.

Two trains will be required to carry the Nebraska factionists to the St. Louis convention. The question is, Will one hall hold them after they get there?

The astonishing prosperity of telegraph companies is readily explained. Federation club women are crowding the wires with night letters to high lonelines at home.

The democratic claim that they have accumulated all the great surplus in the permanent school fund is about on par with Chanticleer's notion that the sun rose only when he crowed.

One English shipping company pulled down a dividend of 106 per cent on last year's business. Evidently none of the "slackers" complained of in England are attached to that line.

If the oil companies succeed in forcing the state to refund the excess fees now held by the state treasurer, it will leave a lovely hole in the general fund, to be made up by a levy later.

The hint of a possible housecleaning of army buildings hereabouts is in line with adequate preparedness and safety. Untenanted buildings are a rarity in Omaha and Uncle Sam is the sole offender. Fill up or give up.

King Ak-Sar-Ben's first night is too rich and rare in historic and musical thrills to be missed by any live subject. If for any cause the event must be passed up the unfortunate is doomed to regret for the rest of his days.

Though living within a dozen miles of Dublin, on the edge of the plains of Clontarf, old Dick Croker shrewdly avoided mixing in the recent turlow. The foxy boss put all kinds of trouble behind him when he shook Tammany and New York.

Thirty Years Ago This Day in Omaha

George M. Cunningham, the new land commissioner of the Union Pacific, has arrived from Boston and enters at once upon his duties. The second annual state council of the C. K. of A. will be held in the hall of the grand branch, Bismarck building, on Farnam street, opposite the Poston. J. H. Whelan of Omaha is president of the council and I. F. Brennan is state secretary.

Flag Day and Its Purpose.

President Wilson's proclamation designating June 14 as Flag day deserves the thoughtful perusal and careful consideration of every American citizen. Strange sounds have been heard in America during the last year, and some novel doctrine has been preached. No danger of our country's being wrenched from its foundation exists, but its security will be more firmly established if a better and sounder judgment prevails as to its destiny.

Nebraska's Budget for 1915.

Let us keep the record straight. The World-Herald, in its zeal to defend a democratic administration of state affairs that has muddled its finances, if it has done nothing else, challenges the statement that the appropriations made by the democrats in the legislature of 1915 were the greatest in the history of the state. Auditor Smith's records are the best answer to that. In the compilation made by the state auditor at the close of the legislative session, which comprises every item appropriated, he gives the total appropriations for 1915, "all items actual and estimated," as \$9,169,314.32. For 1913 he gives the total of appropriations as \$8,415,077.73, or \$750,000 less than was appropriated in 1915.

Rivers and Harbors and "Pork."

The senate has just passed the rivers and harbors appropriation bill, carrying \$43,000,000, of which \$20,000,000 is said to be useless expenditure. The customary filibuster failed to reduce the amount, and amendments that might have been of service were killed at the last minute, and the bill went through the senate practically as it came from the house. This bill is the subject of more criticism than any of the big appropriation measures, as it is supposed to carry the "pork," a modern euphemism for graft in the form of unnecessary expenditure to aid some member's political chances. It is decidedly unfortunate that so important a part of the work of the government as the maintenance of its waterways should be involved with the scandal that attaches to the rivers and harbors appropriation, but there is a way in which the situation can be cleared up. Under our form of government a continuing program is not possible, for one congress can not take action binding another. It is possible to create a board that shall have charge of the work of improving the waterways of the United States, and which may be able to give to congress definite information as to the necessity of the items that go into the appropriation bill. This board's decision need not be final, but it would be of great value. When the work is taken up systematically, and on a definite campaign, then the "pork" feature will very soon disappear.

Kaiser Rides on Tramcar.

One of the episodes of the war of interest as a side light on the main event, is that Emperor William of Germany has had his first ride on a street car. Moreover, he paid his fare the same as a private citizen. This may not seem much to the American sovereign, who rides daily on the street car, hangs to his strap and takes no credit to himself for doing so. That the Hohenzollern should do so is entirely a different matter, and properly so. As a man he may long for the privileges his subjects enjoy; as emperor, and consequently the embodiment and personification of the dignity and importance of the German people, their genius and their destiny, he is debarred from the simple joys of life, other than he may have in the sacred inner circle of his home. Therefore, when the kaiser rides on a tramcar, it has the nature of the empire taking the trip. It is certainly significant of the leveling effect of the war in Germany, but it will hardly serve as proof of democratization that will endure.

Military and the Law.

To show the world that New York's preparedness carries more substance than a parade, 10,000 members of the state National Guard mobilized on Sheephead Bay speedway, last Sunday. All the equipment of active service, from bands to big guns, were brought together for practical work on a war basis. Just as bugles were about to blow and the guns pop in sham battle a lone invader panopied as a county official appeared and read to the officers a section of the Sunday blue laws, vintage of 1830, prohibiting Sabbath desecration. The Guards saluted the majesty of the law, and contented themselves with noiseless evolutions.

The Monumental Distinction of James J. Hill

The monumental distinction of James J. Hill lies in having projected, constructed and managed a transcontinental railroad and guided its development far beyond his dreams of empire. Other railroad builders have lived to see their vast projects completed. Few lived to see their handiwork reach the heights of service and prosperity concluded to Jim Hill. Shoemakers predict that prices of footwear will leap much higher unless some means of increasing the supply of leather is found. The delicious prospect is due chiefly to the extra demand for pretties to make up the deficits in tanneries' skins. Something better than the Old Adam recipe was expected from a quarter in active communion with sales.

Away back in the boom days of early life

recalls the recipient of an unpaid salary recently carried his roll exclaiming: "It's just like finding honey." A like tone of joy pervades the news of early increased remuneration pouring into the federal treasury. Prosperity touched the bottom of a long-felt want.

Laying Traps for Hughes

A FAVORITE amusement, these days, with some newspapers and many politicians, too clever by half, is spreading snares for Judge Hughes. They are having great fun devising little tricks to catch him. They try one artful plan after another to "smoke him out." As each fails, they bring out another. This one must work. How can he keep silent when we have amassed evidence to show that he is in the pay of the kaiser? How can he refuse to say anything when all the world beside is garrulous? The latest demand upon him to speak or die was made at Oyster Bay. In his finest Joseph Surface manner, the colonel declared that "a man who" at a time like this did not vociferously endorse Americanism, in the sole keeping of Roosevelt, must be against it. That, it was said, was chuckles, will surely fetch the judge. But it didn't; and so the merry work of laying traps for Hughes goes on. The petty methods of the courtiers of Lilliput are outdone.

It would be well for these crafty gentlemen

to strive to enlarge their minds so as to grasp one or two facts that are fundamental in all this matter. They ought to try to conceive of a man who is not burning with ambition to become president. A consistent theory of Mr. Hughes' bearing, so far, would be that he is disposed neither to seek the presidency—certainly not by any kind of political artifice—nor to refuse it— if the offer of a nomination comes in the way which he has made up his mind would be a call to public duty. It is conceivable that he has marked out for himself a course of conduct which, in any event, will leave his judicial dignity and his personal motives beyond challenge. If his party makes a serious and united demand for his services, without any expressed wish on his part—surely without any wire-pulling by him—he will doubtless yield to it. But if Chicago witnesses a wild scramble in the convention, with politicians pulling and hauling and fighting and bargaining, it is quite possible that Mr. Hughes will send the word which Charles Francis Adams sent to the liberal republicans at Cincinnati in 1872: "Take my name out of that galley."

Either way, and whether Judge Hughes decides to make a public utterance before the convention or not, it is absurd to suppose that all these "tricking facilities" of politicians and newspapers opposed to him are going to embarrass him or sway his action. People in New York have seen traps laid for Charles Hughes before. Nor can they have forgotten how he smashed the whole lot. In 1906, Hearst and his astute advisers were going to have such a jolly time with the corporation lawyer unversed in the wiles of politics. But the assailants speedily became the assailed. In the language of the Tennessee mountaineer, Hearst was "the mightiest hunter that ever ye see, till that catamount tuk arter me." And again in 1908, some of the smartest heads in the democratic party drew up a set of supposedly unanswerable questions which they got poor Mr. Chanler to put to Hughes. Hughes answered every one instantly, and then in turn asked Chanler some questions which that unlucky candidate dared not even attempt to answer to the last day of the campaign. And if any Philistines think that Samson has forgotten how to burst the withes with which they seek to bind him, they are apt to learn something in the next few weeks very much to their disadvantage.

There are various ways in which Mr. Hughes

may let his position be known. He may elect to delay until the republican platform is written. The question then might fairly be put to him whether he would be content to stand on it. And if the document proves to be that strong affirmation of national belief and duty which it is predicted that it will be, Hughes' acceptance of it would at once put an end to all the sly insinuations about his attitude which are now peddled around. Or, Mr. Hughes may think it right to take some step to let his views be known before the convention meets. He did this in 1908. He then said, in his speech to the Republican club, that whenever it became a duty to speak, "I have no desire to remain silent. Nor should I in any event care to preserve availability at the expense of candor." The fact that Hughes is now a judge of the supreme court may justify him in feeling that what he did as governor he ought not to do now. But one thing is certain: If the time comes, soon or late, when he thinks it incumbent on him to speak out, it will be found that he has not lost his swingeing stroke. And all the nets and webs which are now being laid to entrap him he will cut away with one sweep of his sword.

Nebraska Press Comment

Plattsmouth Journal: The old Omaha gang of democrats are going to try to beat their way into the legislature this fall. The trouble is the people in Omaha do not take the time to investigate the records of their legislative candidates, or at least one-half of the gang would remain at home.

Tekamah Herald: The Omaha Bee is certainly giving sufficient publicity to the wild-card banking methods practiced by Cashier Elliott of the Farmers' State bank of Decatur, which was recently closed. If the state banking law cannot be enforced, the public should know the reason why.

Gering Courier: The World-Herald made a "non-partisan" appeal for Andy Morrissey for supreme judge, because he is a democrat. There are many republican papers who make a similar appeal for Fawcett, because he is a republican. That's a game with two sides, but irrespective of politics, Fawcett's the best man.

Genoa Leader: Edgar Howard says Dan Stephens cannot be beaten for congress, that he knows, because he tried it once. Edgar tried to beat Hitchcock once on a time, also, if we remember rightly. The fights that Edgar put up on both of them was too much of a personal one to cut much ice, but watch the voters get their scalps next November.

Tekamah Journal: There is one thing that Omaha visitors have to give credit for to the business men of that city, and that is their desire and activity at all times to play the host to parties from out in the state. We sometimes think it must be an awful lot of bother to the busy city man to have to give so much attention to the country folks as they seem to do, and yet we presume the courtesy they show pays them financially in the long run. Omaha business men are alive to the needs of having their city on the map at all times. And Omaha is known wherever they know anything at all about the west.

Nearstey Hub: In the Oregon state-wide primary held last Friday it was a repetition of the now familiar story of the race among republican presidential candidates, Hughes knocking the state notwithstanding his refusal to authorize the use of his name, some of the announced candidates getting even a fair start in the running. This action of republicans of Oregon, in the extreme west, following a similar demonstration in Vermont, by the middle class, and couple of the big cities, with the support given Hughes in Nebraska, in the early west, indicates sufficiently the drift of the republican mind and should be good and sufficient notice in the coming convention that the people know what they want and are not going to be satisfied with any attempt to substitute something or somebody "just as good."

The Bee's Letter Box

Stebbins Sounds Call to Arms. North Platte, Neb., May 29.—To the Editor of The Bee: To get world's peace we must first remove the cause of war. We Republicans and democrats only go to war for self-preservation. With the greatest measure of respect for the German people and the important factor they have been and now are in the affairs of this government, the democracy of this republic cannot have any good regard for the German empire. There is no more important factor in this country than the German element that has taken the benefits of its citizenship. The war in Europe was started by the Roman Catholic state of Austria forcing its religious domination upon the Greek catholics of Serbia. Russia could not allow her Greek catholic brethren to be crushed by a Romanist. While Russia was moving her army against Austria, Austria mobilized, made an effort to crush France before England and Russia could mobilize. Now, mark you, the imperialists of Europe, religious, economic and political, have a combination to destroy the rising sentiment of democracy in Europe. This sentiment is not alone European; it includes the United States and is working in Mexico. The prime factors in this movement are religion and finance; religion to control the common people mentally and compel them to fight for their masters and finance comes in to supply and exchange the sinews of war. We now have the combination of religion and finance, the result of which is power, power to perpetuate war for its own sake. In this strife between nations, no distinction is made between religions. The people are driven like hogs to the slaughter pen—black and white together. To talk of stopping war and at the same time promoting the cause that make war is like curing a man of delirium tremens by pouring more whiskey into him. A nation-wide prayer by preachers to stop war while the preachers themselves live off the system that makes war is enough to make a brass monkey smile. As long as there is contention between good and evil (which is a mere matter of opinion) there will be war. The best remedy for war is for everyone to attend to their own business and allow other people to attend to theirs.

Wilson's and Bryan's peace policy is another conundrum—the biggest navy in the world to enforce peace. Make England stop opening our mail. Stop Germany from sinking our ships. We have just consigned days with 10,000 soldiers in Mexico hunting for one incorrigible and came home without him. Do we want to increase the army, to increase that experiment? Or, do we want to increase it to shoot the incorrigibles who refuse to join the army anyway? Make this a "government of the people, by the people and for the people," and the people will take care of the government. Send political scrobs, mountebanks and imbeciles with their mouths open to the rear. It matters not what may be the result of these pending political conventions, their platforms or nominations; the people have no part in them, but the people can control their congressmen, and through them control their government. This constitution and the laws made by Congress in pursuance thereof shall be the supreme law of the land. Do you mind that, you farmers? The average blacksmith and woodchopper has more sense than the average congressman. Congressmen are sent there by the system, to be moved around like pawns on a checkerboard in the interests of the system. Get wise you farmers and blacksmiths and go congress yourselves, if you have to go on foot.

LUCIEN STEBBINS.

Advice for Democrats.

York, Neb., May 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: In the World-Herald of May 27 there was an article under the caption, "Advice for Democrats." That contains some fine misinformation for democrats or others without memory, for a good democrat and a good memory are generally a long ways apart. Had the writer changed the party name the other way around, he would have said something that could be found in the records. But he said something else. He is proud of "the democratic state government which has been put upon an efficiency basis, and accumulated millions of dollars as a rainy day fund," and sees no reason why they should vote their own party out, "and go back to the republican plunderers of years gone by." Then he says, "But there were certain men, elected to serve the people as republicans, who had free access to the public till, and as a consequence some went at it a little too strong and had to serve time. That is a sample of state government under republican rule." While it is only the exception to the rule, all posted people know it as a fact. Then let us run back a few years and take a hasty inventory. We have not the space at our command to give all the data, but just the statements only, which can be proven by the state's old books. When the new settlers in the western part of the state were in real need of help, the state issued warrants for the amount of about \$200,000 to furnish feed and seed to those who otherwise would have suffered. The cry went up from the enemies' camp, "Turn the rascals out" for running the state in debt. So they turned them out and put this efficiency bunch in, and then repeated the dose four times, making ten years of efficiency (?) government, during which time all the state institutions except one had trouble with their management and several had scandals, and some repeated it. Then the powers that be, for that was called to make sufficient provision for the maintenance of the efficiency regime and every department of the state government had its deficit and these badges of democratic efficiency grew into huge amounts so that when "the plundering republicans" got control of state affairs they found over \$2,000,000 worth of warrants and would bills. Yet in the next ten years the party of real business management had that all paid but a trifle and the taxes were levied and partly collected that finished the payment. Then the cry was, look the rascals big appropriations and high taxes. So "the great common people" put the great common statement back in control. Since then the appropriations and taxes have increased nearly 50 per cent, and the state is unable to pay. But national affairs have had a like treatment by Dr. Democratic Efficiency. Let's keep our history straight.

F. POPE.

Editorial Snapshots

Polygraph Dispatch: Sitting up some administrative committee, American industries cannot be blamed, if they lay the president off that they believe in dragging his feet.

Independent News: It becomes more and more evident as the time approaches that Chicago, during the first ten days of June, will be the place for a man who likes peace and quiet.

Springfield Republican: Two Michigan delegates charged to Ford have told the state's committee that they really prefer the rough rider. They are both inter-changeable candidates, though both have been instructed to remain as champions of peace.

Bacon's: After some time the confusion which loomed down upon Nebraska's salaried men has been looking in the way of election on these looting down on our common battles of the sea. How the merchants who generally do well would have obtained the prospect of such wretched ever-becoming matters of fact.

SUNNY GEMS.

Mother—I'm afraid our daughter has lost her head completely over that young man. Father—Then of course she won't need that new hat you were going to get her.—Boston Transcript. Church—He writes all his letters on a typewriter. Gotham—That's so he'll have something to blame for the bad spelling.—Yonkers Statesman. "What annoys some people are in refusing to recognize others just as useful in the world." "Well, I suppose people are like the silver and the pewter spoons, both useful in their way—some are in the swim and others are in the sink."—Baltimore American. Book—Are you the guy who refused to buy a season ticket because you could borrow some one else's? Ruth—Not on your life. I'm only the fellow who refused to help pump the sinking ship because it did not belong to me.—Cornell Widew. "Madam, we are getting up a training camp." "I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier." "Exactly. And that is why we are getting up this training camp for girls."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

FAVORITE SONS.

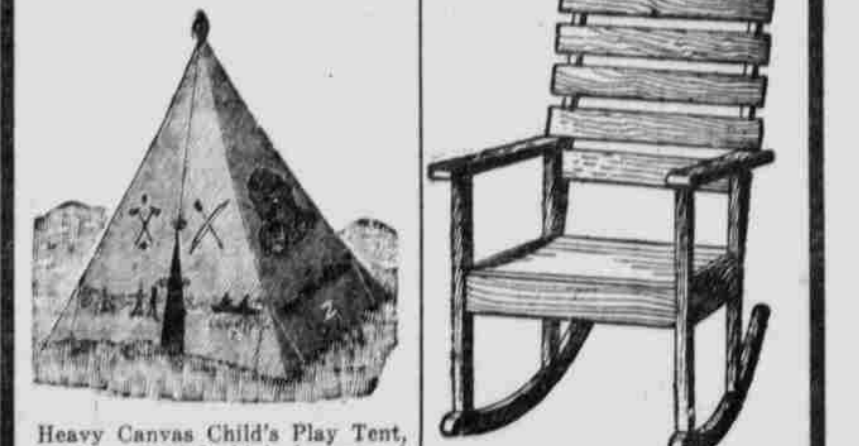
New York Sun. Ten little favorite sons standing all in line. One talked a lot too much, then there were nine. Nine little favorite sons wished to serve the state. One didn't say enough, then there were eight. Eight little favorite sons thought the job was heavy. One sprouted wings too quick, then there were seven. Seven little favorite sons, up to all the tricks. One showed the cloven hoof, then there were six. Six little favorite sons, very much alive. One fell too proud to run, then there were five. Five little favorite sons, waiting at the door. One launched his boom too soon, then there were four. Four little favorite sons, certain as could be. One laughed his boom too late, then there were three. Three little favorite sons, filling up the sties. One couldn't hear the ground, then there were two. Two little favorite sons, anxious both to run. One's issues all were scriped, then there was one. One little favorite son, politics he won. The second ballot came along and then there was none.

Seasonable PORCH Furniture

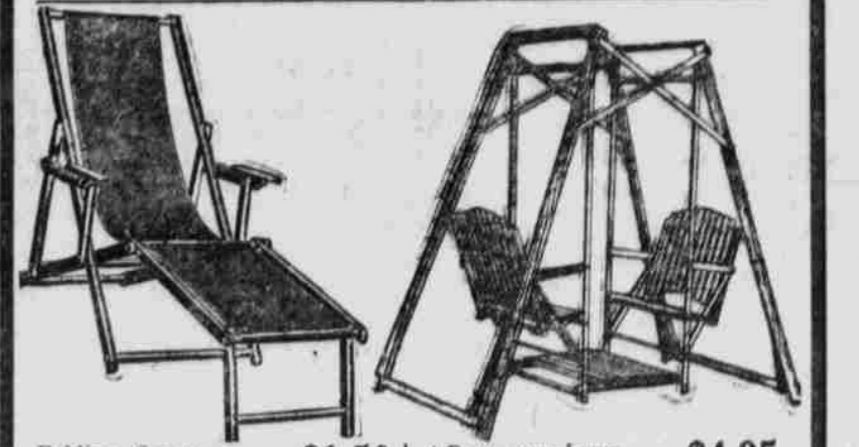
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Six-foot Porch Hammock, with felted pad, upholstered in tan kahki, like cut. \$4.50



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Folding Canvas Steamer Chair. \$1.50. 4-Passenger Lawn Swing. \$4.95

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