

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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AUGUST CIRCULATION
55,755 Daily—Sunday 51,048

Dwight Williams circulation manager of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the average circulation for the month of August, 1916, was 55,755 daily, and 51,048 Sunday.

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

No politics whatever in the land bank location—but still we won't know where it lands until after election.

British Tommies call the armored tractors "tanks." The title establishes Peoria's inventive skill all right.

Announcement is made of a secret compact against war between Norway and Sweden. The added postscript delicately warns the Danes their lot in it.

Diplomats of the allies think the retaliatory legislation of congress is useless. That depends on whether the administration has enough sand to put the punch over.

Isn't it a trifling brass to have the question of republican campaign contributions raised by the mouthpiece of any democratic candidate who is himself financed by wet-god sources?

Picture the reunion of the formerly divided republican elements any way you please, it does not alter the fact of reunion which stares our fearsome democratic friends in the face.

"America over all." The motto of Mr. Hughes, flashed at Milwaukee, tersely embraces the issue of Americanism. In brevity, clearness and force it outweighs reams of democratic platitudes.

William M. Calder easily captured the senatorship prize in the New York primaries. Others in the race showed great sprinting powers, but to Calder fell the honor of bringing home the Bacon.

Nearly \$30,000,000 were contributed by Americans to the various funds for the relief of the victims of war. The record is flattering to national pride—a pride chastened with gratitude for the means to give and readiness to give it.

The British government is said to be negotiating a loan of \$200,000,000 in Japan. Remembering how the London bankers accommodated Japan during the war with Russia, the "Yankees of the east" will reciprocate if possible and recoup themselves for the London squeeze with interest to date. Trust the Japs to get all the traffic will bear.

Disastrous floods in China and in Bohemia involve thousands of lives and property loss of immense value. In normal times these disasters would call forth worldwide sympathy and succor. But the world, surfeited with human slaughter and property destruction wrought by men, makes little more than passing note of nature's ravages. Man's destructive rage overshadows nature.

Right at the threshold of the demand coal dealers down east received over night a wireless hunch of a shortage in output, and prices were lifted several notches. Uncertain labor conditions and "unsatisfactory transportation facilities" supplement the shortage hunch. These and minor reasons are put forth in justification of the rising market, but they might have been expressed with greater candor in just four words: "We need the money."

Value of Autumn Leaves

Cleveland Plain-Dealer.

Soon the leaves will be falling rapidly. Lawns will be littered and flower beds covered. The wind will carry the leaves in eddies into protected corners. The householder with his rake and barrow prepares to go forth to protect the sanctity of his premises.

But these leaves are more than rubbish. They are part of nature's balance. Nature is returning to the earth some of the substance she has been extracting all the spring and summer. And man with his rake disturbs the equilibrium, and must buy fertilizer to enrich the soil lest it become impoverished and fail to produce; he cannot be expected to let the leaves cover his lawn and remain there all winter.

He makes a mistake, however, if he destroys the leaves that he rakes up and wheels away. These leaves should be saved. A professor at the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse has been making some calculations in this direction. He finds that more than a million pounds of excellent fertilizer is destroyed annually in that state alone by the burning of leaves from forest and shade trees.

It is an aspect of natural conservation that is too often ignored. Nature has established in every bit of forest, from the wood lot up to the great forests of the Adirondacks, says the Syracuse professor, a well-organized factory for the production of fertilizer. It turns out millions of pounds. Destruction of this great store of material is short-sighted and highly wasteful.

Hearing on the Land Bank.

Omaha will be host today to Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and members of the Land Bank board, seeking first-hand information as to the possible locations for the twelve banks that are to be set up under the new law. The interesting feature of the proceedings, viewed from ahead, is that the visitors will be brought into contact with a number of representative farmers, men who are to be most directly affected by the existence of the institution. Local business men and bankers, loan agents and others will have their say, and will present reasons for locating one of the twelve banks at Omaha. Aside from the admitted business advantages of the city, its intimate relations with the farmer and stock raiser are more extensive than are generally realized. Testimony along this line should not fail to give to the secretary of treasury and his associates a better understanding of the real importance of Omaha as a market town, and consequently as headquarters for any government institution that is to deal directly with farmers. This will be the outstanding point in today's proceedings.

Two Laws That Are Misbranded.

Legislation enacted in haste and under duress by the democrats just before the adjournment of congress has engendered a great deal of discussion. As political medicine, the Adamson railroad bill and the law intended to retaliate against the British interference with American trade are splendid examples, but as laws doing what they purport to do they amount to nothing. The Adamson law will not establish the eight-hour day for railroad men, either in fact or in principle. This is now generally admitted by the labor leaders, who realize what should have been apparent at the first, that the measure is so framed that it leaves the working hours just as they now are. The Cleveland Citizen, a labor paper of high standing, says, referring to this law: "It looks as though the railwaymen have been whipsawed again by legal sharps and politicians who try to carry water on both shoulders."

The law intended to provide for retaliation is equally short of the mark. The European powers affected by it agree that it means nothing to them and the State department at Washington is in doubt as to whether its provisions could be enforced. The secretary of state says the president "may invoke just as much or as little of the authority vested in him as he deems best." Experience with Mr. Wilson's foreign policy leads to the conclusion that he will be very wary as to how he proceeds in the matter of protecting rights of American citizens. It is not likely that, even for political purposes, he will make any move that will sincerely tend to the improvement of the status of our foreign trade, which is steadily coming more and more under the control of Great Britain.

The people of the United States are beginning to realize that laws passed, as were these, without debate or consideration of any sort, can not serve the purpose for which they were enacted. The real motive was to make political capital, but even this is turning into a boomerang in its effect.

Cut In Ocean Freight Rates.

A reduction of almost half in the ocean freight on wheat may be simply directed to the end of stimulating an export movement of wheat. This conclusion hardly seems warranted, though, because no appreciable diminution of shipments has been noted. For some time a slackening off has been reported in the Atlantic carrying trade, the demand for tonnage being much less now than it was a year ago. Several ships, transferred during the great rush, have been returned to the Pacific trade, where business is much livelier than it was a year ago. Ocean freight rates have reached an all but prohibitive mark, the charges on shipments to South America being quite on a level with those to Europe, a general advance up to 300 to 400 per cent above peace times. If the lowering of the wheat rate presages a general reduction it will be reflected in the price in due time, for it is a world-market proposition and the produce has to take the supply and demand quotation with the carrying charge deducted.

What the El Paso Parade Should Mean.

Twenty-six thousand United States soldiers, the largest number save one that ever paraded, passed in review at El Paso, and the enthusiastic reporter tells us that "not a gun sling nor a hat cord was missing." This commentary is indeed proof that the time spent in camp during the summer has not been wasted. It indicates that the inspector has been on duty, and has impressed the importance of dress parade on the minds of officers and men alike. If we may be given assurance also that other bits of military science and knowledge have been as carefully instilled and as completely assimilated, it will comfort us to know that at least we have half of a single army corps ready for actual military service.

The El Paso parade has a deeper significance. It should serve to further emphasize the unreadiness of the United States for the serious business of national defense. In connection with other experiences along the Mexican border during the summer, it should drive home the need for better provision for the proper training of the men of the United States for the highest possible duty of citizenship, that of the defense of our free institutions against any possible danger. We may no longer delude ourselves with the impossibility of war; nor will we be wise to accept the sanguine statement of Secretary of War Baker that the present war in Europe is the last that will ever be fought. Universal peace between the races of men is devoutly to be wished, but no sign that it is imminent has yet been noted by those who are guided by experience.

In preparing for defense we are but getting ready for peace. Just now our unreadiness is subjecting us to such treatment as no other great nation in all the world's history has borne without resentment. Mr. Baker's speech at St. Louis is in harmony with the wobbly attitude of the administration on this vital question; the parade at El Paso typifies both the condition and the possibilities of our defense. The only question to be determined is how much longer will Americans indifferently rest in fancied security under the real danger that follows their situation.

Much of the comment on the blackmail revelations hold the Mann act responsible for the hold-ups. Blackmail thrived before the law was drafted, and is likely to continue regardless of law so long as unwary victims can be lured into compromising situations.

Bull Markets

Wall Street Journal.

The criterion as to the ability of the banks to carry a rising stock market is whether or not credit is extended in business lines the country over. In this connection the relation between bank loans and deposits is frequently considered. If loans are running ahead of deposits it is common to regard the situation as extended. But this comparison, taken alone, is not always a satisfactory basis of reasoning. The large capital accounts of the banks today may enable them safely to employ more than the amount of deposits in loans. The ratio of bank reserves to deposits is a better indication of potential expansion.

Those who lay stress upon the position of bank loans and deposits as related to bull markets may derive some interest from the subjoined figures, setting forth the individual deposits, loans and surplus reserves reported by the national banks at about this season in certain of the last twenty years which bear particular reference to bull movements (ooo omitted):

Table with 4 columns: Year, Deposits, Loans, Surplus Reserve. Rows for 1916, 1915, 1914, 1913, 1912, 1911, 1910, 1909, 1908, 1907, 1906, 1905, 1904, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1900, 1899, 1898, 1896.

It will be seen that on former occasions loans have throughout been ahead of deposits, even at the inception of a bull movement. Not until we come to the present time do we notice the striking ascendancy of deposits over loans. According to the last national bank report, deposits stand nearly \$500,000,000 ahead of loans.

But much more can we gather in this respect from the reserve position of the banks. The bull market that started on the McKinley victory in 1896, although marked by excess loans, was "arried through into the expansion that characterized the opening of the century with relatively strong reserves. When we come to the extended situation, beginning with 1905 and culminating in 1907, we see how close the banks were working then to their reserves.

A glance suffices to show the different situation today. In course of a two billion increase in deposits over two years, against an increase of a little over a million dollars in loans, the banks have a surplus reserve, over and above their requirements, of \$800,000,000. If we discount the pyramiding of reserves that is always involved in the national bank figures, there are still the billions of potential expansion provided by the federal reserve act, a new and cheaper money which was non-existent in former years.

We have used up some billions of credit in the last two years, for the absorption of foreign-liquidated securities and in foreign loans. But there are billions more of credit available which cannot be used up in many years to come. That the stock market is now calling into use some of this credit is because of the exceptional situation growing out of the war, the almost fabulous earnings of certain industrial enterprises and the wondrous stream of gold to these shores. There is danger, of course, of a bull movement being carried too far, like the swing of a pendulum. But a check will undoubtedly be administered upon the advent of peace. And of that there is no sign at present.

Wastefulness in Charity

Pittsburgh Dispatch.

An interesting question as to the value to the community in general of organized charity has been raised by Judge Henry Neil of Chicago, known as the "Father of the Mother's Pension System." At the close of an investigation which has taken him across the country eight times and during which he has made an exhaustive study of the workings of charity in many places, the judge declares that organized charity, as he has observed it, does not relieve poverty to any appreciable extent; that it has a tendency to perpetuate charity and poverty; that it has become the sixth largest private business in the country, with a closely-knit machinery not unlike a political organization; and that it has been the steadiest enemy of the mother's pension law and has promoted legislation that keeps destitute mothers and children in distress.

This is a rather serious arraignment of a form of philanthropy which the country has been told during recent years was the only sane and successful method of relieving the poor. It has been argued on behalf of organized charity that it prevented duplication of benefactions and consequently did away with a lot of waste. Efficiency in discovering the real facts in cases of distress and so handling the relief that it did the greatest good to the greatest number has been pointed to as one of the principal reasons why the support of the philanthropically inclined should be forthcoming. Yet here comes Judge Neil, who presumably is acquainted with his subject, and declares without qualification that the system is wasteful and inefficient; that it has no constructive social plan and that its result is really to cripple the self-respect of those it is supposed to serve.

Nebraska Editors

The Wood River Interests, O. M. Quackenbush, editor, appeared in a brand new dress last week.

The Semi-Weekly Sheridan County Republican of Gordon will henceforth appear as a weekly.

The stork left a fine baby boy at the home of Editor C. E. Jones of the Summerfield Sun on September 7.

Editor George A. Miles of the Holt County Independent last week issued a handsomely illustrated twenty-four page industrial edition.

County Judge T. J. Ashby of Minden has purchased the Orleans Lasser from Frank P. Shields. The name of the paper will be changed to the Orleans Chronicle. Judge Ashby has employed Arthur V. Shaffer, former editor of the Alma Record, to edit and manage the Chronicle until he retires from office.

Alfred C. Hosmer, for more than thirty years editor of papers at Red Cloud, died at his late home last week. Mr. Hosmer retired from active work a few months ago and sought to recuperate his failing health in California. The change of climate failed to benefit him and he returned to Nebraska about a month ago.

People and Events

A St. Louis millionaire left his son \$300,000 on condition that he remain on the water wagon for five years. Performing the task in St. Louis comes perilously near "cruel and unusual punishment."

Edward P. Ripley, who has declared an intention to test the constitutionality of the new federal eight-hour law in the supreme court of the United States, has been president of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railway for the last twenty years. He began his career as a clerk in a Boston railroad office in 1869.

A veteran litigant of Brooklyn, Josiah J. White, is dead at the age of 76. White was happiest when in court, not because he loved the court or the judges, but because he relished legal technicalities as a means of freeing out or beating his opponents. His manner of expressing contempt for judges rendering adverse rulings consisted in biting his thumb, and so frequently was the operation performed that digit resembled a chronic sore thumb.

Thought Nugget for the Day.

Censure is the tax a man pays to the public for being eminent. —Jonathan Swift.

One Year Ago Today in the War.

New Austro-German army cannonaded entire northern Serb frontier. French aeroplanes dropped 100 bombs on royal palace and station at Stuttgart.

Germanians captured Ostrow, but bulk of Russian army in Vinnia salient escaped.

Germanians claimed capture of nearly 200 miles of the Russian front south-east of Dvinsk.

Bulgaria signed "armed neutrality" agreement with Turkey, and concentrated army on frontier.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.

A new social club was formed by a number of young men, who met at the Millard hotel. The officers elected were Charles Heindorf, president; John M. W. W. vice president; George Sternsdorf, secretary, and William Newhall, treasurer.

The well known market located at 314 South Fifteenth is now in the hands of Albert Wessell, who for years past has been best salesman at the Dodge street market of Harris & Fisher.

Cliff Redfield, the 18-year-old son of Joseph Redfield, fell off his father's



house, at the corner of Tenth and Hancock, and broke his arm.

A schoolhouse is now in course of erection near Hancock park and the school board has selected a site for another of large proportions, in Borg's Hill, Omaha.

Cadet Taylor, business manager of the Republican under the new regime, has arrived in the city.

Miss Nina Martin, formerly of the force of lady clerks at the county clerk's office, has accepted a position in the court accountant's office, Union Pacific railroad headquarters.

The Metropolitan club has elected officers for the ensuing year as follows: President, S. C. Berfeld; vice president, Adolph Meyer; treasurer, Dave Kaufman, and secretary, J. Eichman.

Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Lucas celebrated their fortieth wedding anniversary. A large number of friends were present and the Rev. C. W. Savage made a fitting speech.

This Day in History.

1776—Nathan Hale was executed as a spy at New York by order of General Howe.

1798—Marshall P. Wilder, who presided at the first national agricultural convention held in this country, born at Ringee, N. H. Died in Boston, December 16, 1888.

1816—Philetus Sawyer, pioneer Wisconsin lumberman and United States senator, born at Turland, Vt. Died at Oshkosh, Wis., March 29, 1901.

1862—General McClelland, in command of the Army of the Potomac, occupied Harper's Ferry.

1881—The cedar Indian lands in Oklahoma were opened to settlement by proclamation of President Harrison.

1898—The emperor of China made a forced abdication in favor of the dowager empress.

1906—Atlanta was placed under martial law as a result of anti-negro riots.

1912—A typhoon swept Japan, causing many deaths and \$20,000,000 property loss.

The Day We Celebrate.

Emerson Benedict, contractor, is 63 years old today. He was born in Waukegan, Ill., and was a member of the legislature from this county for one term.

Dr. John C. Davis, physician and surgeon, was born September 22, 1858, at Bridgeton, N. J. He came to Omaha in 1878 and has practiced medicine here continuously since then.

Major General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the United States army, died at Danville, Ky., 63 years ago today.

Abdul Hamid, 2d, who reigned for more than fifty years as sultan of Turkey, until deposed in 1909, born seventy-four years ago today.

Prince Mihail of Braganza, who married Miss Anita Stewart of New York, born at Riehenau, lower Austria, thirty-eight years ago today.

Guy Bates Post, one of the well known actors of the American stage, born at Seattle, Wash., forty-one years ago today.

James P. Walsh, outfielder of the Beaton American league base ball team, born in Ireland twenty-eight years ago today.

Timely Jottings and Reminders.

Rev. J. Ross Stevenson, president, will deliver the annual address today at the beginning of the one hundred and eighth session of Princeton Theological seminary.

An official party, headed by Governor Burnquist, is to attend the dedication of a Minnesota soldiers' monument today at Little Rock, Ark.

Leaving Richmond at 7:30 o'clock this morning, Charles E. Hughes will swing back through northern Indiana, concluding his day's itinerary at South Elkhart.

The federal government is to conduct examinations in all the larger cities today for lumber experts, who are wanted for the important work of finding out what the United States' opportunities are of selling lumber in Europe when peace is restored.

Kenneth Square, Chester county, Pa., the home of Hayard Taylor, is to hold an elaborate pageant today in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of the famous author's historical novel, "The Story of Kennett," the main characters of which were drawn from people who lived in or near the town, and many whose descendants are still living there.

Storyteller of the Day.

A lawyer tells this story of himself and his efforts to correct the manners of his office boy. One morning the young autocrat came into the office, and tossing his cap at a hawk, exclaimed:

"Say, Mr. Jones, there's a ball game down at the park today, and I'm going to see it."

The lawyer thought he would teach him a lesson.

"Larry, if you say that isn't the way to ask a favor. Now, you come over here and sit down, and I'll show you how to do it."

The boy took the office chair, and his employer picked up the cap and slipped it outside. He then opened the door softly, and holding the cap in his hand, said quietly to the boy in the chair:

"Please, sir, there is a ball game at the park today. If you can spare me, I would like to get away for the afternoon."

Whereupon the boy replied: "Why, certainly, Harry, and here is 50 cents to pay your way in." —New York Times.

The Bee's Letter Box

The President's Responsibility.

Omaha, Sept. 21.—To the Editor of The Bee: In an editorial on the "Shame of Watchful Waiting" in today's Bee you say "Of course the president had cognizance of what was going on in Mexico, for he had access to the reports made to the State department."

In this statement have you not shielded the president from the greater part of his responsibility by stating only 1 per cent of the truth?

In addition to the State department information, available in full to the president every hour of the day, did not the president send his own "personal representative" to Mexico, time and time again, for investigation and report?

It would be highly educational at this time for The Bee to remind us in detail of the incursions of "personal representatives" of the president into Mexico with a view of determining whether the president could have possibly been ignorant of the murder and rapine of American citizens in Mexico, known as it was, from day to day for a period of more than three years by every reading citizen of the United States. Yours for the whole truth, GROVER C. WARD.

Wants His Present Position Known.

Stimburg, Neb., Sept. 20.—To the Editor of The Bee: You did me a great injustice recently in running a news item which charged me with favoring an increase of farm telephone rates. The quotation from my brief in the Polk county telephone case was considerably garbled. It left out the proposition set out in large type immediately preceding the quoted matter, which was as follows:

"The commission erred in dismissing the complaint in that the new rate 'applied by the commission discriminates unjustly against the respondent and the users of business telephones.' The brief did not contain a word favoring the increase of any rate and was directed altogether against doing so.

As to my position in the matter I think that the farmers are paying high enough rates for the party line service they receive, and especially too high in some cases that I know of. VICTOR E. WILSON.

Origin of Playground Movement.

Omaha, Sept. 21.—To the Editor of The Bee: A writer in your Letter Box speaks of the origin of the Playground Movement in Omaha. The origin of any movement is generally interesting, although the most important thing is what is being done at present.

The Playground Movement, as I understand it, really began in Omaha in the fall of 1902. W. W. Slabaugh then president of the Omaha improvement club, as a delegate from the Woman's club of Omaha that fall attended the National Improvement association at St. Paul, and on his return reported in the progress of the playground movement in various cities of the United States, and especially the advance work in Louisville, Ky., as told by a delegate from that city. He urged that the work be taken up in Omaha. The next year a committee of playgrounds was appointed as one of the committees of the club. It was found difficult to find any person who would take charge of the work.

Finally in about the year 1904 Mrs. Harriett Heller was asked to take the chairmanship of that committee, but feeling that she could not take up the burden, asked her husband, Frank Heller, to report that fact to the club at its next meeting, then held in the park board rooms of the city hall. After Mr. Heller had reported that fact, he was asked to take the chairmanship. In a day or so thereafter he accepted the place and to him more than to anyone else is due the splendid work and success of the playground movement that followed for two or three years thereafter.

The writer recalls the fact that Mr. Heller on his way down to report that his wife could not assume the responsibility had a serious bicycle accident, but escaped sufficiently to attend the meeting, and was told that a man that could pass through such an accident would make a good playground superintendent. Mr. Heller, I believe, had charge of the work until his death. He spared no time in the work, and many will recall the playground at the northeast corner of Twentieth and Harney streets in 1904, 1905 and 1906.

A juvenile club was also formed with various officers all the way from mayor to police judge and policeman. Equipment of many kinds was provided on the playground. Many things were given by the merchants of Omaha and work donated by loyal citizens. In a crude way nearly everything was provided that was needed at the playgrounds of the larger cities. A superintendent was later hired from Chicago, and if the money was not on hand for his payment W. W.

Dear Mr. Kabbible.

HOW CAN I FIND OUT WHEN MY HUSBAND COMES HOME FROM THE CLUB? I'M A VERY SOUND SLEEPER! —MRS. CONNOLLY

HOW CAN YOU SLEEP WITH ALL THAT WORRY ON YOUR MIND? —J. COOK

Willis—I wonder if there will ever be universal peace? —Gillis-Sure. All they've got to do is to get the nations to agree that in case of war the winner pays the pensions.—Dallas News.

"A farmer when he puts up fence around his truck stock to keep the cattle from destroying it, pursues methods entirely different from other business ones." —How so?

"He keeps his trade by closing out his entire stock." —Baltimore American.

A Scotch farmer, on hearing that the minister was making munitions on week days, remarked: "Munitions made by ministers are of no use; they have been making them all the week during the past 2,000 years and bring them at the del's Sunday, and he's away to the fore yet." —Boston Transcript.

He had complained jealously that she had too many other young men around. "The idea!" she laughed. "Why, I can count them all on the fingers of my left hand. The index finger is Mr. Smart, the second finger is Mr. Balder, and the third finger of my left hand—the third finger is you." —Next day he got a ring for it.—New York Times.

Advertisement for Edelweiss cigars. Text: 'For a home surprise—send a case of Edelweiss'. Includes illustration of a woman and a table with cigars. Bottom text: 'A CASE OF GOOD JUDGMENT Henry Rohlf Company, Distributors 2567-69 Leavenworth Street Phone Douglas 876 Prompt deliveries to any part of greater Omaha Mail orders by freight or express to any point'