

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE
FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.
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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETOR.

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NOVEMBER CIRCULATION.
55,483 Daily—Sunday 50,037.
Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the average circulation for the month of November, 1916, was 55,483 daily and 50,037 Sunday.

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

Only fifteen more days for early Christmas shopping.
By comparison with the presidential election, it is a light vote on the light question.

Oil kings, with all their millions, have no stronger grip on mortal existence than the rest of us.
Firing hot air at the high cost of living is about as effective as Russia's deed to the Dardanelles.

Early shopping commends itself as exercise, but early buying is what counts in price and quality.
All of us are willing to be surprised by an unlooked-for event bringing a speedy end of the great European war.

Tentonic guns in Roumania blew up more cabinet timber at Westminster than all the Zepelins sent across the channel.
With five federal judgeships on the pie counter the potency of a pull depends on the smoothness of a geographical combine.

Eight hundred millions for defense and the usual percentage for pork. Uncle Sam easily tops the list of neutral spenders.
Cereal prices are slowly returning to the high scores of November. Looks as if the month-end "shake-down" worked out as planned.

The loan sharks are entitled to no sympathy and no more are the shyster lawyers that play the justice courts along the same line.
Colonel Bryan's example in securing a lofty perch from which to watch the bubbling of political pots suggests a like observatory for Governor Morehead.

The direct benefits of the Panama canal accrue to the coast cities. This simplifies the process of levying Panama taxes in proportion to benefits.
Preparedness bills are mounting to heights of dazzling immensity. The splendors of the scenery diverts attention for a moment without marring the efficiency of the touch.

Observe that the Congressional Record is resuming business at the old stand and is the only known publication not required to economize space to get away from the high cost of print paper.
The bridge joker slipped over on Sioux City's economical tourists touches the funny-bone of railroad efficiency. While the tourists had their laughs first, the subsequent guffaws of the M. & O. outshine the former by four-tenths of one.

Assurance is given that the "emergency" for which the National Guardsmen were called to the Mexican border has not yet passed. But, just exactly what that "emergency" is, remains to be disclosed. Wonder if it ever existed except in imagination?

People and Events

The current story that all Missouri voted dry except St. Louis is smothered in its own dust. "Twenty-nine large and populous counties," says the Globe-Democrat, "voted with St. Louis."

The high cost of living fails to check the speed of joy hunters in Missouri. In St. Louis alone ninety-two couples coupled up on Thanksgiving day, boldly ignoring the wrothy signals of sedate elders.

Missouri politicians legislated state prison workshops out of business and abolished the contract system. Now the authorities are wondering what to do with 3,000 idle men, who are sater at work than loafing.

After deliberating for a week on the high cost of Thanksgiving, the head of a Chicago household, rather than forego the annual centerpiece, plunged for a sixteen-pounder at 35 cents per. His courage was rewarded by finding a \$150 diamond in the gobbler's crop.

Harry Lauder is said to be listed for a title New Year's in recognition of his generosity in putting up \$100,000 in real money to finance bands of Scotch pipers for the army recruiting service. As the king's jester Sir Harry is bound to shine. The court needs a gloom banisher.

Is a wooden leg equal to a live leg in kicking a hole in the treasury of a liability law? It is for the courts of Illinois to say. Dan McReynolds of Danville, owner of the smashed limb, wants \$110 for a new, up-to-date member, beside full time for three weeks and hospital bills. Dan got in the way of an automobile while doing a bit of road work and lost his leg.

A Purely Perfunctory Message.
Only an exceptional partisan enthusiast can read the president's address to congress at the opening of its final session and reach any conclusion other than that it is a purely perfunctory message. It is a technical performance of the constitutional duty "from time to time to give to the congress information of the state of the union and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient," but the president lays before the law makers this time no information that they do not already possess and he confines his recommendations wholly to repetition of advice already urged upon them. Perhaps in this the president is wise, as being convinced that little beside budgetary appropriations is to be expected from this outgoing legislative body. He, therefore, recognizes the futility of endeavoring to start congress on new paths or to make headway on any new subjects.

This inference is borne out by the half-promise made in Mr. Wilson's concluding paragraph, that he will not have, or at least does not anticipate having, any occasion to address the Sixty-fourth congress again. It goes without saying that while he cannot hold himself to this determination against possible emergencies, it plainly reflects his state of mind and warns the people not to look to congress to do any more work than is thus laid out and not to be seriously disappointed if it falls short of that program. In other respects, the message will go into the archives as a very commonplace document.

Public Market as Living Cost Reducer.
The high cost of living is universal and Omaha cannot hope to escape its burdens. But it is well within belief that if we enjoyed the benefits of a system of public markets, as do many cities, we would have at least some measure of relief.

The Bee has preached the gospel of public markets for many years. We have several times roused the people of Omaha to a pitch of effective demand, only to be frustrated or misguided by the clever and persistent opposition of the combined grocers and commission men.

Omaha at one time invested some \$50,000 in a market house on lower Capitol avenue, where its ill-advised location made success impossible, and the money outlay was eventually a dead loss. The so-called market we now have is not a public market for householders buying at retail, but simply a commission men's trading place, and even if it were to be thrown wide open, its location is specially picked to keep retail customers away.

If the high cost of living necessities is to continue for any length of time, it will behoove Omaha again to grapple seriously with the problem of a public market or a chain of public markets.

British Cabinet Crisis.
The resignation of David Lloyd-George as war minister will bring to a definite focus the crisis impending for weeks in the British imperial cabinet. Issues arising from the course of the war have precipitated what now seems to be the probable downfall of the coalition government.

The immediate cause is the persistence of Premier Asquith in holding his seat at the head of the war council, but the trouble lies deeper. When the present government was formed it was looked upon as a patchwork affair, in which some concessions were made in pretense of harmonizing hopelessly discordant elements. The presence of Sir Edward Carson, for example, a man who at the beginning of the present war was heading an armed rebellion against the government, could hardly have a reassuring effect on the liberals, much less on the Irish. Then Viscount Grey has been retained in his place as foreign minister, and has been elevated to the peerage within the year, as a reminder of the prestige of the tory party in the government. These constant elements of discord have not promised much for the permanence of the cabinet, particularly as the inclination to let party prestige outweigh patriotic purpose has been noticeable all the time.

Moreover, much criticism has been heard of the conduct of the war, and it has been openly stated that Mr. Asquith is entirely too amiable for a place at the head of the war council. That Lloyd-George, next to Kitchener, the greatest figure England has shown in the present combat, should resign to emphasize his disapproval of the premier's course must give outsiders some notion of how deep the sentiment against Asquith has become. The utterance of the Manchester Guardian, that England is not winning, will find many echoes among the people, and must tell against the prime minister.

Credit and Collections.
The Bee has frequently condemned some of the practices of the loan sharks and collection agencies and will continue to do so as long as persons engaged in the business transcend right and law. But there is something to be said on the other side. The dealer who sells on future payment installments is entitled to some consideration. To be sure, he realizes the chances he is taking and has made calculations close enough to protect him against ordinary risks, yet he is giving a service that can scarcely be dispensed with. His customers are mostly among those who have no established credit at other stores, for they cannot meet requirements. Giving these elements of the problem full weight, the reasonable thing to do is to educate the people who are situated so that they find the installment house a convenience to the full sense of their responsibility in the transaction. If they can be induced to avoid extravagance and to appreciate the necessity of promptly meeting their obligations, much of the difficulty will be done away with. Considering the immense volume of business done on credit in Omaha, the amount of complaint seems infinitesimal, for generally the people pay their bills. Honest debtors need protection at times and can always get it: those who are in genuine misfortune will be helped, but their predicament should not be made an excuse to cover the shiftless or the unreliable in their trickery.

Another side to the problem of bringing together the bachelors and maids of Lincoln and Omaha deserves consideration. As love is blind and matrimony largely an insightless venture, an exchange of eligibles of the two cities accords with the fundamentals of sentiment. Besides a "sight-unseen" trade provides the zest of romance and thrills of anticipation.

The high cost of money produces more distress in Wall street than the high cost of living. Sweating the coin of speculation throws the poverty clutch on the lamb-shearing industry.

The Boys on the Border

Captain Rupert Hughes in Collier's.
Our country is playing the old "hold the baby" trick on the National Guard. That trick, as many people know, is usually worked by a woman who has a baby to get rid of, and is too tender or too timid to leave it on a doorstep. So she rushes up to a man waiting for a train and says: "Oh, sir, please hold my baby for a few minutes while I run and find my other missing children. I'll be right back." She never comes back.

The National Guard had already spent a busy winter recruiting its members, making extra drills and urging legislation to increase the country's military resources. It was looking forward to a summer of rest except for a brief camp experience. On the 19th of June Columbia, the well-known Gem of the Ocean, rushed up to the Guard and said with great excitement: "Oh, sir, please hold my border for a few minutes while I run and get my regular army recruited up."

The Guard took the border and is still holding it. Columbia has never come back; the army is recruited up; the recruiting boom has collapsed; Uncle Sam has been out campaigning at night and selling firecrackers to foreigners in the daytime. The Guard waits in Texas and sweats and shivers and hikes up and down looking for Columbia instead of Villa. The Guard misses train after train, loses job after job, defaults on mortgages, forfeits opportunities for making money, relinquishes the market to rivals and substitutes and wonders whether his wife or sweetheart has starved to death or run off with another fellow.

The border is behaving beautifully. It sleeps all the time, except for a warning yawn when the Guard is tempted to leave it alone and go home. A great many people are saying that the Guard will never hold another border; that the Guards will go out of business once it gets home, if ever it does. Uncle Sam chuckles back: "The Guard is my sworn slave, an oath is an oath. In spite of camping all summer and all autumn, it will drill all winter or go to jail."

Meanwhile the regular army is being neglected even more completely. It has not been recruited to the strength commanded by congress. Such efforts, as were made were a pitiful fiasco and are largely abandoned. On October 30 the regular army was 14,307 below the peace strength under the old law and 34,307 below the peace strength under the new law! And it was ruled that we were technically at war with Mexico! The navy is in no better plight. Great appropriations have been voted, but when the Arizona went into commission the other day it put out of commission three battleships and took their crews and was short 164 officers and men in spite of that. The nation said "Let there be night!" but there is no night.

The marine corps alone has its authorized quota, thanks to a unique and unusual attractiveness of its life as a passenger or to its very active press bureau. It is advertised by its loving friends and get recruits.

The army and navy evidently have no loving friends. The National Guard, it is feared, will be advertised the wrong way by its loving enemies. The Guard used to have its detractors outside. Now it is so full of discontent that its greatest danger is from within. In spite of all the enthusiasm in the world, the Guard has not been recruited up to its proper strength and now those within very largely feel that they have been duped and imprisoned or exiled as a reward for their devotion. In a recent letter to the press a guard captain called the experience "a nightmare" and "an outrage." Such men will be the worst possible press agents when they return home. They ought to be brought home at once. The expense of keeping them there is unjustly distributed. They are subjected to cruel and unusual discrimination. I shouldn't be surprised if their detention were unconstitutional. Almost everything is. They still expect to return home. Hope springs eternal in the guardman's breast. But when they will return—ay, there's the rub! Governor Whitman of New York, growing anxious about the future existence of the fine division he gave to Uncle Sam, wrote the president and said in effect:

"Sorry to trouble you, 'Prexy,' at a time when we are both looking to our fences, but could you give me a hint as to when we can slay the fatted calf for the lean boys in olive drab? Their mother is anxious and their wife has just applied for a reservation at the poorhouse."

And the president answered in effect: "The Lord only knows, Gov. Ask Mr. Carranza when Mr. Villa is coming home and his answer will be mine. Your Guard is a fine lot of lads and I'm ever so much obliged to them and so is the country."

When I was down there and it was hinted that election day might find us still on the border, we ridiculed the idea as a preposterous one, an inconceivable hardship. Yet there the Guard still is without even a rumor to gnaw on. The Army and Navy Journal in its issue of October 28, 1916, says "the general impression about the War department is that neither the army nor the National Guard will be relieved from Mexican service within a year."

The Guard is kept there by the ingenious and perhaps necessary device of refusing to accept resignations or grant discharges except on the most exceptional terms. The popularity of the service is indicated by the fact that if resignations and appeals for discharge should be favorably received the Guard would all be home and there would be no Guard.

The Army and Navy Journal of October 7 contains the names of eighty-five Guard officers whose resignations were accepted between August 30 and October 2. I was unfortunate enough to be compelled to be one of these, though fortunate enough to be released. Between July 20 and October 25 nearly 500 resignations of officers were accepted. It is safe to say that 2,500 resignations were submitted and held up. Of the men who want discharges the number would run to many thousands. In consequence the enemies of the Guard are saying that it has not made good, that it will not stay good and that it is no good. Some editors praise the self-sacrifice of the Guard and some ridicule it for cry-babysim.

The administration feels it necessary to patrol the border at all costs. I agree with that opinion after meeting the people along the border. They are convinced that the presence of the Guard alone protects them from bandit atrocities and that these would begin again at once if the patrol were removed. There are not enough men in the regular army to do the work and so the Guard stays. This is not the fault of any individual or any party, but it is a fault and it ought to be remedied in common decency and humanity. The Guard volunteered at the president's call and took a stringent new oath of obedience to his least behest. It is obeying that oath, but it feels cheated because it did not volunteer to act as policeman and night watchman. It would not feel cheated if it were at war and being shot to pieces.

Call a country doctor out at midnight to ride several miles through a storm and treat a sick baby—he will not complain, provided the baby is sick. He will fight hard for its life and reproach no one for the summons. But let him find that the baby is well when he gets there and ask him to walk the floor with it at regular rates for time—and see what the doctor says. He ought to be glad that he was not really needed, but he will be hopping mad for the fool's errand. So the Guard would have made no protest if it had found a hostile army at the border and had lost a hundred or more of its members by some wound or disease. Finding the border sound asleep, the Guard is only human in resenting the call and the compulsion to stay. Its health has been excellent and it has learned something, but it is bitterly unhappy and almost completely cured of all desire to belong any longer.

Of course, if actual war broke out, patriotism would kindle the old fervor anew, but nothing short of actual war will restore that interest. And what we want now is an immense and well-organized peace reserve which can be called on in an emergency.

TODAY

Thought Nigger! for the Day.
Grit is what is left in a man after everything has happened to him that can happen to a human being and still leave him alive.—Marden.

One Year Ago Today in the War.
Bulgarians made violent assault on allies in Serbia.
French kept up intense artillery fire from Loos to the Argonne.
King Constantine declared Greece would remain neutral to avoid the fate of Poland.
President Wilson sent note to Austria demanding disavowal of the Ancona sinking.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.
Mrs. Stewart entertained the Walnut Hill club at a card party. The following guests were present: Messrs. and Mesdames Needham, Montgomery, Felton, Taylor, Hunt, Van Horn, Cooper, Scott and Hutchinson. The next meeting will be held at Mrs. Needham's.

Contractor Ed Brennan has erected a winter stone-cutting shop immediately east of the county jail in which he is placing stone and a stock



of coal with the intent of continuing the cutting, during the winter, of stone required in both the retaining walls and boiler house of the county building.

Dr. and Mrs. Dinmore gave a small dinner party, entertaining the Hon. H. H. Giles of Madison, Wis. Those present were Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Copeland, Prof. and Mrs. Gillespie, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Groves, Mr. and Mrs. Lininger and Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Woolworth.

A meeting is called at the opera house to revive a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals. Among those who have consented to speak at the meeting are Dr. George L. Miller, Hon. A. J. Poppleton, Hon. J. W. Savage, Hon. J. C. Cowin and Hon. J. M. Thurston.

Frank East, who until recently was hotel runner, has been appointed agent for a large soap concern. His numerous friends are delighted to hear of his success.

Manager E. E. Smith of the telephone company says that in addition to the public telephone system already established at the stock yards, another is soon to be established near the exchange building.

This Day in History.
1788—First court held in Illinois opened at Fort Chartres.
1814—Don Juan Prim, famous Spanish soldier and virtual dictator of Spain after the overthrow of Queen Isabella, born in Madrid. Assassinated December 30, 1870.
1834—James Buchanan was elected United States senator from Pennsylvania.

1841—Lieutenant Jacob Elliott, one of the last surviving veterans of the battle of Lexington, died at Chester, N. H.
1846—Indecisive battle at San Pascual between the Mexicans and the Americans under General Kearney, who was twice wounded.
1859—Charles Robinson, republican, was chosen governor of Kansas at an election held under the Wyandotte constitution.

1848—William C. Edmond Armitage was consecrated Protestant Episcopal bishop of Wisconsin.
1882—Anthony Trollope, celebrated English novelist, died. Born April 24, 1815.
1884—Capstone of the Washington monument placed.
1889—Jefferson Davis, ex-president of the confederate states of America, died in New Orleans. Born in Christian county, Ky., June 3, 1808.
1905—French senate passed a bill for the separation of church and state.

The Day We Celebrate.
Francis A. Brogan is just 56 years old. He was born in De Witt, Ia., and studied law at Harvard university law school. He practiced for a while in Emporia, coming to Omaha in 1888. He has recently been elected to the school board.

Francis J. Carey, president of the Carey Cleaning company, is today 34 years old. "Born, raised, educated and going to die (dye) in Omaha," he says, adding, "My hobby is real estate and I like it even if I am in the cleaning business—especially if it is corner lots."

Police Judge Charles E. Foster is celebrating his fortieth birthday. He was born in Lafayette, Ill., and graduated in law from the University of Nebraska. He was for five years with Baldrige & Debord and for two years deputy county attorney. James Drummond, Jr., teacher in the High School of Commerce, is 25 years old today. He is a native of Massachusetts.

General August von Mackensen, who is directing the Teutonic drive in Roumania, born in Saxony sixty-seven years ago today. Charles B. Thomas, United States senator from Colorado, born at Darien, Ga., sixty-seven years ago today. Rear Admiral Victor Blue, commander of the battleship Texas, born in Rutherford county, North Carolina, fifty years ago today.

Howard Elliott, president of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad, born in New York City fifty-six years ago today.
Timely Jottings and Reminders.
President Wilson is to receive the Ohio Club boys and girls at the White House today.
Sir Rabindranath Tagore, the Bengali poet and Nobel prize winner, is to lecture at Yale university tonight.

The new quarter-million-dollar ceramic engineering building of the University of Illinois is to be dedicated with a two-day program of exercises beginning today.
Cabinet officers and other prominent speakers are to address the thirteenth annual convention of the national rivers and harbors congress, which is to begin a three-day session today in Washington.

The Bee's Letter Box
Samuel Gompers' Salary.
Broken Bow, Neb., Dec. 5.—To the Editor of The Bee: Please state what Mr. Samuel Gompers draws as salary as head of the American Federation of Labor.—A. J. ELLIOTT.
Note: Mr. Gompers' pay as head of the federation was fixed by the Philadelphia convention in 1914 at \$7,500 per year. The same convention fixed the salary of Frank Morrison as secretary at \$5,000 per year. Prior to that for five years the pay had been \$5,000 and \$3,500 respectively.

More About Logan Fontenelle.
Newberg, Ore., Nov. 25.—To the Editor of The Bee: In last week's issue of that excellent paper, the Blair Enterprise, was printed an article relative to Logan Fontenelle of a belittling character and purporting to be based upon the "records" of the Nebraska Historical society. It says he was the son of a French trader and an Omaha woman; that he never was a chief; that he signed his name with a mark; that he was killed while picking blackberries, and that he never was "here."

My father, James A. Bell, was one of a committee of about a half dozen members of a company organized in Quincy, Ill., in 1854, for the purpose of locating a colony in the then Territory of Nebraska. They crossed the sparsely settled state of Iowa in a wagon and went to Bellevue, where the Omahas were then located, and had a conference with Logan Fontenelle, then chief of the Omahas. He went with the party on their trip out into the country, which resulted in their locating the town on the Elkhorn river which was named in his honor and named a stream which ran into the Elkhorn above the site of the new town Logan—also in honor of the head of the Omaha Indians.

The exploring party returned to Quincy full of praise of the character of Logan Fontenelle as they had learned it during a week or ten days in his company. One incident of this summer was a feast which he gave the members of the party at the summer the Omahas sent a hunting party out west and signs of the presence of Sioux were discovered on Beaver creek (if I am not mistaken as to the name), a stream which runs into the Loup fork of the Missouri where the town of Genoa is now located. Fontenelle told his companions to make their escape while he would mislead the party of Sioux and delay them as long as possible. He was killed after allowing the other Indians time to get away. Fontenelle's plan succeeded in respect to the escape of the others of his party, but he was killed after he had killed several Sioux.

The story drifted back to Quincy and one of the members of the party that had made the trip to Nebraska the year previous wrote a poem, setting out the facts in the case, which was printed in the Quincy Whig. I was a little fellow then, but I remember distinctly the printing of this story of the death of Logan Fontenelle and of the high praise my father gave Fontenelle. I do not know just what would, in the mind of the person who furnished the "records" referred to in the Historical society archives, constitute an act of heroism if this deed of Logan Fontenelle does not fill the bill completely and overflowing.

The body of Fontenelle was recovered and taken back to Bellevue, where the ceremony of burial was of the high praise my father gave Fontenelle. I do not know just what would, in the mind of the person who furnished the "records" referred to in the Historical society archives, constitute an act of heroism if this deed of Logan Fontenelle does not fill the bill completely and overflowing.

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We must win on the strength of our own title and not on the weakness of our adversary. Misrepresentations and misconceptions of other religions will not injure to the strength of our own. It is what you have to offer, not your pulling down ability, that will build for righteousness.

The Jews are a proud people and the source of their pride rests on no mean foundation. They have a right to and should be proud of the fact that they have given to Christian Science the cornerstone of its whole structure, "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord."

The selection of the name Fontenelle.
CARL E. HERRING.

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Gladden the heart of the man who smokes by giving him his first wish. We will help you select the kind of a cigar that will please him most. You could spend hours of tiresome shopping, yet never could you find a more pleasing Christmas gift for most any man than a box of good cigars. Why not come in today and let us help you make a selection?
We bear our cigars in large quantities from the manufacturers of distinction and we guarantee you will receive your cigars in perfect condition while you are in our store.
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