

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR. THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETOR.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily and Sunday... 4.00 per month. Daily without Sunday... 3.00 per month.

REMITTANCE. Remit by draft, express or postal order. Only 5-cent stamps taken in payment of small accounts.

OFFICES. Omaha—The Bee Building, 211 N. 1st street. Council Bluffs—14 North Main street.

CORRESPONDENCE. Address communications relating to news and editorial matter to Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

NOVEMBER CIRCULATION. 55,483 Daily—Sunday 50,037.

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

"He kept us out of war," but not out of war taxes. Sweden joins the neutral procession pleading for peace. Next!

As a landing place for a land bank, Omaha proves just irresistible.

Now that the Britishers are loaded with plum pudding, some fierce fighting may be expected.

That proposed court of domestic relations sounds good. But how many new salaried jobs will it create?

First Chief Carranza may fairly claim credit for developing Mexican manana into a high state of inefficiency.

The coming fight in congress between the "pork bar" and the deficit easily tops the score card of indoor sports for January.

Obviously a war game with so many players on each side is much harder to manage than one in which there are only two opponents.

According to Dr. Wiley, death is merely a chemical decomposition. Now let us vote the chemical demon out of business and top Methuselah's score.

Compulsory service for single men is urged in Canada. Escaping the coming draft is possible through marriage, but escaping trouble seems hopeless.

It is evident from the report of the city's legal department that Omaha is heir to a slice of street railway, but its location promises a bumper crop of judicial worry.

Washington music fails to soothe the savage breast of the Russian bear. Growls in that quarter promise to continue until the entente Gabriel toots the Golden Horn.

Every year emphasizes the urgency of attaching a fire warden to the retinue of Santa Claus. Even express companies handling hot stuff cannot safely ignore the hose.

The Railway Business association chose an inopportune time to boost for rate advances. A hint of possible poverty gets scant sympathy beside overflowing treasuries.

Predictions that the war will end by August, 1917, command the support of stock exchange betters in Berlin. Wonder how Colonel George Harvey managed to enter the war belt.

Take note that not a single liquor license protest has been filed thus far this year. Not even the extreme "drys" seem to have any objections to allowing the full four months to wind up the business.

Considering the record-breaking business of the local postoffice, with certainty of continued growth, a few additional carriers and clerks to help keep up better with the work would not be out of order.

Congress wobbles painfully on the question of lifting wages of department clerks, but a boost from \$1,300 to \$2,000 a year for private secretaries of members moves along noiselessly. The interests of No. 1 forbid hesitation.

Incidentally, Omaha gets the land bank not only without the help of our democratic United States senator, but in spite of his point blank refusal to champion the claims of his home town when so requested by the Commercial club committee.

Diminishing Public Land

The area of public land on which settlers can make a living without the aid of large expenditures by the government for irrigation or drainage is rapidly decreasing and may be exhausted within five years.

During the year the national reclamation service added 250,000 acres, or 5,000 farms, to the irrigated area, completed the highest dam in the world, built 700 miles of canals and excavated 10,000,000 cubic yards of earth and rock.

A Land Bank for Omaha.

Announcement from Washington that Omaha will have one of the twelve new federal land banks, being for the district comprising Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota and Wyoming, is gratifying in the extreme.

It goes without saying that Omaha expects to benefit by the acquisition of the land bank adding to its importance as a focal point of financial and commercial activity.

But why delve into politics when all we have to do is to extend an invitation to all land-owning farmers of Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota and Wyoming to come to Omaha and do business with the bank as soon as its doors are ready to swing open?

More Watchful Waiting for Carranza.

Senior Venustiano Carranza, with lofty indifference, having allowed the time set for his action as to acceptance or rejection of the proposed protocol to elapse without in any way signifying his pleasure, Mr. Wilson patiently extends the time, without limit, in which his great and good friend may condescend to make up his mind one way or the other.

Facing the Deficit.

Our democratic president and his advisers at Washington have at last admitted the desperate condition of the United States treasury. The boasts of prosperity and assertions that revenue adequate for all purposes was forthcoming made during the late campaign have turned to serious apprehension regarding the deficit, now estimated to reach the enormous total of \$370,000,000 at the close of the fiscal year in June, 1917.

Meteorological Terminology.

The United States Weather bureau announces its intention of eliminating "sleet" from its category of storms. Hereafter in the official code of the bureau these unpleasant accompaniments of the winter season will be divisible and, according to their severity, will be designated "glaze," in which the rain freezes as it "strikes the earth," and "ice storm," when it freezes in the air.

Cost of State Charities.

The State Board of Control asks for a \$800,000 increase in appropriations for the support of the institutions under its management during the approaching biennium. This sum, of course, includes some provisions for buildings and repairs, but is sufficiently large to warrant scrutiny in its every item.

Diplomatic maneuvers foreshadow another exhibition of the art of concealing thought.

Chemistry and Cotton

What has become of the enormous cotton crop of 1914 is still a mystery to many in the trade. It might add still more to the mystery to note that in the last five years the United States has produced approximately 73,000,000 bales, of which only 3,000,000 were in the domestic supply at the beginning of the new crop year.

Then comes another product—pyralin. This is the material from which toilet articles and novelties are made. As ivory, tortoise shell, pearl, bronze and horn, it is made into hundreds of useful articles, even to umbrella handles, spectacle rims and articles for desk and household use.

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Nebraska Press Comment

Aurora Republican: Strange to relate, Land Commissioner-Elect G. L. Shumway does not think much of Auditor Smith's proposal to abolish his office. Present indications are that the happy family of democracy will not be made any more congenial by some of the recent acquisitions to the state house group.

Grand Island Independent: Auditor Smith would recommend the abolition of the office of commissioner of public lands and buildings. It can probably be done. The office of the assessor might well, too, be merged with that of the county clerk. Let the public take an interest in whatever will, even by a little, economize if it can be done without the loss of efficiency in government.

Albion News: The supreme court has decided that the supreme court commission is legal, but that the governor and legislature must keep hands off and allow the court to do the appointing. The judicial must not be dictated to by the executive or legislative branches of government.

Neigh Leader: A session of the legislature without a job being worked would be too much to expect, but there are some so manifest that heading them off should be easy. One that has shown up already which should be a candidate for early chloroforming is the proposal to unload the Fremont Normal school on the state for a state normal. The school is the property of Prof. Clemmons, the newly-elected state superintendent, and his associates, and the only logical reason that can be advanced why the state should buy it is that the owners want to unload. The state already has four normal schools, distributed over the state so as to be accessible to everyone who desires to attend such a school, and these schools have ample capacity to accommodate the student body and, even if they did not have such capacity, it would be far cheaper to add to the facilities of existing schools than to open another with a duplicate faculty and all the incidental machinery.

The Gentle Art of Nagging

Nagging your husband is a special art by itself, and while some women have a natural gift in that direction others can only acquire it by constant application. A husband in a house is something like a hippopotamus. He is often a dull, placid creature, hard to move or dislodge, especially if he gets accustomed to a favorite chair. He often becomes toughened by exposure to constant nagging, and it takes a powerful weapon with a fairly high trajectory to do him any damage. Occasionally, however, he develops sensitive areas and can become a constant source of pleasure to any lady who likes to nag. Every woman knows, of course, that her husband is more susceptible about half an hour before dinner, when he has come home from the office tired out. By studying him carefully she will also discover certain days in the month when she can nag him with the highest percentage of bullseyes. The art of nagging, however, is not all objective. Much can be done from the subjective standpoint. By intimating to her husband in many ways, which she can easily learn to practice, that she is the most abused lady on earth, she can derive a whole program of amusement. The historical method—that of dragging up some dead, forgotten thing and talking about it all over again, and still over again—is also a splendid form of nagging. Some wives, however, so blind are they, never see this at all. They just go on, hopefully trying to make their husbands happy. The high art of nagging is not given to every woman.

People and Events

This is the way Philadelphia pictures an auto tragedy: "A flaming sifter flattered and fumed furiously. Forty fearless firemen faced fusing flames for fully fifty-five minutes—then the scrapheap."

One of the indicted members of the Bronx and Harlem poultry trust fessed up the other day and let out a lot of information. On a capital of \$1,000 the combine cleaned up \$289,000 in eleven weeks. Smooth work in sanding the craws and boosting prices made the money pour in, which illustrates how easily Gotham may be trimmed when dealers in necessities get together.

TODAY

Thought Nugget for the Day. Time conquers all, and we must Time obey.—Pope. One Year Ago Today in the War. Lively artillery, hand grenade and mining duels reported on western front.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago Today. A number of friends of Fred Zottmann enjoyed a pleasant evening at his home, Twenty-third and Leavenworth, on the occasion of his birthday.

UP SHE GOES! A cartoon illustration showing a woman climbing a ladder.

Sixteen members of the board of trade and freight bureau met in the board of trade rooms to discuss the interest in and for better roads.

Ed Maurer, who enjoys the reputation of being one of the best of the employers in the Union Pacific in the gold-headed cane by his employees in token of the unnumbered favors he has shown them.

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The Bee's Letter Box

Farmers Have Something to Say. Pappillon, Neb., Dec. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: One hundred and thirty thousand Nebraska farmers are pleased to know the petition for the raise in price of grain at the South Omaha stock yards has been withdrawn. This was done by the stock yards people. Farmers generally were against this raise. They contended that it was unfair, as they have always paid the \$1 per bushel regard less of price of corn the last several years.

A Farmer's Plea for Good Roads. West Point, Neb., Dec. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: The Nebraska Farmers' congress voted against hard-surfaced or paved roads in our state. Now this would seem to indicate that all the farmers are against hard roads since the congress is supposed to represent the entire farming population. It is true that many farmers, as yet, are prejudicially inclined in regard to permanent roads. But I also feel that there is an increasing number in our rural population who are in favor of better roads.

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SMILING REMARKS.

Clara—He says he thinks I'm the nicest girl in town. Shall I ask him to call? Sarah—No, dear, let him keep on thinking so.—Town Topics.

"About borrowed plumes, dad." "Yes?" "What kind of a bird do they make?" "A poplin, son," was the old man's quiet reply.—Louisville.

"Are you going to make any speeches in congress?" "I have to," replied Senator Borah. "I'm going to make 'em as early as possible, so that if opinions change out my way there'll be time for me to be far away before another election."—Washington Star.

"These telephone girls seem to have lots of nerve." "Yes?" "I see where lightning struck a telephone pole three times, and I'll bet all the telephone girls said who heard it was?" "What number did you say?"—Baltimore American.

DEAR MR. HARBIBBLE, THREE YEARS AGO WHILE ON A TRIP TO SAN FRANCISCO, I MET A YOUNG LADY AND MARRIED HER. I NOW REGRET IT—WHY? SHE'S DEAD!—MENER PINTYCK

JOYCE "I REALLY DON'T SEE WHERE YOU'VE GOT A CASE AGAINST THE RAILROAD COMPANY!"

"There's an old proverb—" "Yes?" "The effect that fools rush in where angels fear to tread." "Well, angels are mostly barefooted, you know. Get to be careful where they tread."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

First Woman—When I go traveling I never take a timetable intelligently. What do you do? Second Woman—I always consult my husband and he says straightly, "Don't get to be careful where they tread."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The teacher's last question was meant to be a scientific poser. "What is that which pervades all space," she said, "no wind or door or other substance can shut out?" "No one had an answer save but Freddy Sharpe." "The smell of onions, miss," he said, promptly.—New York Times.

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YOUR Xmas Check will make a First Payment on a Piano or Player at our Piano Bargain Counter. Come and see A. Hospe Co. 1513-1515 Douglas St.

ITCHING BURNING BLOTCHES ON HANDS. Spread All Over Face, Chest, Feet and Limbs. Could Not Rest. Was Disfigured. In a Week HEALED BY CUTICURA SOAP AND OINTMENT. "A breaking out of great blotches began on my hands, and soon spread all over my face and chest, and also my feet and limbs; even my eyelids were covered. I could not rest for the itching and burning, and at night I would awake and suffer. My clothing was very aggravating and my arm and other parts of my body were just as red as could be. I was disfigured. I read what Cuticura Soap and Ointment had done for others so I got them. They gave me relief and in a week I was healed." (Signed) Miss Hazel Kline, Brodhead, Wis., Feb. 7, 1916. Sample Each Free by Mail With 32-p. Skin Book on request. Address—Cuticura, Dept. T, Boston.

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