

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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DECEMBER CIRCULATION
53,368 Daily—Sunday 50,005

Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the average circulation for the month of December, 1916, was 53,368 daily and 50,005 Sunday.

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

The Thaw degenerate is only another example of the pernicious influence of too much money.

Are all those interior Nebraska cities except Hastings asleep at the state capital switch?

Now that a few county jobs are parceled out among the faithful, the peevish multitude will kindly obey the sign, "Keep off the grass!"

"My occupation," said Tom Lawson, "is that of a farmer." Sure. Don't all the stock exchange sheep-shearers cultivate lambs for the wool?

To a man up a tree it looks as if those democratic leak investigators were afraid they might discover something they do not want to find.

With Edgar Howard on guard at one end of the state house and Jerry Howard at the other, the only chance of putting things over is to work the middle.

While New York pants with pride over an official showing of diminished vice, Chicago blows off the lid and starts fumigation. The value of the treatment depends on steady application.

It is not so much a question whether political service qualifications are considered for places in the Farm Loan bank as whether the jobs are to be made the base of operations for future work in politics.

A place to save public money is pointed out by Edgar Howard in the excessive and multiple premiums exacted for official bonds, all of which come out of the taxpayers' pockets. The surety bond graft game is certainly worked to a frazzle in Nebraska.

Among the joyful charms of midwinter, apart from fuel bills, is the speed with which hope, aided by a fashion magazine, spots the approach of fluffy spring. Already flocks of pajamas gambol in picture print as friskily as the traditional hare in March.

The presence of a fleet of commerce protectors on the north Atlantic coast goes to show that the allies slowly adjust themselves to the widening reach of war. Making secure the supply routes across the Atlantic constitutes the first line of national safety.

The only limitation on the number of bills a member of the legislature may sponsor lies in the constitutional requirement that he be introduced within the first twenty days of the session. There is no danger, however, that this will seriously interfere with the output.

One-fourth of Douglas county's revenue apportioned for roads and bridges is to be spent almost wholly outside of Omaha, which pays nine-tenths of the taxes. The rural residents of this county know a good thing when they see it and also realize the advantage of holding on to it.

Someone objects to one member of the Douglas county delegation serving in the legislature on the ground that he is a resident of another state and, therefore, barred by the constitution. Inasmuch as he is a good democrat and the democrats control the house, "what's the constitution between friends?"

However successfully he may have sat on the fence between "wet" and "dry" in Nebraska, our democratic United States senator has recorded himself "wet" on District of Columbia prohibition, but his newspaper organ here carefully refrains from printing the roll call lineup, just as if they were going to keep it dark.

Working One's Way

The observation is frequently made that opportunities for young men have become restricted in recent years as a result of the growth of business. More and more frequently the complaint is heard from young men that they have not the same chances that their forebears had. They think it was easy enough for Lincoln to work his way up from woodchopper to president, while nothing like that would be possible today.

Opportunity, now, as heretofore, is almost entirely a matter of personal initiative. As in Lincoln's day, the young man who sits back and waits for the proverbial knocking at the door by opportunity is doomed to disappointment.

In the annual report of a great university the statement is made that in the year which ended May 31, last, 718 students earned \$155,000. The earnings averaged more than enough to pay tuition in the most expensive courses. The majority were aided in getting employment by a committee, whose records show that since 1898 students have earned at total \$1,514,000.

A Good Old Scout.

William Frederick Cody, better known as "Buffalo Bill," was first of all a typical American. He was emblematic of the great west, of a region of mystery and adventure, and through his efforts some taste of this was carried into the haunts of the older civilization. That the west of "Bill" Cody's boyhood no longer can be found is not occasion for much regret, but men who are not so very old readily recall experiences of the sort that gave the great scout his prestige and helped him along the way to fame.

That Cody died a comparatively poor man is a tribute to his eminence as a frontiersman. He was unversed in the ways of business and made bad investments. But he had another quality of the men who made the west—his heart was big and his nature guileless, and the wealth he won went as easily as it came. He came up from the condition of a poor, unlettered orphan to be companion to the great ones of earth: kings and emperors welcomed him, and yet to the end he was "Bill" to those whose friendship went back to the days he celebrated in his showman's years.

Nebraska had a deep interest in him, for the greater part of his active career was spent in this state, which once honored him by election to the legislature and also gave him his military title. Hundreds of our pioneer citizens will sorrow that the good old scout, in the best sense of the term, has reached the end of the trail and gone to his last sleep.

Go Slow on Unlimited Bond Issues.

Giving power to the municipal authorities to issue bonds within limited amounts yearly for construction work that must be planned ahead and continue over a long period of time may conduce to economy, but there is no such reason for bonds desired for any particular one-time project on which a popular vote of approval can easily be had.

The fact is Omaha has not been unduly reluctant to vote bonds for any purpose answering a real demand; on the contrary the general feeling prevails that the participation of non-taxpayers in bond elections increases the chances of carrying the bonds and safeguards have been imposed against reckless bond issues by requiring an absolute majority of all ballots cast in a general election or a two-thirds majority in a special election.

Fish and the Cost of Living.

State Fish Commissioner O'Brien renews a suggestion to the people of Nebraska that they fish for the purpose of providing food and not for mere sport. He is following a propaganda set on foot many years ago by "Lou" May, who did more than any other man to get Nebraskans interested in fish as food.

The possibilities of the fish pond have never been thoroughly tested by Nebraskans. It has been proven that an acre in fish pond will produce more of real food material than can be had from a similar area through any other means. Moreover, good dieticians allege reasons why fish are deemed worthy of a permanent place on the menu, while eminent physiologists have endorsed the Friday practice of substituting fish for flesh as conducive to good health, no matter what its religious significance may be.

Lieutenant Governor Howard's Inaugural.

Our pencil-pushing brother, Edgar Howard, has redeemed our fondest expectations on assuming office under the constitution. He has lifted the position of lieutenant governor from the abyssal depth of fifth wheel to the wagon to one of real importance. In a notable address he imparts to the senators his conception of the office and the duties of the incumbent, evincing a remarkably clear understanding of his responsibilities and prerogatives. His pledge to be governed in the performance of his duties by the constitution may alarm some of his democratic brethren, who have developed so marked an inclination to ignore that venerable document.

"Laboratory" Work Gone Wild.

Teaching the young idea to shoot" according to modern methods has brought many novelties into the school room, but it has remained for a Wisconsin high school to put the top sheaf on the shock of experience in this direction. Girl members of a class in domestic economy are reported to have adopted a 2-month-old baby, that they may demonstrate thereon the household hints and other advice given them as to the care and sustenance of infants. Old-fashioned indignation will rise at this exhibit of the extremes to which a fad may be carried. It is possible and probable no harm will come to the child and that it will have treatment better than it could have in its mother's care, yet even these concessions will not answer objections to taking over a babe on which to allow school girls to prove out their experiments. Wisconsin has obtain considerable notoriety for many sociological departures, but this latest looks like carrying the uplift to the verge of the ridiculous.

Bernard Shaw on Peace Terms

The fact to be faced is that non-German Europe is not going to spend the remainder of the duration of this planet sitting on Germany's head. A head with the brains of 60,000,000 of people in it takes more sitting on than we shall have time for. What we really ought to consider is what is to become of the alliance when the pressure under which it was riveted is removed.

Our victory, or at worst our demonstration that a German victory is impossible, will knock the linchpin out of the allied apparatus and the strained embrace in which the Tommy, the Poilu and the Cossack are now enlaced will relax with a very perceptible lowering of the temperature of the three pairs of shoulders.

Failing the establishment of supernational law, the powers will have to fall back on alliances as before, or for days of single combat between the great powers are over. And in the bidding for allies the balance of power will more and more lie with the United States, because they now form the only single political unit of the first magnitude that is completely self-sufficient.

There is a good deal to be said in favor of the proposal, said to have emanated from the White House, that a national commission dealing with all phases of the rivers and harbors and inland waterways and irrigation projects shall be authorized by congress. The only reason for such a commission is to take the "pork" of sectionalism and of partisanship out of the scandal that arises from the passing of the average rivers and harbors bill.

For a Commission on "Pork"

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Experience shows that "pork" dies hard.

Experience shows that "pork" dies hard. It is entrenched everywhere. And if one is to judge by the weak address of General Bixby, retired, before the recent Rivers and Harbors congress, or the equally unsatisfactory address of General Black, the present chief of engineers, or the resolutions of the congress itself, no one in or out of the War department or in or out of congress dares resist the local pressure, no matter how much talk there may be about scientific methods. General Black, for instance, after saying that while it could be demonstrated that the returns to the people of the United States at large would be greater by the improvement of New York harbor than by deepening the upper reaches of Cape Fear river, then surrendered bodily to giving these small local streams an appropriation.

People and Events

Official reports show a total of 7,650 traffic fatalities in New York City during eleven months of the last year. The record beats 1915 by 18 per cent, and spells too much speed in the wrong direction.

By the irony of fate Lord Milner, now engaged with his English colleagues in directing the war against Germany, was himself born in the land of the kaiser, and received there his early education.

General John C. Cowin is a native of Ohio, born January 1, 1846, at Warrensville. He is in the front rank of our veteran lawyers.

Samuel Mort, buyer for Nelson Morris Packing company, was born in Leigh, Lancashire, England, fifty years ago today.

Irving F. Baxter is just 47. Judge Baxter has held several offices, including county judge, district judge and United States district attorney. He is a New Yorker and read law at Fordham, N. Y.

Thomas B. Coleman, assistant manager of the Midland Glass & Paint company, is 40 years old today. He was born at Falls City and started out here in Omaha as a drug clerk.

Earl Curron of Keokuk, British statesman, who has just wedded Mrs. Alfred Duggan, a former Alabama girl, born at Kettleston, England, fifty-eight years ago today.

Rear Admiral Leigh C. Palmer, chief of the bureau of navigation of the Navy department, born in Missouri, forty-four years ago today.

James H. Hustis, former president and now receiver of the Boston and Maine railroad, born in New York City, fifty-three years ago today.

Sir Charles W. Maurea, for many years the foremost figure in the British cotton manufacturing industry, born in Scotland, seventy-two years ago today.

Miss Alice Paul, a noted leader in the movement for woman suffrage, born at Moorestown, N. J., fifty-two years ago today.

TODAY

Health Hint for the Day.
Eight hours at least out of twenty-four should be devoted normally to sleep, during which the body should be completely relaxed without strain or cramp upon any muscle.

One Year Ago Today in the War.
Austrians captured Montenegrin stronghold on Mount Lovcen.

Russians began fresh onslaught on Germans and Austrians in Galicia and Bukovina.

British relief column reported blocked by superior force twenty miles south of Kut-el-Amara.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.
J. E. Preston of the Chicago & Northwestern railway office, has just received an excellent crayon ink portrait of himself drawn on white corded silk.

Andy Hogan, ex-police man, seems to have more than his share of hard luck. He had barely recovered from being held up and pounded by two men when he was run into by a coast-guard at Sixteenth and Mason, causing



his team to become frightened and himself to be thrown out of the wagon and severely injured. Sergeant Matza had the injured man conveyed to the hospital.

Articles of incorporation of the Rees Printing company were filed, the incorporators being Samuel Rees, J. T. Fairlie, D. C. Shelly, A. F. Ramsay and C. E. Reynolds and the capital \$25,000.

Sol Bergman, one of the young men in Max Meyer's store, has gone to Milwaukee to be married to Miss Flora Heller, after which the young couple will reside in Omaha.

Dr. George B. Ayres has removed to his old office, 1505 Farnam, opposite the Merchants hotel.

1757—Alexander Hamilton, one of the greatest of American statesmen, born in the West Indies. Died in New York City, July 12, 1804.

1785—Seat of the United States government located at New York.

1805—Act of congress creating the territory of Michigan.

1815—Cumberland Island, Georgia, taken possession of by Captain Barrie of the British ship "Dragon."

1817—Timothy Dwight, president of Yale college, died at New Haven, Conn., at Northampton, Mass., May 14, 1852.

1825—Bayard Taylor, celebrated author, born in Chester county, Pennsylvania. Died in Berlin, Germany, December 19, 1857.

1854—Sergeant Uzel Knapp, the last survivor of Washington's life-guard, died in Orange county New York, aged 97 years.

1861—Alabama passed an ordinance of secession.

1892—United States senate ratified the Brussels treaty to suppress the African slave trade.

1897—A treaty of arbitration between the United States and Great Britain was signed at Washington.

The Day We Celebrate.

William M. Gillier, former police commissioner, died on January 11, 1860, at Whitehall, Ill. He is a member of the law firm of Weaver & Gillier, and has been in Omaha for more than twenty-six years.

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The Bee's Letter Box

A Flower on the Bier.
Omaha, Jan. 10.—To the Editor of The Bee: Permit me to say a word out of respect to the memory of the late Edwin C. Hardy, with whom I was associated in newspaper work for a number of years.

He was a gentleman of the old school, a man widely read, with a faculty for reaching sane conclusions. His editorials for the most part treated of national affairs, and at intervals he would discuss international politics.

He will be remembered in Omaha as a kindly, courteous gentleman of rare mental attainments, whose literary product entitled him to high rank in the editorial profession.

Evils of Pool Halls.
St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 10.—To the Editor of The Bee: I have been a reader and subscriber to your paper for a number of years, but I have never contributed to the Letter Box because I thought perhaps others had subjects of more importance to them than anything I could discuss, but when the communication from "A Mother" struck my eye I wished I might meet her and together we might take steps to get the women of Nebraska to say the pool halls must go.

I have always contended that a pool hall is a bigger nuisance than a saloon. I took an active part in the dry campaign, and had it not been for the influence of the pool halls on boys and young men I doubt very much if we would have had so many drunkards. In talking with different ones I find a strong opposition to them and if the women would demand I doubt not but they could be abolished altogether.

Is Federal Road Law Constitutional?
Silver Creek, Neb., Jan. 10.—To the Editor of The Bee: The doctrine that the United States government has a right to do whatever it may please to do is a most pernicious one. Members of congress take a solemn oath to support the constitution of the United States, and its mandates are just as much binding on them, and even more so, as upon the private citizen.

The government of the United States, as every high school boy is supposed to know, is one of delegated powers and so far as the states are concerned congress can lawfully make no law unless authority for so doing can be found in the constitution; while a state, on its part, may make any law it sees fit in regard to anything whatever and so does not conflict with some provision of the constitution.

The power to build and maintain public roads or highways is surely one of those powers reserved to the states—a power held unquestioned and in actual operation ever since the adoption of the constitution more than 125 years ago.

And now comes congress and by means of the federal road law undertakes in an indirect way to take from the people this power over their roads and place it in the hands of the secretary of agriculture at Washington. No matter what in their speeches they may have said to the contrary, congressmen know, every one of them, that they had no right to do that, and for this, and other similar acts whereby the federal government is fast shearing the states of all power and obliterating state lines, the people ought everywhere to arise in indignant protest.

Put in common, every-day phrase, this federal road proposition amounts to about this: Congress says to the people of Nebraska, "We have no right to have anything to do with building your roads; but you have not sense enough to make good roads, and even if you did know enough you are too stingy to put up the money to do it. Now we make you this proposition: If you will consent to letting the secretary of agriculture say what kind of roads you shall have and boss the job of making them we will pay out of your own pockets half the cost of them, provided you will put up for the other half. If you will not do this, then we will make you pay as much as would have been half the cost of your roads to help build roads in other states, while you get nothing." And thus it is that congress—our servants, if you please—would punish us—rob us of our money—for refusing to permit them to rob us of our constitutional rights as to our own local affairs. It is undemocratic of course, that the money congress would give us for

Wife leaving the apartment—I wasn't anxious to marry you, I refused you six times. Hub—Yes, and then my luck gave out.—Boston Globe.

"Talk is always cheap," said the Wise One. "Except," returned the Nutt, "when you talk on the long distance telephone."—Buffalo Express.

DEAR MR. KABBIBLE, WOULD YOU ADVISE ME TO GET MARRIED ON NEW YEARS DAY? —HARRY RUBY

WHY START THE NEW YEAR WRONG?

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THE GET-NOWHERES. Strickland Gillilan. The tiny stints that get nowhere.—Washing the dishes, scrubbing floors.—Replacing rug or stool or chair.—The endless trips through swinging doors.—Those and a thousand other tasks of every import, day on day.—What knows else of their ilk, who have it in stated leisure, tired or early?

The floor on swept at early morn.—Will be to sweep again tomorrow.—The garments indented soon as form.—Will curl again. So need to be wary.—From other lives in other spheres.—The daily compliments of care.—The long and dreary back the stairs.—While chained to tasks that get nowhere.

You who can toil with high ambition.—You with your hope of gold or fame.—You have your dreams of changed condition.—New lustre for your rebel name.—But she—here in the part border.—No crown too bright for her to wear.—Who, tolling away with courage stout.—Does little tasks that get nowhere.

Advertisement for Brambach Grand Piano, Smallest Grand Greatest Tone, Wonderful Action, Absolute Durability, Price Down to \$465, Convenient Terms, A. HOSPE CO., 1513-15 Douglas St. "THE VICTOR STORE"

Persistence is the cardinal virtue in advertising; no matter how good advertising may be in other respects, it must be run frequently and constantly to be really successful.