

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 cry continues, "Peace! Peace!" But there is no peace.

This last blizzard has also considerably gone around us. Thanks, Mr. Weather-man.

The dangerous grade crossing must go! It must be either bridged or tunneled. Stick a pin there!

The efficiency of a powder mill as town booster leaves considerable room for improvement.

The reappearance of the cold wave flag signals the restoration of amicable relations between the coal man and the weather man.

The shakedown lawyers seem to be getting busy again in this vicinity. Perhaps there may be an excuse for that coming grand jury, after all.

The great state of Illinois is "dead broke." The federal treasury faces a huge deficit. In both cases four years of democracy "cleaned the platter."

It's a cinch just the same that the United States supreme court will not recognize any stop-watch time limit for handing down its decision on the Adamson law.

By comparison with last session, the present bill of Nebraska lawmakers are not as prolific hunch progenitors as their predecessors. Still, there is plenty of time yet to catch up.

A bill reducing railroad freight rates and another exempting new railroads from regulation are on the legislative ways. These measures suggest frequent inspection of the scenic routes to Lincoln.

Brevity is the substance and the soul of legislative prayers in Oregon. In a body imbued with a superior line of uplifting thoughts, sending petitions skyward wastes valuable time, besides being misdirected.

The new Austrian ambassador to the United States, Count Adam Tarnowski von Tarnow, is on the way to his post. Satisfactory arrangements have been made for all sections of his name on the same steamer.

Those who experimented with the primitive institution hereabouts on New Year's morning will agree with H. G. Wells' opinion that a war "tank" is a mighty dangerous affair and full of worry and other things.

Our farmers in convention express contempt for congressional free seeds and want the whole graft cut out. Be merciful, ye mighty men of the plow! Consider the needs of the city lot gardener, in whom faith in congressional seeds still abides.

British and French opinion unites in a chorus of praise for the latest entente note. The delightful harmony of sentiment existing between the press and the governments of warring countries is an impressive tribute to the industry and tact of the censor bureaus.

Washington opinion resents with much vigor the refusal of the senate to submit the district dry bill to a vote of the people directly interested. In this and other questions congress treats the district as though the residents were not sufficiently advanced for self-government. As congress is on the ground much of the time perhaps it knows.

The mixup over the official bonds of the new treasurer suggests that the next merger should be a merger of official liability. One surety bond covering the safekeeping of all the public funds in the custody of the treasurer, with the cost prorated among the different governmental subdivisions whose money he handles, would avoid or void a lot of complications.

Live to Eat or Eat to Live
New York Times
There would be more interest in the attempt to prove that, even in these times, life and health can be maintained at a cost of 25 cents a day for food if everybody did not already know that the thing can be done, at least for a while. And really that is all the experiment now in progress can demonstrate.

The value of this experiment in dietetics is lessened, too, by the fact that its subjects belong to a carefully selected class, by no means typical of the general population. They are a husky lot, with appetites that enable them to eat with more or less enjoyment—and therefore to digest and utilize—a few plain foods. In this they are fortunate rather than meritorious. Even they, however, would not look with satisfaction on a whole life, or even a year, passed on fare so simple and undiversified.

The man who eats to live has been often and justly reprehended, but, on the other hand, nobody is under obligations to eat merely to live. Nobody does it except under a compulsion that soon comes to be resented, and well it may be, for there are innocent pleasures of the table, besides those that are gross and therefore guilty.

The Bee and Good Roads.

The Bee has been criticized because of its stand for good roads in Nebraska by persons who misconstrue, purposely or otherwise, the expressions of this paper. At no time has The Bee advocated any particular sort of highway, nor has it undertaken to point out one or another of existing roads as an example on which the others should be modeled. What this paper has done is to argue for the construction of highways adapted to the needs of the state, the work to be done under control of central authority, that uniformity may be secured, and that the best possible roads be established. It is not expected that the state will be blessed at once with a complete system of hard-surfaced roads, nor is it expected that what has taken other commonwealths many years to secure will be had for Nebraska in a short time. The construction must be extended over a long term of years, but it should be always along lines that look to the ultimate end of an united and uniform highway system for the state. The present system is wasteful, for it does not produce permanence. The cost of bad roads is borne by the users, and in Nebraska this falls on the farmer, who is paying several times as much as he should to haul all he sells and all he buys. Good roads are needed in Nebraska, and will come in time; why not make the start now?

New Note in Industrial Relations.

A note that tentatively has been tried by various investigating employers at various times within the last decade now is being heard clear above all others in the diapason of industrial relations. It has to do with the value of the man himself, his importance as a factor in progress; in fine, his worth as a distinct and recognized asset in the business. For several years stress has been put on the improvement of mechanical operation, almost to the exclusion of the man, while the latter has been subjected to scientific analysis and selection for his fitness to perform certain tasks, the effect of which system was to incorporate him as an integral part of the machinery. Tremendous strides in industry have brought a change to this and foresighted employers are looking to another and more important phase of their problem.

The trained man has a value proportionate to the length of time it took to train him, the amount of material wasted during the process and the lessened output stretching over his novitiate. And each day of his continuance as a satisfied member of the working corps of the factory adds to his value. He has mastered shop practice, special rules and schedules and knows all the little things that must become part of the daily life and be performed as unconsciously as the involuntary functions of his body before the workman has assumed his real proficiency. A new machine may be purchased and set to running as soon as the factory can fill the order, but the new man must be trained, and it takes months or years to do it. And the employer has learned this. Therefore, employers are more than ever seeking means to bind their well-educated workmen to their service.

Equally, the men are learning their share of the lesson. It is that through long service they have invested something in the business they cannot draw out and take with them, should they seek employment elsewhere. This does not apply so exactly to the younger men, who have not gotten themselves completely established, but the older realize it, and are building accordingly. Years of faithful devotion are not transferrable, but are an asset that is undeniable. And "boss" and "man" alike appreciate this more than ever and to them alike is coming the finer sense of mutual obligation.

This is the new note and it is manifest in the esprit du corps that marks the progress of industrial relations. It does not mean an end to labor unions, nor to associations of employers. It only means a better understanding of common problems and portends a greater measure of that social justice, to the achievement of which all are willing to contribute.

Victory for "Pitiless Publicity."

Republican members of congress have succeeded in securing the passage of a resolution that calls for a definite and complete inquiry into the leak scandal. The stupid effort of the democratic majority to hush up the affair by a general whitewash was brought to failure by the persistence of the minority members, who with proper insistence demanded that the investigation be made thorough. Just why the democrats were so eager to abandon chase of the "leak" culprits, apparently willing to leave the entire administration rest under serious allegations, is not explained, but it may be brought out. When Mr. Wilson began his career as president four years ago he pledged himself to "pitiless publicity," though he has had occasion since then to practice much of secrecy. It is but applying his doctrine to pursue the "leak" rumors to their origin, and it is characteristic of the course of government that the republicans compelled the blundering democrats to take the only action that will convince the public of their sincerity.

Farmers' Union and Politics.

One action of the Nebraska Farmers' union at its Omaha convention should invite confidence in its sincerity. That is the adoption of a resolution that forbids any officer or director from becoming a candidate for public office. While the organization frankly asserts its intention to resort to politics for the purpose of securing protection and advantages to the farmers of the state in their economic aspect, it serves notice that it will not be used for boosting the personal political aspirations of its leaders. Only if this resolution is taken in good faith and lived up to in spirit as well as in letter will the cause of the farmer be well served. Much of the farmer's trouble has come to him through the machinations of politicians who farm the farmer and most farmers' organizations have been shipwrecked on this rock. An active organization devoted to conserving his material interests without becoming an adjunct to anybody's political ambitions can help the farmer, while as pignal to a political kite its days of usefulness would be numbered.

Advance pictorial hints on spring and summer fashions afford a charming variety from which to select the gowns for the coming metropolitan debut of Miss Benson and Miss Florence. Fashionable raiment cannot add to their rustic beauty, but social conventions must be observed on state occasions.

Some future historian of Nebraska may decide whether the lamentations of Jeremiah over vanished joys rivaled the weeps of Niobe over her lost children. For present-day historians the task is too much.

Kansas' Need—Nebraska's Too

Governor Capper's Inaugural.

Two years ago I voiced in my first utterance as governor, the need of Kansas for a more modern system of transacting its public business. The appreciation of that need has grown upon me, and I believe upon the people. It is notorious that the state, the county and the city have lagged behind private corporations and individual firms in adopting business methods of proved efficiency and economy. This is partly due to an easy-going lethargy which worships precedent and resents change. But the people now are ready for an immediate reorganizing of our unwieldy and wasteful system; for eliminating unnecessary boards, commissions and officers; for concentrating authority and responsibility;—in short for adopting the same business principles in public affairs that they use so successfully in their private business.

This, I think, is plain business sense. The state, county or city should not more hesitate or neglect to adopt labor-saving, time-saving, money-saving methods than it would hesitate to adopt labor-saving machinery or labor-saving office appliances. The people of Kansas want whatever tends to eliminate a waste of time or a waste of money. They want more direct methods in dealing with public affairs and in the transaction of public business. The rapidly-increasing cost of every supply purchased by the state, makes it almost inevitable that appropriations for the mere maintenance of state institutions will be greater than those of two years ago. On every side pressure will be brought to bear for the making of improvements, for expansion, for increased facilities. The need in many quarters is great, and Kansas is not niggardly. With such demands upon the people's money it is imperative that a scientific, systematic method be adopted; that the cost of administration be reduced to the minimum; that no public funds be wasted through red tape formalities; that the state get 100 cents value for every dollar it spends. Political red tape is the most expensive kind of dry goods we buy and the most useless.

But it is not only in the interest of economy that a revision of the machinery of government is demanded. The business man who has a lax system of bookkeeping, who conducts his business by slipshod methods, encourages graft and dishonesty and inefficiency among his employees. If they go wrong a part of the responsibility rests with him. Likewise the state which retains slipshod methods in the conduct of its affairs is putting a premium upon inefficiency and looseness and waste and dishonesty on the part of its employees. If you do not insist upon strict business methods, and provide a business-like system of government, you, yourselves, are to blame for the shortcomings and inefficiency of the men elected or appointed to serve you. The question is as much one of public morals as of public economy. The purpose of government is not to furnish jobs to vote getters, but to supply fair contracts to business men who may have contributed liberally to the campaign funds. We must get away forever from the idea that public office is a reward of anything other than ability and industry and fitness for the duties of the office. We must seek for expert management of all public affairs, for men trained in the work required of them; we must eliminate the sinecures, cut out the figure-heads, make it impossible for an incompetent, who depends upon deputies to do his work, to hold a place in the public service. And this, I say, is as much in the interest of public morals, as in the interest of economy and efficiency. I believe public sentiment in Kansas is ripe for this step forward, and that the people of Kansas will be sorely disappointed if a good start in that direction is not made by the legislature convening tomorrow. It may be that some of the reforms most needed in state and county and city government will require changes in the state constitution, but this should not deter us.

Nebraska Press Comment

Plattsmouth Journal: We are greatly in favor of an increase in the salaries of school teachers, but are bitterly opposed to so many vacations. Let the teachers keep closer to their work and then demand an increase in salaries. There is no need of more than one week's vacation at this season of the year, and that, between Christmas and New Year.

Kearney Hub: Hastings makes a flat bid for removal of the state capital to that city and as an inducement offers twenty acres of land for a capitol site. Other cities will probably be willing to double the "bait" with fifty acres or more if needed. The real point, however, is that the matter of location should be submitted to referendum before making any statehouse appropriations outside of absolutely necessary repairs.

Friend Telegraph: If we may be allowed the suggestion it might be in order that while the government is seizing extra stuff, such as clothing, etc., from the enlisted men of the Fourth Nebraska infantry now being mustered out at Fort Crook to investigate how an automobile was franked home with the troop train from Llano Grande, Tex., at government's expense, or as to whether officers wives were also franked through at the expense of the government. We submit if reports are true that no officer or enlisted man be allowed to have a rake-off at the expense of the government.

Grand Island Independent: Dr. Hoffmeister, a member of the lower house from the western part of the state, is reported calmly to have announced to the house that no member "would have even a thought for lending wives or daughters or other relatives in legislative jobs." If the gentleman can succeed in accomplishing the announced end throughout the session, it suggested that he would be a mighty good candidate of gubernatorial size. There are, of course, many more important matters of state than the keeping of the state's payroll clean of nepotism. But it is a big source of graft, the state and country over. Go to it doctor!

Nebraska City Press: A Nebraska City public official took a tool to a repair shop to be sharpened or rejuvenated in some manner the other day. After the job was completed the official asked the repair man to charge the amount. "Is it for you personally or for the city?" the obsequious tradesman asked. "What difference does it make?" was the retort. "Well," said the other, "if it is for the city I will have to charge a little more for the work; that's all." What we need in this country—and that includes the inconsequential units as our small cities—is an awakening of the public conscience. In some instances, we fear, we shall have to have a birth of public conscience, for there is none to be found in some well known quarters of our widely advertised country.

People and Events

South Carolinians possess a thirst that is some thirst, especially in the holiday season. As some quenchers of local vintage are under the ban the jug samaritans of other states come to the rescue copiously, according to the Charleston News and Courier. Before the express companies broke down under the rush of original packages the little towns of Hartsville, Abbeville and Yorkville each had received over 2,000 gallons of hot stuff, and proportionate quantities reached larger communities and were delivered Sunday and Monday. Progressive courts are applying forms of punishment peculiarly fitted to certain fractures of local laws. Compelling speed maniacs to study and pass an examination of traffic regulations is one way of mapping the offense. Compelling bibulous individuals to mount the water wagon for stated periods is a regular treatment. This latter method has been expanded by a Long Island court imposing the penalty of attending church every Sunday this year, in addition to the water cure. The culprit's spouse is required to report to the court every infraction of the penalty.

Health Hint for the Day.

A daily cold bath (50 to 70 degrees F.) tends to render the skin less sensitive to cold, and so prevents colds, and has a pronounced stimulating effect upon the circulation, respiration and nervous system.

One Year Ago Today in the War.

Russians renewed desperate attacks in Galicia and Rzeszow. Germany announced reprisals against Britain for Baralong incident. Paris reported spirited artillery actions in Champagne, the Argonne and the Woivre.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago Today.

Rev. C. W. Savidge and his bride, formerly Miss Anna Bloor of Mansfield, O., have arrived in Omaha and will be at home to their friends on Wednesday evening of each week at 1114 Standard building. Augustus and Charles Kountze with their guest, H. S. Lyman of Salt Lake City, have returned to college. Mrs. Frank Johnson gave a reception to the women of her acquaintance at her pretty home on Twenty-sixth street. She was assisted in receiving by Mrs. Will Redick, Mrs. Bradford, Miss Ida Sharp and Mrs. Anna Yates. A meeting of well known musicians was held at Nathan Franko's room in the exposition building for the purpose of forming another orchestra, to be called the Philharmonic orchestra. The musicians who have already joined the organization are F. M. Steinhauer, S. Hofman, A. Wede-



JOHN P. COADY, 108 North Forty-third Street.

Wheat Supply and Wheat Prices.

Grand Island, Neb., Jan. 14.—To the Editor of The Bee: In your editorial, "Exports of Foodstuffs," you state that "the source of foodstuffs for food in the United States will have to be sought elsewhere than in the demand from European armies." This editorial referred especially to wheat and flour. The high cost of wheat is caused by the old saw "supply and demand." The acreage of wheat in 1915 in the United States was 60,452,000, producing 17 bushels per acre, or 1,025,801,000 bushels. The year 1916 the acreage was 52,735,000, producing 12.1 bushels per acre, or a total of 639,886,000 bushels. There was a carry over from the 1915 wheat crop of the United States would have been compelled to have imported wheat before the 1917 harvest.

It is now estimated that Russia has a surplus of wheat stored of 303,580,000 bushels. Should this be released during the next seven months and the United States 1917 crop be on the five-year average the price will drop to what the average consumer will say is a reasonable price, but on the other hand, if our present crop should fall below last year's, and the war continues, Nebraska farmers will get above \$2 per bushel next July and August.

And why should not the wheat grower of Nebraska get \$2 for his wheat this year? According to the high cost of his implements, seed, rents, taxes, clothing, sugar, labor and practically everything he has to buy has gone up from 50 to 150 per cent, and, bless you, still on the go. The average yield of wheat for 1916 per acre was 12.1 bushels for the entire country and for the years 1910 to 1914 he received only 86.3 cents per bushel.

The Nebraska farmer this year had a fair yield, 19.4 bushels per acre, but North Dakota had to be satisfied with 5.5 bushels per acre, while South Dakota had only 6.8 bushels per acre, Missouri 8.5 bushels per acre, Oklahoma 9.7 bushels per acre, and Kansas 12 bushels per acre.

Yet we have some business men in Nebraska who have the nerve to advocate an embargo on wheat. Shame on such men. MONROE TAYLOR.

Facts About the South.

Omaha, Jan. 13.—To the Editor of The Bee: Replying to the letter of C. M. Breazeale of Fremont, "Why Wilson Won Out," I will say that when I said that the southern states were carried by Wilson by fraud and force, I simply stated the actual facts and no one who is posted in the political affairs of the southern states will try to deny the wholesale suppression of legal votes in nearly every state that fought to destroy this union.

Mr. Breazeale seems to think that I take the result of the last election too much to heart. I never have taken any election to heart since the defeat of James G. Blaine in 1884, one of the greatest men that ever lived in America and who as president would have made a great name for himself. Mr. Breazeale says his father fought in the union army. From his approval of the southern method of carrying elections I think he is far from being a loyal son of a loyal sire, for he simply approves of the nullifying by the people of the disloyal section of the country of all his father and my father fought for.

I think I can show a much longer service for my father in the union army than can this gentleman, for he enlisted in 1861 and was not discharged until November, 1866, when he had attained high rank as a regimental surgeon and was given special mention three separate times for bravery on the battlefield.

As a child barely beyond my babyhood I heard the rattle and roar of the cannon at the battlefield of Springfield, Mo., on August 19, 1861, when the illustrious General Nathaniel Lyon, one of the most knightly men

Timely Jottings and Reminders. To conserve the food supply Sweden today will begin issuing bread and flour tickets, according to recent advices from Stockholm. The eighth annual meeting of the Colorado Farmers' congress will meet today at the State Agricultural college at Fort Collins. Many of the most representative Jews in the country are expected in Baltimore today to attend the biennial council of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

Harold Janviri, the only born and bred Boston product on the roster of the champion Red Sox, is to be given a banquet by the Boston base ball fans tonight. The Domestic Servants' union recently organized in Duluth, is to present to the housewives of that city to-day a demand for increased wages and a nine-hour working day. Evidence of concerted action to increase the cost of foodstuffs in Toledo, O., is promised by the prosecuting attorney of that city when the trials begin today in the cases of eight local grocers indicted on charges of conspiring against trade.

Storytte of the Day.

She was a muscular young Amazon from the wilds of Hoxton, and she was doing war work down at the old farm. One morning the farmer's wife, passing a belt of trees, which the Amazon was learning to fell, found her in tears. "What's the matter, Annie?" Annie fingered the ax dolefully. "I've been and cut down the wrong tree, and I'm afraid the master'll be awfully wild." "Oh, that's all right, my girl. He understands that you're new to the work and you've got to learn. We all make mistakes sometimes. I'll go and explain matters to him. Where is he?" "No, mum. 'E's under the tree!" London Answers.

The Bee's Letter Box

Telegraphers Who Have Made Good.

Omaha, Jan. 14.—To the Editor of The Bee: One of the best writers in America asks the question, "Why do so many telegraph operators forge to the front?"

This question forces itself upon the mind through the reiteration of facts. As often as we read the title of dead or the weather probably warmer tomorrow, just so often do we read that the new president of some railroad began his business career as a telegrapher. The list of distinguished railroad presidents of these and other days is full of operators—Van Horn of the Canadian Pacific, Hughtiff of the Northwestern, Brown of the New York Central, McCrea of the Pennsylvania, Hayes of the Grand Trunk, Earlring of the Milwaukee, Calvin of the Union Pacific, Scott of the Southern Pacific and scores of others who went from the sounder to the scepter.

To my mind the explanation is the fact that telegraphy sharpens the wit, makes a person acute. A bright young man who is a telegrapher in the railroad service learns more of the various branches in a few days as a conductor or an engineer will in five, and if he is made of the right stuff soon gains recognition.

Telegraphy as a profession may not be as remunerative as some other lines but it is a great incubator. Some of the greatest editors and some of the most brilliant writers in America graduated from the telegraph key. Harry Desouchet, who wrote "My Friend From India," was a telegrapher. Henry Guy Carlton and Frank Munsey were operators. Langdon Smith, whose poem, "Evolution," is a classic, worked as a telegrapher. Thomas A. Edison was an operator, and the late lamented Edward Rosewater, fair and fearless public-spirited citizen and founder of The Omaha Bee, was a military telegrapher during the civil war.

JOHN P. COADY, 108 North Forty-third Street.

Smiling Lines.

The Foreman—I'll give you a job if you'll furnish me with a letter of recommendation from your last employer.

The Steady One—Then it's all up with me. He's been read twenty times—New York Times.

Everything is higher than it was. "Yes," everything but morality, honesty and patriotism.—Life.

Old Huxley—A fit husband for my daughter? Why, in the first place she is a head taller than you.

Saltier—Well, sir, I don't expect to be so short as you are married.—Boston Transcript.

"What is this?" "A letter press. What did you think it was?"

"I was in hopes you had decided to run those stock certificates you are trying to peddle through a wringer.—Pittsburgh Post.

She—Mr. Binga has a clever parrot. It remarked the other day that it wasn't worth while talking when you had nothing to say. He—Then what does he call it salty for?—Baltimore American.

She—Is golf an expensive game? "It must be. I heard my husband telling a friend the other day that he had to replace eighteen clubs, on the first nine holes."—Detroit Free Press.

"H'm," meditated the manager. "So you claim to have every qualification of a first class actor?"

"I mentioned Jefferson Hamlet, 'perhaps I ought to mention the fact that I am slightly deaf—the result of so much applause, you know.'"—New York Times.

"You see," said Columbus, "I have proved by this egg that the world is round."

"But it works both ways," replied the king, doubtfully. "A boiled egg shows that the world is round. But if it were made into an omelet, it would demonstrate with no less clearness that the world is flat."—Washington Star.

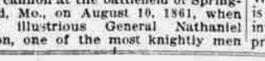
AN OLD RECIPE TO DARKEN HAIR

Common Garden Sage and Sulphur Makes Streaked, Faded or Gray Hair Dark and Youthful at Once.

Almost everyone knows that Sage Tea and Sulphur, properly compounded, brings back the natural color and luster to the hair when faded, streaked or gray. Years ago the only way to get this mixture was to make it at home, which is messy and troublesome.

Nowadays we simply ask at any drug store for "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound." You will get a large bottle of this old time recipe improved by the addition of other ingredients for about 50 cents. Everybody uses this preparation now, because no one can possibly tell that you darkened your hair, as it does so naturally and evenly. You dampen a sponge or soft brush with it and draw this through your hair, taking one small strand at a time; by morning the gray hair disappears and after another application or two, your hair becomes beautifully dark, thick and glossy and you look years younger.

Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound is a delightful toilet requisite. It is not intended for the cure, mitigation or prevention of disease.



NEBRASKA TELEPHONE CO.

We seek public confidence and good will by telling the people the facts about our business.

