

THE OMAHA BEE
DAILY (MORNING)-EVENING-SUNDAY
FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR
TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION
53,368 Daily—Sunday 50,005

Control of Public Utilities.

The oft-fought issue of control of public utilities is to come up again before the legislature at Lincoln where bills are pending to vest exclusive jurisdiction in the State Railway commission.

To cover the tracks, the World-Herald pretends that the question is analogous to that of railroad regulation, one school of thought favoring exclusive federal control and another favoring federal control only for interstate traffic and state control within each state.

The telephone, as part of a state and national system of communication, might call for central control, but why should a gas company and an electric lighting company, serving Omaha, be regulated from Lincoln? Had we adopted our home rule charter, thus acquiring constitutional sanction for the city's control of its own public utilities, this controversy would have been settled and would not now have come up.

Omaha as a Grain Market.

In the few years that have elapsed since the coming of the Chicago Great Western through down the barrier, the other railroads had erected around Omaha, a grain market of first importance has been built up here.

Literacy Test Again Vetted.

The second-time veto by President Wilson of the literacy test immigration bill commands our approval and endorsement because it is quite in line with the steadfast position of The Bee on this subject.

In the Wake of Pershing.

Following the American army out of Mexico comes a long line of refugees. Mormons and Mexicans alike who had relations with the American army during its stay below the border are fleeing in terror from visions of Villa's vengeance.

T. R.'s Description of a Forest

The heat and moisture of the tropics the struggle for life among the forest trees and plants is far more intense than in the north. The trees stand close together, tall and straight, and most of them without branches, until a great height has been reached, for they are striving toward the sun, and to reach it they must devote all their energies to producing a stem which will thrust its crown of leaves out of the gloom below into the riotous sunlight which bathes the billowy green upper plane of the forest.

The 1916 Vote

When the voters re-elected President Wilson they were very far from intending that that vote should be interpreted as an endorsement of the democratic party.

Mr. Wilson's victory was a personal one. He would have been badly beaten if he had not received the support of well over one million electors who did not vote for any other democratic candidate (a vote for Marshall) being, of course, identical with a vote for Wilson.

The publication of official returns from all of the states makes it possible now to demonstrate just how much Mr. Wilson's strength exceeded the strength of his party and just how far other republican candidates outran Mr. Hughes.

Table with 2 columns: State and Plurality for Wilson and Hughes. Total Wilson 1,384,191; Total Hughes 791,791.

This table, of course, does not show the exact division of votes in the electoral college. One of West Virginia's eight votes went to Mr. Wilson.

Looking further into the returns, however, the very abnormal character of the presidential vote becomes apparent. The republicans carried as many seats in the house of representatives as the democrats did, and it would not have been possible for them to come so near controlling the house without materially outpacing the democrats throughout the country.

We have compiled and present below a table showing the pluralities in the forty-eight states on the basis of the vote cast for United States senators and governors. The pluralities of senatorial candidates are taken in all cases. Where no senatorial vacancy was to be filled pluralities for candidates for governor are used.

Table with 2 columns: State and Plurality for Democratic and Republican candidates for senators and governors.

Vote for congress. + Vote for president. The fairness of this voting cannot be disputed. It is representative. Giving the vote on senatorial preference shifts Delaware and Rhode Island from the Hughes column into the democratic column.

People and Events

Advance foreign orders for eggs for summer and fall delivery stiffens the enthusiasm of Chicago dealers and predictions of dollar eggs ten months hence are current among the cold storage henneries.

TODAY

Health Hint for the Day. It is unwise to bathe when excessively hot, but it is safer when moderately warm from exercise than when beginning to cool off.

One Year Ago in the War. Allies' artillery shattered German works in France and Belgium. The Italian army fighting resumed by Italians on Isonzo river.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago. Articles of incorporation have been filed by the Omaha Rubber Company formed for the purpose of manufacturing and dealing in all kinds of rubber goods.



han slipped in the alley in the rear of the Canfield house and fell cutting a severe gash over his right eye, and spraining one of his wrists.

The funeral of Mrs. L. W. Duell, the oldest daughter of C. J. Karbach, was held from the late residence, 1599 Howard.

William Gus Stephan and Miss Augusta Saffelder were married by the Rev. Detweiler, pastor of the Kountze Memorial church.

Mr. Thomas Kilpatrick, a well known dry goods man of Chicago, and more recently of Cleveland, O., is in the city negotiating for the purchase of the dry goods house of Tootle, Maul & Co. Mr. Kilpatrick is a genial and kindly gentleman and a good business man and a strong effort is being made to have him locate here.

1866—Guy Fawkes was executed for his part in the plot to blow up the British House of Parliament.

1875—Governor Morris, a conspicuous figure in the early history of the American republic, born at Morrisania, N. Y. Died there November 6, 1818.

1885—Steamship Great Eastern was launched at Millwall, England.

1887—Completion of the Nelson column in Trafalgar square, London.

1888—British training ship Atalanta with 280 on board, sailed from Bermuda and was never heard of again.

1893—Ten thousand persons were rendered homeless by an earthquake on the coast of Zante.

1895—The Japanese captured Wei-Hai-Wei from the Chinese.

Milton T. Darlow, president of the United States National bank, is today celebrating his seventy-second birthday. He was born in Greencastle, Ind., and is one of the pioneers in Omaha today.

William H. Wheeler, treasurer of the Wheeler & Welpton Co., was born at Plattsmouth, January 21, 1870. He is a graduate of the University of Nebraska.

I. Sorenson is 68, but doesn't act it. He was born in Nashota, Wis., and was city editor of The Bee in the olden days when the city editor was the whole reportorial staff and the bouncer at one and the same time.

Nathan Straus, New York philanthropist, who has been elected to preside over the forthcoming national congress of Jews, born in Rhenish, Bavaria, sixty-nine years ago today.

Captain Henry A. Wiley, U. S. N., commander of the battleship Wyoming, born in Alabama, fifty years ago today.

William W. Atterbury, president of the American Railway association, born at New Albany, Ind., fifty-one years ago today.

George W. Perkins, noted New York financier and progressive party leader, born in Chicago, fifty-five years ago today.

The Bee's Letter Box

Reject All Charter Amendments. Omaha, Jan. 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am glad to see you attack the charter amendments at Lincoln.

There are many representatives and senators from the other part of the state who are tired of Omaha's occupying the attention of the legislature, after the state had specifically given to this city the right to make its own charter.

There are several members of the present commission who were elected to office on the issue of giving this city a chance to frame its own charter. Because the charter that it made framed, for the reason that it made several unpopular proposals, was defeated by the people these commissioners think they are justified in making no further move for home rule.

It is in my opinion that it is easier to secure from the legislature privileges which our own people would never grant to them.

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clean sidewalks, while country children travel two and sometimes three miles and sometimes those roads are blocked with snow, and they are for the cause of nature. If the state had a section of land in the heart of Omaha or Lincoln I think there would be something doing in the legislature this winter and it would not be in interest of keeping school land out of the market.

Intolerable Conditions in the South. Omaha, Jan. 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: I have found considerable interest in the perusal of your Scotts-bluff correspondent's criticism of Mr. Agnew. The discussion of such questions in the southern states continues as they are now and have been since the collapse of "the lost cause" the formalities of conducting elections will amount to nothing more than derivative burlesques.

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