

THE OMAHA BEE
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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?

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.

Some of the trees I did not know the names, but among the tallest were the mora, with huge flying buttresses, and the greenheart, with its twisted trunk.

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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.

It was evident on the day after election that Mr. Hughes had trailed far behind the great mass of republican candidates. There was no state, apparently, in which the vote cast for him was not smaller than the vote cast for one or more of the republican nominees for state offices or for congress.

Table showing Pluralities by States for Wilson and Hughes. Columns include State, Wilson, and Hughes. Total Wilson: 1,384,191; Total Hughes: 179,791.

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.

But though losing the presidency the republicans broke even on the house. Had the electoral vote been cast in accordance with the congress votes in the states, Mr. Hughes would have carried twenty-four states, with 288 votes, and would have been elected. Mr. Wilson would have carried twenty-two states with 231 electoral votes, and two states—Nebraska and Montana, with twelve votes—would have evenly divided.

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 showing Pluralities by States for United States Senator and Governor. Columns include State, Democratic, and Republican. Total Democratic: 1,156,698; Total Republican: 573,391.

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. But it takes Maryland out of the Wilson column into the republican 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.

The first bunch of money out of \$1,000,000 will be Mrs. Frank Leslie to Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt for use in promoting woman suffrage is now available. New York courts having ordered payment of \$500,000 to Mrs. Catt. It is expected the cause will at once take on fresh vigor and leap forward as never before.

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 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 Cansfield house and fell cutting a severe gash over his right eye, and spraining one of his wrists.

W. H. Harrison of S. P. Morse & Co.'s grain and drapery department has left for New York where he will cast his eagle eye over the eastern markets on the lookout for novelties in new spring curtains, etc.

The funeral of Mrs. L. W. Duell, the oldest daughter of C. J. Karbach, was held from the late residence, 1509 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.

1806—Guy Fawkes was executed for his part in the plot to blow up the British House of Parliament.

1815—United States house of representatives passed the Thirteenth amendment, carrying out the emancipation proclamation.

1867—Completion of the Nelson column in Trafalgar square, London.

1875—Governor Morris, a conspicuous figure in the early history of the American republic, born at Morristown, N. Y. Died there November 6, 1815.

1878—Steamship Great Eastern was launched at Millwall, England.

1885—British training ship Atalanta with 280 on board, sailed from Bermuda and was never heard of again.

1893—Charles H. Spurgeon, famous pulpit orator, died at Mentone, France. Born in England, June 19, 1813.

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.

The Day We Celebrate. 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 66, 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.

Sarah Gray, one of the most successful of the younger American novelists, born at Zanesville, O., forty-two years ago today.

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

Theodore W. Richards, Harvard university professor and Nobel prize winner, born at Germantown, Pa., forty-nine years ago today.

Bishop Richard J. Cooks of the Methodist Episcopal church, born in New York City, sixty-four years ago today.

Timely Jottings and Reminders. Clergymen, evangelists, missionaries and other Christian workers from many lands are to assemble in Chicago today for the thirtieth annual alumni reunion and revival conference of the Moody Bible Institute.

Delegates from many parts of the south are expected in Louisville today for the opening of a four-day convention of the Young American society, a national movement. Many well known Baptist clergymen and educators are on the program.

War time problems will be among those considered at the annual meeting of the United States chamber of commerce, beginning today in Washington. The railroad situation, national defense, daylight saving and the promotion of foreign trade are other subjects scheduled to receive attention.

Storyteller of the Day. She had two boys. The mother wished not only to give them a serious idea of her desire to make them good, but also to make clear to their minds the gravity of the task before her. At the end of a particularly touching adjuration 6-year-old Francis was suddenly overcome with the impossibility of ever attaining his mother's ideal.

"Don't try to make us good, mother," he said earnestly. "Just shoot us."—Philadelphia Ledger.

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 is no occasion for them. The people of this city have not demanded them. There was not a mention of them in the last campaign.

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. At the last session they said this to me and I conceded the force of their statement.

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. The fact is, they think it easier to secure from the legislature privileges which our own people would never grant to them.

The constitution provides that after six months another charter commission may be called. Why have not these commissioners called such a commission?

If this city needs certain changes let those commissioners call a convention at once. If they will not do so, I am for the people doing it through means of the initiative, if that is legally possible. If we can secure another charter commission I would be in favor of submitting to the people our present charter, simply in order to let them see what it is. Then we could proceed to amend it as we chose.

Above all things you are right in opposing the present bills in the legislature. They should one and all be defeated. The former rebellious states in members of the legislature ought to defeat them on the ground that Omaha has the right to make its own charter in its own way.

Rice as a H. C. L. Reducer. Grand Island, Neb., Jan. 29.—To the Editor of The Bee: And now comes your Mr. Groh, of The Bee's able staff, with his "calories," but never a word for our southern neighbor's great cereal, rice.

I have been advocating the eating of more rice, not so much to the lowering of the high cost of living, but so as to live better, consequently happier and longer.

While rice is the staple diet of three-fourths of the earth's inhabitants, this cereal is one of the most nutritious of dishes. Most people, and especially children, like rice with cream and sugar and both of these contain calories galore.

The last season's crop was the largest in years and the growers received less than for three years, so rice is really one of the cereal foods that should retail cheaper.

In conversation with Richard Adams, manager of Parrott & Co., brokers of Portland, Ore., a few days ago he said he had purchased rice the last season as one of the best ways to cheapen the high cost of living, but he found that the consumer would not take hold of it and that no more rice had been sold in his territory this season than in former years. He said our people want something else, and he preferred and partly dried, and many of the so-called breakfast foods, and whether they are heavily charged with calories or contain none at all it is the preparedness that they are partial too—no trouble to get ready the breakfast handout. MONROE TAYLOR.

Gender Help Wanted. Scottsbluff, Jan. 29.—To the Editor of The Bee: If a hen is an "it" and she's not a "she," how ever on earth can a rooster be "he"? I'm sorely perplexed and my mind is aching; I applied to the grammar class reading The Bee; inanimate things that do not have wings get mixed in my grammar and causes a stammer. I have loved the old hen since I can't tell you when; if we do the injustice, then who will defend her? I don't know a "she" from an old neuter gender. J. F. WEYBRIGHT.

More on the Subject of School Land. Oxford, Neb., Jan. 29.—To the Editor of The Bee: There is an honest difference of opinion as to whether it is best to sell our school lands and there is no doubt that a number of people favor the sale as well as those who oppose are actuated by what they believe to be for the best interests of the state. It is a noticeable fact that most of the opposition comes from a community where the school lands are for sale, where they have not the opportunity to feel the wrong of the state holding those lands out of the market. On the other hand we find that those favoring the sale are mostly those who know something first hand of the blighting effects, especially on the school districts, wherein those lands are situated, of the state becoming a land speculator.

L. J. Quinby suggests that the sale of school lands would be in the interest of the land grabbers and advertise the state as backward in civilization. The reverse is true. Where the present method encourages that the school lands should bring to the renter all the profit possible without conserving their future usefulness the sale would encourage home building, prevention of soil waste, school improvements and a more populated community.

That the state should hold land for speculation is no less harmful to the community where the land is situated than for individual speculators to hold land out of the market. There is an opportunity to tax and well tax the individual while the states goes free. The state's property lies in numerous and prosperous home builders who are gladly willing to contribute to its support.

It is claimed by those opposed to the sale of the school lands that they have the good of our public schools at heart. The very same argument is made by those who favor the sale. In fact, there can be an honest difference of opinion. The legislature two years ago did much to strengthen the farmers' demand for sale, when they, after dividing a measly one-fourth of the state money among the school districts, apportioned the three-fourths, together with all fines and licenses of the county, according to the daily average attendance in our schools. To illustrate its working my school district, with twelve high school students, had their tuition raised \$3 1-3 per cent and then the opportunity for those twelve students was confiscated by the town school. Nor is that all. Town children travel a few blocks on

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. A. C. RANKIN.

Intolerable Conditions in the South. Omaha, Jan. 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: I have found considerable interest in the perusal of your Scottsbluff 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.

As for Judge Hughes, I entertain as high an estimate of his character today as I did at any time during his grand campaign for the presidency. In all of my forty-five or fifty years of study of American history I can recall no public character that more favorably and deeply impressed me than I have known in the southern states in the conduct of political affairs here. In carefully reviewing his conduct during the entire campaign I discover no act or utterance of his that a full-blooded American could have taken offense at, according to my humane judgment. Hence I experienced a feeling of profound disappointment and regret at his failure of election.

Mr. Weybright's strictures against Mr. Agnew for complaining about the lawlessness and violence of the whites of the former rebellious states in the conduct of political affairs here, a strong resemblance to the ill-tempered retorts from slave holders in ante-bellum days whenever one dared to speak or write a word of unfavorable comment upon the infamous judgment. Is it an attempt to stir up sectional strife? to expose and denounce this wrong-shod defiance of the organic law of the nation? How else will it be possible to do away with such a plainly foul condition of things except by conscientious, courageous and persistent campaigning against it?

But it is with a feeling of regret that I have to admit my lack of confidence that anything effective will be done as a remedy in this case for years to come. CYRUS D. BELL.

SMILES. "Little boy," asked the well-meaning reformer, "is that your mamma over yonder with the beautiful set of furs?" "Yes, sir," answered the bright lad. "Well, do you know what poor animal it is that has had the fur made?" "Your mamma might have the fur with which she adorns herself so proudly!" "Yes, sir. My papa!"—New York Times.

DEAR MR. KABBIBLE, IS MARRIAGE A GAME? —BILLY CARBERRY

YES—THE ONLY GAME IN WHICH BOTH PLAYERS CLAIM THEY ARE THE LOSERS!

Billy—Never mind. You'll think better of me when I am far away. Miley—Sure. The farther away the better.—New York Times.

"Dearest," he murmured, "I'll try and be worthy of you, although I know I am not fit to tie your shoe." "This was perfectly true. His waist measure was 46 inches.—Judge.

SMOKERS ATTENTION! We are in position to make low prices on standard grades by the box. Full Wrapped Manila Cigars, Florida size, box of 12, \$1.00. Lady Gerson, Chester, a very fine size, a mild smoke, box of 25 for, \$1.20. La Providence, Glad Havana, a very small but choice cigar, box of 50 for, \$2.00. Phoenix, a very full, rich smoke, box of 50 for, \$3.50. Cuban, a very large, rich smoke, cannot be excelled for the price; box of 25 for, \$1.50. Cuba-Roma, Havana size, many cigars sold in this size are not as good as this; box of 50 for, \$2.50. Chancellors, Imperial size, box of 25 for, \$1.25.

Sherman & McConnell Drug Co., Four Good Drug Stores.

For Bilious Troubles. That heavy headache, torpid liver, sick stomach, bitter taste in mouth, furred tongue, dull eyes and muddy skin, all come from a poor supply of bile. These unhealthy conditions are promptly corrected by

BEECHAM'S PILLS which stimulate the liver, regulate the flow of bile, sweeten the stomach, and renew healthy bowel action. A household remedy approved by sixty years of public service. For every-day illnesses, Beecham's Pills are a tested Remedy.

Longest Sale of Any Medicine in the World. Sold everywhere. In boxes, 10c, 25c.

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