

THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING)—EVENING—SUNDAY

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETOR

Entered at Omaha postoffice as second-class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

	By Carrier	By Mail
Daily and Sunday.....	per month, \$5.00	per year, \$60.00
Daily without Sunday.....	.. 4.00	.. 4.80
Sunday and Sunday.....	.. 5.00	.. 6.00
Two weeks.....	.. 10.00	.. 12.00
Four weeks.....	.. 20.00	.. 24.00
Send notice of change of address irregularly to Omaha or Des Moines Department.		

REMITTANCE.

Remit in draft, express or money order, only 3-cent stamp taken in payment of small accounts. Personal check, except on Omaha and eastern exchanges, not accepted.

OFFICES.

Omaha—The Bee Building, Chicago—People's Gas Building, South Omaha—111 N. Main St., New York—245 Fifth Ave., Council Bluffs—14 N. Main St., St. Louis—1100 South Commerce, Washington—725 14th St. N. W.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

MAY CIRCULATION.

56,469 Daily—Sunday, 51,308

Average circulation for the months submitted and sworn to by Dwight Williams, Circulation Manager.

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

Leave it to the Boy Scouts when you want a real thorough job done.

Attorney General Reed may yet go down in history as the great enjoiner.

Senator "Larry" Sherman won't be happy until he goes to the mat with "Sam" Gompers.

Chicago reports a drop of \$2.40 in the price of a barrel of flour. Break the news gently to the enfeebled loaf.

Captain Kuhlweier is quoted as the naval expert of a Berlin newspaper. His name sounds like a local weather forecast.

Russian Amazonas go forth to battle as the "Command of Death." Well may the central powers tremble and scheme for peace.

As an example of patriotic devotion the session of the Pennsylvania legislature prolonged into summer divides honors with congress.

The rush of other business no doubt accounts for the failure of the city duds to include war prophets in the roster of regulated clairvoyants.

Jobbers in war supplies at Washington put in topnotch prices, expecting a compromise figure. Their grief over government fixing prices has the prophet Jeremiah muffled for good.

Here comes a Roumanian commission, which almost completes the gathering at the new international headquarters at Washington. And all will receive welcome and assistance from Uncle Sam.

Summer is with us, and brings in its train several important duties, among them to swat the fly, cover the garbage can, and see that the birds and dumb animals do not suffer for want of water.

Maxim Gorky has occasional lucid intervals, his protest against despoiling Russian art collections to traffic with American purchasers being one of them. We would appreciate the treasures, but would much prefer to acquire them under different conditions.

Weeping May's deluge is far from being a high score in the official record. Ten May's in forty years exceed last month's rainfall of 4.85 inches. May, 1915, tops the score with a total downpour of 7.27 inches. Last month, however, won the distinction of being unusually wet for a dry season.

Quite a bit of trouble and hard feeling might have been saved, as well as unnecessary expense, had our democratic county assessor consulted with our democratic county attorney before he started on his tax boosting campaign. It has always been a characteristic of democrats, however, to show hindsight instead of foresight.

Our amiable democratic contemporary is "boxing the compass" about as much in the local labor war as in the war with Germany. It recently wrote the labor unions off the map and now undertakes to put the Business Men's association out of business. In the words of the three-card monte man, "Now you see it and now you don't!"

Please observe that plans are being laid to celebrate the Fourth of July once more as usual, notwithstanding the fact that some twenty years ago a distinguished Nebraska statesman went up and down the land proclaiming the death knell of the Fourth of July if we did not adopt his financial cure-all of free silver coinage at the sacred ratio of 16 to 1.

If the suffragists in Nebraska want to publish all the names affixed to the suffrage referendum petition there is nothing whatever to stop them, providing they can pay for the newspaper space at the usual rates. When they give notice officially of this intention, however, they should be prepared to carry the plan out. If it is just a bluff the rebound will do more damage than good to the cause.

The New Russia

Foster Jones in the Metropolitan

From my window above the harbor of Vladivostok I can see, as I write, a half billion dollars' worth of materials lying on the ground. Scores of huge godowns were filled many months ago and the torrent of supplies pouring into Vladivostok had to be emptied out along the harbor streets, in waste places, and over all the surrounding hills. The vastness of the congestion is, I suppose, unique in the history of commerce, for from my window only a small part of the stores lying here is visible. Only eleven days have passed since the czar abdicated more than 6,000 miles away in distance and ten days by fastest express in point of time. Perhaps a dozen Chinese watchmen are sitting sleepily about within sight. A block away, at the corner of Vladivostok's principal street, stands a slender Russian youth of about 19. I know by his uniform he is a student. He is unarmed, but about his left arm is a broad white lined band with three crimson Cyrillic characters upon it, showing him to be a member of the citizens' committee. He is all that is left of Russia's notorious gendarmes and secret service system. Less than a fortnight ago this student and his colleagues, evolving secretly political ideas they dared not openly express, lived in daily apprehension of those spies and gendarmes. At any hour, without any real trial, he was in danger of being exiled for life to a place a thousand miles from a railway in the depths of the forest primeval, where the average winter temperature is the lowest in the world, not excepting the poles. Today he is conqueror. There is a grim humor in it. He is the only officer there.

Political Dissension in Austria.

Ordinarily, cabinet upheavals and parliamentary crises in Austria are too common to attract much attention. The discordant political elements of the ill-assorted empire keep affairs in such turmoil that no premier ever is entirely easy in his seat, and always is assured of difficulty with the Reichsrath. In the present situation, however, the admitted inability of Count Clam-Martinis to form a cabinet may be accepted as proof that the disaffection of the Poles and Bohemians is even more serious than ever. Rumors have been plentiful since the accession of Emperor Karl of general dissatisfaction through all his empire with the course and progress of the war, and the tacit refusal of Austria to declare war against the United States has been interpreted as evidence of willingness on part of that government to listen to terms for separate peace. Widespread disquietude amongst the people is a natural result of the belief that Austria has been but an instrument in the control of the German war party, used as a pretext to start the conflict, and never at any time looked upon as an equal partner in the enterprise. Difficulties in the way of communication prevent accurate knowledge of what actually is transpiring in Vienna, but the little news that does come through is not of a quality that presages quiet for the emperor while he remains under German control.

Police Reorganization Overdue.

While the hearings on the police scandals have not so far pinned anything beyond contradiction upon anybody under charges, they have developed quite enough to affirm the popular demand for a thoroughgoing reorganization of the department. As The Bee stated at the outset, no police department can be efficient and effective except under the discipline and direction of one boss and the idea that different branches of the service can work at cross purposes and take orders from, and report to, anyone but the responsible officer in command leads only to demoralization and corruption.

If a similar situation had developed in the fire department we may be sure its continuance would not have been tolerated very long. But discipline and efficiency under a single head are just as essential for the police force as for the fire fighters. The disclosures before the council only prove again that there is no room for policies, personal favoritism or special pull in the department any more than in the fire department and if these disturbing factors are not eliminated by the present upheaval the will find some other way to get rid of them. It is up to the mayor and council to devise and execute a reorganization plan.

Is a Great Battle Between Fleets in Prospect?

A German naval critic is reported to have expressed the opinion that a great naval engagement is pending, as the outcome of the U-boat campaign. His prediction so far is well grounded, for the entrance of the United States to the list of combatants makes almost certain that a change in the general tactics of the navies will follow. To date the British have stood guard, merely waiting for the German navy to make a break for the open sea. Desultory brushes have occurred, and the one first magnitude encounter off Jutland appears to have confirmed the German admiralty in its determination to rely on the submersibles and keep its great floating forts safe in protected harbors. Americans have been unable to understand why no more determined effort has been made by the British and French navies to penetrate these German naval bases, from which submarines, occasional flotillas of destroyers and now and then a cruiser sally forth to prey on commerce.

The tactics of Drake or Frobisher or others of the daring seamen who established England's supremacy at sea have been sadly lacking in this war. A raid such as Francis Drake indulged at Cadiz, when he "singed Philip's beard," would surely stir the world. The tradition of Farragut at Mobile and of Porter at New Orleans, Dewey at Manilla or Samson at Santiago yet lives, and some Yankee daredevil may yet be heard to say at Bremerhaven, "D-n the torpedoes! Steam ahead!"

Germans certainly look forward to some sort of sea exploit like this and if a general engagement of the fleets must take place before the war is ended, in which weight of metal, dash and seamanship are to decide, they will not be long disappointed.

A Campaign Without Precedent.

By far the most noteworthy feature of America's preparation for the war is the campaign for Red Cross funds. In the midst of the hurry and confusion of getting ready in other ways people find time to participate in the collection of contributions on a scale never before undertaken. We must go back to the middle ages for anything to compare with. Peter the Hermit, preaching the Crusade, gathered men and money through medieval Europe, but touched only a comparatively narrow strip of country and population. Here we find an entire nation engaged in this business, a work of mercy pure and simple, in which all the world is to have its share in the uses for which money is being so lavishly donated. Coming directly after the great Liberty loan drive, the undertaking presents a magnificent picture of how entirely the Americans of today have pledged themselves and all their resources to the cause of humanity and must forever answer the sneer that the dollar is our ideal and selfish profit our shrine.

Mere Man and Woman's Garb.

In the midst of war's alarms the discussion as to what lovely woman may or may not wear will not down. Here comes an Italian lady, writing to a Roman newspaper, and in defending the dress habits of her sex she reverses the order of the apple episode and puts the blame on man alone. Woman, she contends with some force, is compelled to so dress that she will attract the vagrant eye of man or go unnoticed. Solitude is not her seeking and her craving for companion ship is such as to lead her into extravagances of costuming so that she may enjoy the attention essential to her happiness and peace of mind. When man changes in his tastes or inclination in this regard maybe woman will alter her garb. Her presence just now is of immense value to a distraught world and she will be permitted to be deck and adorn herself as suits her whim or fancy, so long as she continues to help in the intensely practical ways she has developed. Man will always rejoice in a thing of beauty, but occasionally must revert to the poet's dictum that "beauty unadorned is adorned the most."

Railroad men advise shippers to get their traffic on the way now before the government comes in and takes over the tracks for troop movements. This is good advice and looks well alongside the railroad showing of the greatest shortage in cars known to the business.

War on Paper

By Frederic J. Haskin

Washington, June 20.—One place that feels the shock of war pretty hard these days is the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. This is the government's model bill and stamp factory, famous for the efficient and original way in which it is run by its director, Joseph H. Ralph.

Mr. Ralph and his army of five thousand are putting up the fight of their lives; for up to date we are making the world safe for democracy mainly on paper—Liberty bonds by the million, interim certificates to be issued until the Liberty bonds are finished, forty-seven new kinds of revenue stamps, a tremendous issue of national bank note banks, commissions for brand new officers; disbursers' checks and transportation vouchers, and the mighty threat of a 3-cent stamp to take the place of the two as the nation's letter carrier looming large and gummy in the background.

The bureau does it all and the worst of it is it never knows exactly what is going to be required of it. Take this revenue bill. One day some congressman rises in his place, points out that the cigarette is poisoning the youth of the nation and induces the house to include a tax of a quarter of a cent on cigarette paper. Whereupon the bureau has a design made of a cigarette paper stamp with a head of Andrew Jackson on it, and puts an etcher to work and orders the paper and ink. The next week some tobacco-halt senator rises up and proves by sheer eloquence that the cigarette is not only nutritious, but also antiseptic, and induces the senate to strike out that cigarette paper tax. So the men down at the bureau put away the picture of Andy, countermand the order for paper and wait to see what the conference will do.

All this work is being done with paper costing just about twice what it did before the war broke out, and labor scarce. They are economizing in every possible way. Commissions for generals and colonels are being printed on paper instead of parchment, for example.

The amount of paper which is necessary to start us fighting is almost incredible. One of the first effects of a declaration of war is that a large number of patriotic citizens grab hold of the government pay roll hang on, stretching that precious document to almost unbelievable lengths.

Government checks and vouchers have to be made by the million to pay all these new soldiers and civil service people.

It has been impossible to get the skilled labor which the bureau needs. It has increased its force about 25 per cent (from four thousand to five thousand), but its production has increased almost 75 per cent. This has been done almost entirely by overtime work. From ten to sixteen hours is now a day's work at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The day and piece workers get the same rate for overtime as for regular time, and the office people who are on salary get nothing extra except the work. But the morale of the establishment seems to be good. No one is absolutely compelled to work overtime, and women and girls who manifestly cannot stand the strain are always permitted to go home at the usual time. On the other hand, if some able-bodied man is found habitually ducking out at the usual time, a certain amount of unofficial pressure is brought to bear upon him to stay and work a little longer. There are some operations which require a full sixteen hours, and certain women employees must stay in their places for the full length of time. Volunteers are called for this work, and every day there are some girls who voluntarily stick to the job from 8 in the morning until 12 at night. But they are let off the next day.

Of course, the Liberty bonds are a big item. Just at present the bureau is bending its energies to the production of the "interim" certificates, which will be given to the buyers of the bonds to hold until the bonds themselves are printed. The estimates which the treasury has turned in of the numbers of each denomination it expects to need are an interesting index to the class of people that are doing the buying. These estimates seem to show that neither the very rich nor the poor are doing the work. It is the man who has a thousand, or at most a few thousand, to invest that is making the loan a popular one. For only 200,000 of the \$50 certificates have been ordered and only 250,000 of the \$100, but 650,000 of the \$1,000 denomination are being printed. Of the \$50,000 size the treasury only wants 5,000, while the \$100,000,000 certificates that have been ordered will doubtless prove sufficient.

A million and a half of these certificates are for bonds paid for in full. The other million are for payments of 20, 40 and 70 per cent. So most people are paying cash.

The printing of the bonds is designed to make it very difficult to counterfeit them or to alter the denomination. In fact, raising a Liberty bond would seem to be impossible, for each denomination bears the head of a different president and is a certain color. Thus a blue Thomas Jefferson is worth just \$50, neither more nor less, while a bright orange George Washington is worth \$500, a pea-green Monroe \$5,000 and a carmine McKinley \$50,000. Only the very wealthy can afford to own the portrait of Mr. Grant in orange, for they cost \$100,000 apiece.

The Liberty idea is to be abundantly represented. On the face will appear a vignette of the Statue of Liberty lighting the world, escorted by a presidential physiognomy. On the back there is to be a vignette of the statue of America which tops the capitol dome, on one side, and on the other an eagle. The bonds will be labeled "Liberty Loan of 1917" and the denomination will be printed in five places.

The total number of bonds which it is estimated will be made is a little over 5,000,000. It is interesting to note that 4,500,000 of these will be coupon bonds, and only 632,500 registered bonds. It costs the government about \$125 a thousand to turn out the coupon bonds, and about \$30 a thousand for the registered.

Shafts Aimed at Omaha

Franklin News: Omaha is having quite a time in getting their dirty linen on the line. With a shakeup in the police department in view and the county assessor going after the tax dodgers rough shod, it looks like Omaha is in for a house cleaning. And they'll feel better after it's all over.

North Platte Tribune: The Omaha Bee says that in May, 1916, the average number of inmates in the Douglas county jail was 220, while during May, 1917, the average was less than 100. May, 1916, Omaha had saloons; in May, 1917, it was moonless. To the average man it would appear that prohibition is proving a good thing for Omaha as well as the state at large.

Nighthawk: It begins to look as if Omaha civic affairs were to come in for an airing which will clear the atmosphere. For years there have been rumors and charges of crookedness in municipal and county administration, but if there were facts behind the rumors to justify them a Folk or a Tilden has never stepped forward to take hold and lift the veil. For the good reputation of the chief city in the state, it is to be hoped now that the ball is opened by the filing of charges against members of the police force and a county commissioner, who is alleged to be the political boss, the charges and counter charges will be sifted to the bottom. If the rumors are unfounded, Omaha owes it to its good name to turn on the light and prove it. If the rumors are well grounded, it is equally up to Omaha to purge itself of the crooks and send them to the penitentiary where such crooks belong. Here's an opportunity for a man with courage and brains to do a real service to the community.

Storyette of the Day: "Well, Pat, my good man, what did you do?" inquired a patronizing stranger. The Irishman back in London left with his arm in a sling.

"The stranger's air annoyed Pat, who blundered on.

"Faith, an I walked up to one of them an' cut off his feet."

"Cut off his feet? Why not his head?"

"Sure, an' that was already cut off."

—Minneapolis Tribune.

TODAY

Proverb For the Day.
Dead men tell no tales.

One Year Ago Today in the War.

Bukowina in complete possession of the Russians.

Mecca reported captured by the Arabs in revolt against the Turks. German attacks carried Thiaumont fort and recaptured to Fleur, three and a half miles from Verdun.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.

The Misses Stacia Crowley and Bertha Birkett of the Jackson school, have decided to content themselves with Omaha's pleasant breezes during their summer vacation.

The lady and gentlemen clerks of Kelly, Stiger & Co., and a few of their friends spent a pleasant evening at Hanscom park.

Misses Agnes Lisevey and Lottie Cook, Nellie Sexauer, Sidney Lisevey, Allie and E. L. Calhoun, Belle Austin, Young, Saffelder, B.