

THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING) — EVENING — SUNDAY

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETOR.

Entered at Omaha postoffice as second-class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

REMITTANCE

OFFICES

CORRESPONDENCE

JANUARY CIRCULATION

59,964 Daily—Sunday, 52,534

Chinese "wine" is taboo the same as ordinary booze in this dry land of ours.

Less rancor and more reason might help in settling the question of public dancing.

This is a good day to remind ourselves that we can afford to follow Abraham Lincoln's advice every day in the year.

Governor Neville's smile worries his democratic brethren. They know he has made up his mind to something, and wonder what.

Scandal at the Geneva reformatory suggests that the State Board of Control might find closer scrutiny all around beneficial to everybody.

Colonel Nance will find, as have all his predecessors, that Fort Omaha is a mighty good place to have headquarters, in war or peace.

Omaha will try to survive the blow of not having the wrestlers with us soon. Any loose coin hereabouts may be devoted to better use than paying fancy prices to see exhibitions such as Des Moines was treated to.

An unsinkable transport is one of the answers to the submarine problem, while a reliable detector to indicate its presence is another. Jelliecoe's prediction that the U-boat will be dead by August is based on solid ground.

Friendly aliens will suffer nothing by registering, and those who are not friendly will gain little by holding back. Better step up to the government's desk and give in your name if you are subject to this regulation.

The food administrator announces that the new regulations are aimed at the "greedy and luxurious," and not at the poor. Bless his heart, he has not had occasion to worry about the poor man violating any food regulations for lo these three years. The price fixers long ago attended to that point.

One of the enervating influences of civilization is shown in the spectacle of Indians in court seeking to determine possession of land. Not such a great while ago an Indian would not bother to dispute about all out of doors, and any quarrel he could not settle himself went unadjudged. Time has wrought great changes, even in the red man.

Central Control of the War.

Signs perceptible now at Washington point to the early reorganization of all our war activities.

President Wilson is reported to have reached a determination to make changes that are needed to completely centralize his administration of the war.

This has been the urgent demand from the beginning. None who have carefully considered the problem involved fails to recognize the need of putting the power and authority into the hands of one man.

The only question ever raised has been over methods. The American people know the president must handle the war; it is a task for the executive and not for the legislative.

But congress is charged by the constitution with certain functions it cannot shift to the president, and some duties it must perform.

These things also are apparent. Chief of differences between the measures offered by the senate military affairs committee and that presented by Senator Overman on part of the president is that the one makes the appointment of a war cabinet mandatory, the other leaves it permissive.

It will matter little as to the management of the war which of these is adopted, or if final action comes in shape of a compromise between the two, so long as order is brought out of the present chaos.

Controversy between the executive and congress over how to proceed should be quickly adjusted, that no unnecessary delay interfere further with our tremendous task.

Just 30 Years Ago Today

Arthur Rothery has opened a boxing academy at his residence in the northwestern part of the city.

The chess tourney, held under the auspices of the Omaha Chess club in its rooms in the Range block, came to a close, Mr. G. E. Barker winning.

The Day We Celebrate.

William Curtis Lambert, corporation counsel of Omaha, born 1845.

A. Platt Anderson, who received the decoration of the Legion of Honor for his services as head of the American Ambulance corps, born at La Porte, Ind., 45 years ago today.

Alice Roosevelt Longworth, daughter of former President Theodore Roosevelt, born 34 years ago today.

William Faversham, one of the most popular actors of the American stage, born in London 50 years ago today.

This Day in History.

1643—Rev. Cotton Mather, a famous divine and educator of the early colonial days, born in Boston. Died there February 13, 1728.

1776—Louisa Catherine Adams, wife of the sixth president of the United States, born in London. Died at Quincy, Mass., May 14, 1852.

1879—New state capitol at Albany, N. Y., formally opened.

1909—Abraham Lincoln, sixteenth president of the United States, born near Hodgenville, Ky. Died in Washington, D. C., April 15, 1865.

Abraham Lincoln.

Americans will pay today tribute to the memory of Abraham Lincoln with a devotion increased by the stress of circumstances. The example of that great man, looming ever bigger and grander as years go by, is an increasing inspiration to higher patriotism and an incentive to deeper love for democracy.

Wilson's Reply to Czernin.

President Wilson finds in the address of Count Czernin to the Austrian parliament a friendliness and comprehension of conditions that may lead to further discussion and possibly open a way to peace.

Russian Breakdown a German Victory.

Excavation at Mycenae in the Peloponnese, in Greece in Egypt, and in Mesopotamia has revealed a new ancient history.

Peppery Points

Nebraska Comment

Out of the Ordinary

Smiling Lines

President Lincoln at Close Range

From Bicknell Carpenter's "Six Months in the White House."

Mr. Lincoln's laugh stood in a class by itself. The neigh of a wild horse on his native prairie is not more undisguised and hearty.

One evening a party composed of two senators, a representative, an ex-lieutenant governor, and several other important gentlemen, called on the president to talk over some business of great importance.

Lincoln was the plainest of all men. As chief magistrate of the country, he made less fuss of himself than some men who were department heads in business firms.

Jerusalem is a holy city of the Moslems as well as the Holy City of the Christians. Having been in Islam's possession, except for brief intervals, since the sixth century, it has been closed to Christian pilgrims.

What is Buried in Jerusalem

People and Events

Statistics of 37 cities in the Empire state show that legal election expenses last November cost the taxpayers an average of \$1.56 for each vote polled.

Back in Newark's railroad yards a locomotive was bumped off its elevated stanchion, fell 40 feet to the street, crushed an innocent flivver, ran into a store across the street and pulled down the ceiling.

Boston Transcript: Possibly Senator Stone's charge that Mr. Roosevelt is in league with the Kaiser is founded on the story too well known to be repeated here.

Rudyard Kipling is probably the best of all the short story writers. His price is \$500 per 1,000 words.

The Bee's Letter Box

Where to Take Complaints.

Omaha, Feb. 9.—To the Editor of The Bee: Having received a complaint from a friend in a training camp, I referred it directly to Secretary Baker, for obvious reasons not disclosing the name of the complainant.

Dear Mr. McGrew: The secretary of war asks me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 23, and to say that he is bringing it to the attention of his military associates.

Omaha, Feb. 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: It has been pretty well established by governmental investigation why leather is so high and hides so cheap, showing that enormous quantities are being held in the hide cellars of the big packers.

Price of Gas.

Solves the Car Question.

Omaha, Feb. 8.—To the Editor of The Bee: For the past few months there has been a constant row among the farmers that has set the railroad management agog.

Omaha, Feb. 8.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am very glad to see that the Iowa boys have solved the proposition good and plenty. I wish it was possible that the many readers of your journal could visit South Omaha, conditions being as they were yesterday.

See here, daughter, I saw young Smith kissing you last night, and instead of rebuking his conduct, you kissed him back.

Harold—There's one good thing about widow's weeds. Howard—What's that? Harold—They rarely interfere with the growth of orange blossoms.—Brooklyn Citizen.

My wife doesn't like to use the telephone. "Why not?" "On account of the telephone girls."

AT LINCOLN'S GRAVE.

Maurice Thompson. May one who fought in honor for the south Uncovered stand and sing by Lincoln's grave?

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THE OMAHA BEE INFORMATION BUREAU. Enclosed find a 2-cent stamp, for which you will please send me, entirely free, "German War Practices."

Name..... Street Address..... City..... State.....