THE OKLAHOMA TIMES

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Published Every Evening Except Sunday By
THE OKLAHOMA PUBLISHING COMPANY

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E. K. GAYLORD ..... General Manager
CHARLES W. BOGGS ..... Business Manager

Eastern and Western Representatives:
THE E. KATZ SPECIAL ADVERTISING AGENCY.
15-17 Madison Square North, New York City.
924-925 Historic Trust Building, Chicago.
632 Waldheim Bldg., Kansas City.

Entered at the Oklahoma, Oklahoma, Postoffice as SECOND-CLASS MAIL under the act of March 3, 1879.
PHONE PBX-5.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By mail, one year $7.20
By mail, six mos., with The Sunday Oklahoman 5.00
The Oklahoma Times and Daily Oklahoman (thirteen papers a week) delivered by carrier in Oklahoma City and suburbs per week 15c

SATURDAY'S CIRCULATION 24,796

PUNCTURING A KEYNOTE BUBBLE.

KEYNOTE speeches in the early days of the campaign are not meeting with much success, but by persevering it may be possible that some speaker will finally strike it right. Newspaper writers and others have already punctured the bubble of the keynote speech made by Henry D. Lindbrook of New York, who placed the tariff in the front rank of things to be considered in the campaign.

After stating that the Underwood tariff act went into effect in October, 1913, and that the European war began in August, 1914, Mr. Lindbrook declared that articles, books, laces, dyes and manufacture wares of foreign products were dumped upon our market almost instantly and throughout the ten months that followed the date when the law took effect. He pointed to the wide destruction that followed among the manufacturers of this country.

A few months following the keynote speech was delivered it is not borne out by facts. During the first month after the tariff had been put into effect the importations were not five percent greater than they were during the corresponding ten months when the high tariff was in force. The American industries were not destroyed to any alarming extent, nor have they been since that time. Many of them are now running on double time in fact.

The search for a subject for a keynote speech will have to be continued and it will have to be made by a more discriminating person.

A safe guess to follow in Chicago will be to connect the cook to drink a bowl of the soup he has made before it is sent out to the guests.

OIL FIELDS COMING NEARER.

WHEN the prediction was made that Oklahoma City would soon be in the center of the oil fields in this state there was a snicker from the east side where the crude product was first found and where it was supposed to be a permanently. Since then, however, oil production has been coming nearer and nearer to Oklahoma City. It is now within forty miles of the city and if the test at Maud proves to be as great as expected, it may be even nearer.

Nearly every good fortune that can be heaped upon this city seems to be coming in our direction. Prosperity has come back more robust than ever and booming has been resumed on a large scale. Business of every kind is growing and the oil fields are creeping upon us. In a few months they may be at the very edge of the city.

To be surrounded by oil fields would of course hem the city in to some extent, but its growth will not be hampered if oil is not found here. That flow of oil at Maud is encouraging and indicates a trend in this direction. All we really need, though, is a supply of water. The city has almost reached its growth with its present water works system.

PRIZE COURT TO DECIDE IT.

TECHNICALITIES may be found to deprive the captain and crew of the Austria, the British vessel condemned by them for the seizure of contraband, will always be that the vessel carried it. The whole matter is to be taken into a prize court and decided there.

Searching for technicalities is not a part of the procedure, and it has never been found. One of them is that under the treaty made with Prussia the prize should be condemned and sold for a month and that was not done in the case of the Austria.

A decision by the prize court will cost more all the money that goes into the disposition of the vessel. If it is decided by PRESIDENT WILSON that the action of those who seized the vessel was illegal, the vessel has been wrongfully taken from its owners and the money it has cost will come out of the treasury of the United States. It may be that it will be.

BEAU PARLORS FOR THE GIRLS.

SMILES may greet the proposition for parlors in which young women may meet their male friends at Young Women's Christian Association homes, but why not? Other homes have their places set aside for the entertainment of suitors, where everything possible is done for the daughter of those more favored. Why should not the girl who works have a chance?

Churches in many places have recreation rooms where the young people may meet and establish their friendships on a firm basis. It is even possible for a young man to find their future wives there, and in reality the young man who goes to a Christian association or church recreation room to look for a wife is likely to find one more suitable than if he looks for her in the dance hall or other places.

The reception room idea is a good one and should be carried to completion. The association rooms are the homes of many estimable young women and there is no reason for barring young men from calling upon them.

Some interesting information about the state roads is being brought to light now, which should be called to the attention of the Oklahoma legislature, whether they are in session or not.

A PLEA FOR THE DICTIONARY.

DICTIONARIES are few in the rural schools of the state according to the statement made by Professor McMillan of the Ada normal, who has just completed an investigation in that section of the state. He found only twelve dictionaries in fifty-seven schools.

It would be far better to have the Bibles removed and place fifty-seven dictionaries in twenty schools as in all the schools at that ratio. This scarcity accounts for the bad spelling that is so noticeable throughout the country.

The rural schools in which there is one fourth of the dictionaries have nothing on the town and city schools, however, in the way of poor spellers. They abound everywhere and they are a reflection on the educational system of the state. Not only do they abound in Oklahoma, but all over the country.

Orthography is one of the fundamentals of an education, and it will be a good time when the educators come to look upon it in that light. There is a theory that an educated man does not need to know how to spell, but a good many educated men appear to have subscribed literally to the Mark Twain rule they recommend. The theory is based on the ground that the stenographer does the spelling for the educated man when he is using his letters and other documents, but the trouble is that the stenographer in many instances has also neglected that branch of education.

Bad spelling is recorded as a mark of ignorance, although in some instances little may not be more than a desire to eliminate chaff, and the only way to do it is the speedy of the dictionary and close attention to our text book.

Those motorists who believed the corporation commission could do something for them on the way of regulating the price of oil of any kind have found that their hopes are doomed to disappointment.

GIVE CREDIT FOR OMISSIONS.

NEXT OCT. the legislature will be overwhelmed for some of the acts passed at the special session, especially such as have to do with and make results in other. At the same time the members of that body are to be praised for some of the things that were not done.

For one thing, another dull legislature in special session was adhere to realize as soon as it was adjourned to have made the state a laughing stock. Judging by the way they acted in other states the conclusion is reached that this is a predominantly one trait on the part of the Oklahoma lawmakers.

Kansas has a state censor for moving pictures, and he has just gone into court to prevent the exhibition in Kansas of "The Birth of a Nation," the widely advertised and much talked of film which is being shown all over the country, and which has recently been condemned by the mayor of this city.

The Kansas censor, Mr. Boyd, Dodge, has signed the exhibitors in that state on the ground that the picture is not humanly correct. Kansas is a northern state and the people there are prone to take anything shown there which does not meet with his approval as a guidepost in the race understanding between the north and the south.

State censorship is arguable, is there or not, is a matter of political faith. If candidates for office are to decide the moving picture question some of them will have to fix the scenery before they are permitted to set an even break with their opponents.

Summing It Up

By RICHARD S. GRAVES

It is something of a pleasure to travel in a small automobile and go to the conference every other week. We travel that way and we travel with the wind.

A conference hour from home comes in [illegible] and a large number of people [illegible] here.

[illegible] the people of the United States [illegible] Kansas City and Tulsa.

When a member of the banking commission [illegible] said his bank desired to employ the [illegible] change of the farm [illegible] I was senior but mind [illegible] I [illegible] I had time I made a trip [illegible] and found [illegible] with [illegible] Mr. [illegible] he informed me [illegible] experience [illegible] that there would not [illegible] and [illegible] and [illegible] I [illegible] and [illegible] to serve [illegible] I [illegible] complimented.

Speaking of the work of [illegible] the commission [illegible] Times [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] farmers, [illegible] I [illegible] I [illegible] I