

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD BOREWATER... VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR... BEE BUILDING, FARNAM AND TENTH...

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"Wall street hasn't a friend west of Buffalo," exclaims James J. Hill. Wonder what daring broker sheared Jim?

Gun factories and powder mills refuse to "view with alarm" the vocal activities of world peace advocates.

A retiring army officer ought to be able to see war clouds further off than other people, but every cloud is set a tornado.

Secretary of State Bryan was the luncheon guest of Samuel Untermyer the other day. Now let the money trust tremble.

The business man who handles fuel and ice is the only one whose cash register keeps pace with the vagaries of the weather.

So far as external evidence goes, Prof. Taft's thunderings against "hair-trigger government" has not started a ripple in the placid waters of Oyster Bay.

When doctors disagree and speak out in plain United States, the sick and the lame, the scalped and the expectants, gather some interesting information from the cut-ups.

Yes, but why not pass that pipe of peace around to the water user who pays the bills, and pacify him by reducing his rates to 25 cents a thousand gallons, as so often promised?

Time for those fire underwriters to wake up to the fact that water has been turned into that new supply main, and no reason exists for longer penalizing Omaha on that account.

A theosophist woman lecturer declares that any girl can marry any man she desires, and insists that she can prove it. About the time the proof is forthcoming, watch out for an uprising of men demanding equal rights.

It is reassuring to know that Mrs. Wilson went slumming without disclosing her identity as the wife of the president. It just somehow leaked out, however, as little things like that are apt to do, whether intended for publication or not.

Proclamation by our state food commissioner gives notice that all persons employed in any place where food is cooked, served, prepared or sold must at all times wear clean clothes. Fortunately, there is no law to prevent people otherwise employed from observing the same rule.

One may gather from this vague, indefinite description that the New York Sun continues to be an ardent admirer of the brief and breezy Congressional Record.

Must the Congressional Record be always the same old, swollen, dropical, padded, lying fraud?

Must it? We believe an answer is due from its editor.

Jackpot statesmen keep their eyes peeled for the main chance while marching under the reform banner. In the Illinois legislature the holdup crew secured a strangle hold on a bill abolishing railroad passes, refusing the measure a breathing spell unless a salary grab bill goes with it. If the railroad perquisite is cut out, the state must make good the deficit and some over.

Notice how Chicago beats New York in the number of packages sent by parcel post. The explanation is doubtless to be found in the location of the big mail order houses at Chicago, and the reason for their location there is proximity to the country's geographical center, and the advantage of unexcelled railway facilities radiating in all directions. Omaha would be a good center for mail order business using parcel post.

Team Work.

The plea now is for harmony between all the various agencies of the municipal government, with the suggestion that team work will accomplish more for the upbuilding of the city, and the benefit of its inhabitants, than internal friction and constant pulling apart.

No one will question the force of this argument, but it is exactly the argument that is unanswerable when used to urge consolidation of all municipal activities under one responsible executive and administrative body. The surest way to produce team work, and a pull together, is to have one team of matched horses doing the pulling. Otherwise, with the best of driving, the lines are bound to become tangled or the directions crossed when the wagon is drawn by separate and independent forces. That is why when we established the commission plan of government for Omaha we abolished the Park board, the Library board, the Police board and the various elective offices as independent agencies, and subjected them all to a united control. Logically, there is no more reason for having a separate and independent management of the water works than there is of the park system, of the law department or of the police department.

The way to insure team work in city government is to have one team in the municipal harness, and not more than one.

Bryan and the Currency.

Mr. Bryan's 16 to 1 free coinage shibboleth thrust him upon the democratic party in 1896 as its presidential nominee instead of Richard P. Bland, who, in view of the paramount silver issue, was the logical candidate. Now for the first time since Mr. Bryan came upon the scene of national politics, his party is in power and has set out to revise our currency system and, it is rather paradoxical, as well as comforting, that Mr. Bryan must leave to others, who did not share all his financial vagaries, this work of reform. It is quite likely, though, that if Mr. Bryan were given a free hand, himself, in arranging the currency, he would not pursue the lines he laid down nearly seventeen years ago, for the intervening period, has been one of great enlightenment, and even Mr. Bryan evidently has discovered and admitted his mistakes. The assistant secretary of the treasury is quoted as promising a comprehensive currency revision, noting that the country has ample funds with which to care for the monetary situation. That, of course, is true and gratifying and what is needed is simply better facilities for utilizing our currency and credit which changed conditions have made urgent. This is true both as to the accommodation of the currency to the requirements of domestic farming and commerce and the encouragement of foreign trade.

The Professional Charity Promoter.

The Chicago Association of Commerce is out with a big stick after the charity promoter who uses a good cause to feather his own nest. Chicago is not the only place where the charity promoter is doing a profitable business. If all the money given to charity went solely for the object intended a lot of people would have to go to work, or apply for charity themselves. Of course, a distinction should be drawn between the trained social worker who organizes and executes our charity work and the promoter who simply invents and puts through schemes to raise money with charity as the lodestone. With a few exceptions, the charity promoter is one kind of a middleman, who could be easily dispensed with, and when thus lost, in the language of the immortal skitado, "Never would be missed."

Punishment by Reprimand.

The house of representatives last week formally vindicated its dignity, its integrity, and its right to legislate without interference from any one, by inflicting the punishment of a public reprimand upon the assistant of one of its members. When called before the bar of the house, the accused entered a disclaimer of any intention to show disrespect, adding: "I express my deep regret, and offer my sincere apology." But wounded legislative dignity is not so easily healed. A long line of inherited precedents in similar cases adorn the pages of congressional history, and were duly recited as follows:

- In 1796 Mr. Gunn was reprimanded. In 1816 Mr. Fry was reprimanded. In 1818 John Anderson was reprimanded. In 1822 General Sam Houston was reprimanded. In 1826 Mr. Field, who had wounded a member to a knife, was discharged with a reprimand. In every instance but one, while the house has always maintained its right to punish, it has inflicted a reprimand. And so the list has now been lengthened by this addition: "In 1913, Mr. Gunn was reprimanded." And the sacred right of free speech in debate on the floor of congress, guaranteed by the constitution, has been again preserved for transmission unimpaired to posterity.

All the ex-presidents of the Omaha Commercial club are living except two, and the club is twenty years old. Pretty lousy bunch that.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

COMPILED FROM BEE FILES MAY 17.

Thirty Years Ago—The diocesan council confirmed the bishop's renomination of Hon. J. M. Woolworth as chancellor of the diocese. Four laymen were added to the cathedral chapter: Messrs. Guy Brown, O. M. Hopkins and J. L. Clarkson.

The Iowa State Medical society, in session at Council Bluffs, paid a visit to Omaha.

The McCall opera company played at Boyd's its first stop on its return trip from San Francisco.

The Rev. Mr. Fries performed the marriage ceremony that united Charles H. Gelchman and Miss Katherine Kleissner at the residence of A. Getchman, 516 South Ninth street.

John A. Harbach has just returned from Old Mexico, where he met H. L. Lately.

Invitations are out for a reception to be tendered by Max Meyer and wife to Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Meyer and Mr. and Mrs. Morris Meyer.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wheeler of Uluka, N. Y., are the guests of Hon. L. M. Bennett.

A stockholders' meeting of The Bee authorized the purchase of the 22-foot lot on Farnam between Ninth and Tenth, adjoining The Bee office on the east, formerly owned by Milton Rogers, for \$5,000.

H. P. Whitmore, cousin of Treasurer Whitmore of Boyd's, is in the city on a visit.

Tom Muilvihill, the Atchison bill poster, is here, having come to see the world.

Flores of fresh fish at Mota & Rosenfeld's, 126 Farnam street.

Twenty Years Ago—

Victor H. Galley, son of J. H. Galley, a wealthy merchant of Columbus, Neb., was killed in an elevator accident at the Murray hotel at 7 p. m. Galley, who was about 30 years of age, had been working at the hotel, and was preparing to take some trunks up the elevator. He signalled to Guy Venable to lower the freight car, which was done and as Galley attempted to step into it, his foot slipped and the elevator started. Galley being caught between it and the floor.

Several prominent citizens and business men met at a councilmanic committee, composed of Chairman Prince, Jacobson, Howell and Wheeler on the matter of providing a market place. The business men were ex-Governors Saunders, W. L. McCaughey, Adolph Meyer, W. R. Bennett, W. F. Hechel, also a councilman and several others. The favorite location was somewhere between Ninth and Fourteenth, and between Howard and Davenport streets.

Dr. George L. Miller received a telegram from Secretary of Agriculture Morton, stating he could not attend the exposition of the Manufacturers' association, as he had hoped, on account of pressing business at Washington.

The long and bitter fight over the job of bossing the construction of the new federal building ended when a telegram came from Washington saying that Ernest John Latenser had been given the job. This disappointed Henry Voss and his friends, who had felt sure of his getting it.

Ten Years Ago—

The thirty-fifth annual convention of the district grand lodge, No. 5, Independent Order of B'nai B'rith, was called to order at 10 a. m. in the Continental block by J. L. Strellitsky of Grand Rapids, its president. Sixty-five delegates were present and the convention was lively from the start. The president's annual address consumed most of the morning session. A new court of appeals was elected, with these members: Simon Bloom of Nebraska lodge, Omaha; Charles Nussbaum of Petersburg, Ill.; William Sempliner, Bay City, Mich.; Charles L. Aaron, Milwaukee, and William R. Neuberger, Chicago.

It was a big day for the First Methodist church. Though money was piled out of the people by two bishops, McCabe and Joyce, and a preaching eddy, Jennings, to wipe out a debt of \$40,000, Bishop Joyce preached the morning sermon. It was jubilee day and Bishop McCabe was the guiding genius of finances throughout the day. Rev. Clyde Clay Otwell, pastor of Hanson Park church, presided over the Epworth league meeting in the afternoon.

Deputy Sheriff Snow of Cheyenne arrived in town from St. Louis with a prisoner, supposed to be a freight car thief. Dr. L. A. Merriam discussed "An Open Book of Nature" before the Omaha Philosophical society. The doctor took the view that modern physical science aimed at a mechanical interpretation of all the phenomena of the universe.

People Talked About

Owing to the strike of barbers in Brooklyn, the cultivation of beards is becoming quite fashionable.

The peerless apeller of Missouri, Miss Opal Mitchell of Texas county, pled up a score of 17 out of a possible 300. Can you beat it? Not, beat it.

Officialdom in New York City runs up a tax bill aggregating \$1,000 a month, and never thinks of settling. The companies even the score with cab-stand favors.

Henry W. Beecher of Seattle, will take part in the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of his father, Henry Ward Beecher, on June 14.

Vice President Marshall's boyhood ambition was to be a shoemaker, and he would have left school and apprenticed himself to that profession if his father had let him.

Mother Stanislaus Jones, R. R. C., who died in London recently at the age of 91, was the last survivor of the band of Sisters of Mercy who accompanied Florence Nightingale to the Crimea.

New York has a bite for its cheese box court houses. The owners wanted \$20,000,000 for it. The condemnation commission awarded them \$10,000,000, which was 50 per cent above the assessed valuation.

California is saved again. A native daughter of Spanish descent, selected from 2,000 contestants, becomes the prize poster girl of the Fortolla fiesta. A native daughter of Chinese parents gave the winner a hard run for the honor.

Driving Honestly Into Corporations.

The supreme court of the United States has given a decision that a corporation cannot evade its debts by reorganizing. Plaintiff corporation attorneys who have been interviewed separately admit that this ruling will compel corporations to be pretty nearly as honest as individuals.

In Other Lands

Considering the cost of the Balkan war but the division of the loot. The victorious allies have determined in a general way what the division will be, and any differences that may arise will be arbitrated by the czar of Russia, foster father of Slav states. The powers are in possession of Scutari, and Austrian Italy in the north as well as the smooth Italian hand in southern Albania for the time being will receive the watchful attention of powers opposed to their schemes. In the calm following the ravages of war the allies are taking account of the cost. An official statement of Bulgarian losses show a total of \$6,734 in killed, wounded and missing. Of this number the killed and missing total 23,234. What percentage of the wounded died is not indicated. Serbia, Greece and Montenegro together put in the field as many men as Bulgaria. Assuming their loss to equal that of Bulgaria, the cost in lives total \$6,485. Deaths from wounds at the usual war ratio warrants the estimate of 100,000 lives lost by the allies made by a writer in the American Review of Reviews. The same authority estimates the cost of the war to the allies at \$500,000,000, nearly four times their combined annual budgets. As compensation for this load the allies secure about 200 square miles of Turkish territory, with the possibility of taking over a share of Turkish mortgage of \$100,000,000 heretofore exacted on the ceded territory. For the present the cost of victory makes light of the load to follow.

The Money Test.

KEARNEY, Neb., May 15.—To the Editor of The Bee: In a recent issue of The Bee "O. M." writes: "This question of whether Billy Sunday is preaching just for the money or not cannot possibly be determined until the last judgment, so it is useless for us to weigh probabilities."

Perhaps, and yet a simple way of putting it to proof without waiting for the day of judgment is to ask Mr. Sunday to come to Omaha to save sinners without any financial remuneration. If he will do this the verdict might be that he sincerely seeks to bring sinners to repentance, while, if he will not, the verdict must surely be that the money end is to him the most attractive.

As for the permanent good accomplished by this man—the lasting and really sincere conversions—that, too, is something that cannot possibly be determined until the day of judgment." The vaudeville tactics employed by Mr. Sunday in his exhortations may, in my opinion, alienate as many as it attracts.

Years ago, when Billy Sunday made his maiden speeches exhorting sinners to repentance, his picturesque bowery slang was natural; it was the language of the base ball field, and was the only language poor Billy then knew. It made a hit with the public, which is always attracted by something new and unique, and he was quick to see the advantage. He commercialized his peculiar form of exhortation, and still retains it, though for he is able to speak in more polished, therefore to a larger part of his audiences more attractive and appealing manner. Until he does, the question of his sincerity will always be a mooted question.

I agree with "O. M." that common sense is a good thing even in religion. It is so good a thing, in fact, that it should not be utterly replaced by emotionalism.

N. H. JOHNSON.

The Salvation of Sinners.

OMAHA, May 15.—To the Editor of The Bee: With your kind permission I would like to say these few words to the young people: Man requires a great amount of wisdom in order to support his existence in peace and contentment, and if we are ever to rise above the groveling and slavish folly into which we are continually being drawn, it will be when we have attended to and cultivated those powers of the mind that are capable of expanding upward. If we are to rise in the scale of existence and charge our narrow conceptions, there are numerous things that must be neglected and we must attend strictly and religiously to the upbuilding of our moral nature and neglect with a cold and careless tranquility the negative opinions of the world.

The soul that is filled with the highest and purest aspirations can never sink beneath the weight of adverse criticism, for reputation is not character, and, at the worst, is only local and transitory. If my mind is to be raised and exalted we must studiously neglect the study of Hoyle and Captain Kidd and our ear attend to the writings of Seneca, Joseph Addison, Lord Bacon and other great and good men of ancient and modern times. If we are to study the science of astronomy, we must lay palmistry and astrology aside.

If the salvation of sinners be our object in life, let us cheerfully neglect the theaters, wine rooms and turkey trots, as these frivolities can do no more than excite and amuse without yielding any lasting enjoyment.

The average human being is the center of a very small circle that can only be enlarged by attending to those studies and duties which every reasoning creature knows to be the best; and by avoiding those time-killing, soul-deadening vices and amusements which end, if not in disaster, at least in sorrow and regret.

"Straight is the gate, the path unkind, that leads to life immortal; and few the careful feet that find the hidden portal."

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If one attempted to give full scope to criticism in a child's history, he would get nowhere with the child. A series of historical pictures which will make the past real for children cannot enter into the details of critical controversy. Thus, in a history of Nebraska for children, many things are rightly omitted, which persons of years and critical judgment might justly expect to find adequately treated in a book for them. We are very near all the events in our own half-century of political existence that we can hardly deal with them with complete impartiality and justice. For these reasons and the others suggested in your editorial, all unhappy personal events in our own history are summarized in my little book in such a way as to at least give the adverse party, the benefit of any doubt he or his friends may claim.

Children are entitled to the truth in large aspects of history, but no child could grasp the difference between Thomas Jefferson, writer of the Declaration of Independence, and Thomas Jefferson as revealed in his private biographical notebook, the "Anna." Likewise, no Nebraskan, for that matter, child or adult, could adequately understand Governor Robert W. Furnas and his relation to Nebraska during his long and most valuable career, by reading the court record in his libel suit against Dr. George L. Miller of the Omaha Herald.

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Proposed Reforms in Poland.

While Germany is striving to Germanize Prussian Poland, the czar's government is devising measures looking to enlarge home rule in Russian Poland. It is proposed to apply to Polish towns the Russian municipal law of 1902, with local adaptations. Under this charter proceedings of town councils shall be conducted in the Polish language. Police control generally is to be turned over to the municipalities and several concerns would be accounted Warsaw. These reforms drafted by an imperial commission are being considered by the council of the empire and are fairly certain of adoption.

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The Assuan dam and other irrigation works in Egypt have cost \$5,000,000; but the increase in the value of land in the middle and lower Egypt has been from \$25,000,000 to \$2,500,000,000. The total rent this land has risen from \$2,000,000 to \$20,000,000.

Good for All Courts. Philadelphia Bulletin. The judgment delivered by the English House of Lords, sitting as the highest court of appeals, that "every court of justice in the land is open to every subject of the king, and a court has no power to sit otherwise than with open doors," ought to be good enough law for every civilized nation, and nowhere more applicable than in divorce cases.

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What Next?

St. Louis Republic (dem.): "Reorganization" is the term applied by Senator Bristow to the plans of Hadley & Co. It seems to be Bristow's notion that when a funeral is held some party has died.

Kansas City Journal (rep.): Coming at this time, the Chicago conference is bound to stimulate the republicans of Kansas, who are preparing for the grand party celebration of June 3 at Topeka.

Springfield Republican (ind.): The character of the leaders of this Chicago conference is convincing evidence that the move for reorganization is not a maneuver of the reactionaries. Senators Cummins and Borah and ex-Governor Hadley of Missouri are genuinely progressive. And the initiative they have taken offers to the republican party its chance to survive.

Washington Post (ind.): Ostensibly all the wrinkles have been ironed out and a warm welcome prepared for returning wanderers. The Chicago conference breathes a most optimistic spirit for the future of the G. O. P. Nevertheless no real progress has been made. Would it not be nearer the mark to say that the mild progressives have made rehabilitation more difficult than before?

Philadelphia Ledger (ind.): What will the republican national committee do? It is dominated by the so-called "standpats" element, but what is the use of clinging to a wrecked ship? The Taft plan of rehabilitation also proposes a national convention this year for the purpose of reorganization. The country has been educated into believing, rightly or wrongly, that this old regime was and is a close corporation. Confidence can only be restored by radical action that will convince the electorate that the organization is responsive to public opinion.

LAUGHING GAS.

"Have you found out what started the blaze in that broom factory?" "Not yet, but we're making a sweeping investigation."—Chicago Tribune.

"With fireless cookers, smokeless chimneys, dustless sweepers and noiseless life in the home ought to be happy." "Never, until it can have payless bills."—Baltimore American.

"I can't understand how some thing get their names," declared the grumpy boarder. "For instance?" "Take this strawberry shortcake. If they had called it shortberry strawcake it would've seen the point."—Kansas City Journal.

MOTHER'S NEW HAT.