

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR. BEE BUILDING, FARNAM AND 17TH.

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NOVEMBER CIRCULATION. 52,068

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss.: I, Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the average daily circulation for the month of November, 1913, was 52,068.

ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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

Again, it almost snowed.

Make yourself at home, Mr. Implement Dealer.

Special Orator "Joe" Folk has sworn off—smoking, not talking.

Billy Sunday flays "inefficiency in the churches." Why is it there?

Captain Hobson, we are happy to announce, is still on the water wagon.

The old hoodoo, "13," was fast losing its grip till the last year rolled round unblemished.

At that, Huerfano's staying qualities have already strung out to a very aggravating length.

The emancipation of those base ball slaves is making the shekels as well as shackles rattle.

The last death of Menelik must have been genuine, for he has thus far not denied the report.

Speaking of names and their significance, John Quarrel of Arkansas is suing his wife for divorce.

"A cockpit of anarchy," is the Chicago Inter-Ocean's name for Mexico. Now, ask, "What's in a name?"

New York has a new designation for the tango, which ought to suit Omaha purists, "The Dance of the Moral Death."

Having passed out most of the pie, Mayor Mitchell may now settle down to the restful job of running little old New York.

Unemployed at Portland refuse rock-pile jobs at \$1.50 a day! Why should any one pound rock when he does not have a pound?

Have you ever noticed that frugal man, who takes the lighted remnant of his cigar into the street car and muggles it under his coat sleeve?

Isn't it funny how the fake reform fee grabber always goes to reform pretenders like the World-Herald to find a ready vehicle for apology or defense?

The report that Dr. Elliot has sprung a new religion, revives the question in modified form, "What shall we do with ex-college presidents?"

Never mind about young Morgan showing up his father on the impossibility of unscrambling eggs; those are only the fried-on-both-sides ones he is turning.

Our city commissioners wisely conclude that with no increase of revenue, the municipal bill of fare can not be embellished by the addition of cake and relishes.

By all rules of finance and business Omaha ought to have a regional bank, but under the present political dispensation, there is no sign that one is coming this way.

Memphis papers report that the proprietors of moving picture shows here have been eating eggs for breakfast all winter. But so have Omaha's cold storage magnates.

We note that the question, "Which is Dickens' best book?" has bobbed up to harass the gentle folk of Spearville, Kan., after having made the rounds of all the other points on the map.

Now, if our city officials will go ahead with the work of the ensuing year in their respective departments on the basis of the funds in hand without wasting time lamenting that they have not more money to spend, they will accomplish more and feel better.

Warning to Fee Grabbers.

While the full scope of the supreme court decision that naturalization fees collected by court clerks be turned into the public treasury, where so required, is not entirely clear, it must be a warning to fee grabbers whatever its application. As we read the report the court holds that it was not the intention of the federal lawmakers to pour money into the pockets of any city, county or state officer whose salary or compensation is limited by law, but to make excess fees revenues belong to the taxpayers. This at any rate is the common sense view, for when a person becomes a candidate for, and accepts, an office carrying a stipulated salary, he has no moral right to use it for purposes of graft. Legal technicalities may be invoked, but they cannot hide the fact that such collections would never get into the fee grabber's hands except for the fact that he is the incumbent of the office. If the supreme court decision helps to stop the help-yourself-business, it will be a mighty good decision.

Anonymous Communications.

One of our militant local pastors through his church paper reads us a severe lecture for printing so-called anonymous communications, special reference being made to a recent contribution to our letter box on the white slave question. "We call upon the press," he adds, "to see to it that no unsigned articles are admitted to their papers. If the writers are afraid or ashamed to sign their full name, anything so offered should be declined." In another place he makes the contradictory charge that the writer of the article complained of was "actuated solely by love of notoriety and the desire to appear in print."

This brings us back to the main proposition—that the generally prevailing rule with all newspapers requires letter writers to identify themselves as evidence of good faith, but respects a request to keep the authorship in confidence if made. In this instance, that rule was strictly observed, although we know that it is not lived up to by many of our contemporaries. The reason for giving an outlet to public opinion through the newspapers is so obvious that it needs no justification. Usually the reasons for not wanting the signature printed are: (1.) desire to avoid notoriety, (2.) fear that motives may be misconstrued, or (3.) reluctance to become involved in a personal controversy. It remains, of course, at all times for the editor to judge whether the communication serves a useful purpose sufficiently to entitle it to be printed at all.

Mayor Mitchell's Motto.

President Wilson might precipitate a hunger strike if he attempted for his loquacious and voracious subordinates the motto Mayor Mitchell has adopted for his department heads—"Action, not talk." Such a motto may work well in a city administration, whose members are not especially attractive as Chautauque stars, but never for the democratic national administration just getting its feet well under the table.

Mr. Mitchell, of course, is young and inexperienced enough to have a very acute appreciation of the idealistic aspect of public office and New York will profit if he proves equal to the test of his ideals, but it will not be severe on his youthful executive for any miscalculation of his good intentions. "Action, not talk," while sound and sensible, is not entirely new; it recalls another's famous slogan, "Words are good and only so when backed by deeds." The latter is even more euphonious than the laconic Mitchell expression and, yet it fell somewhat short of expectations.

While fine words butter no parsnips, in truth, there never was a better time for a few new precedents in the efficient administration of New York's city government and if Mr. Mitchell can establish them he will be entitled to the fullest measure of credit.

Is England Veering Around?

England's rumored transfer of Minister Carden will, if it materializes, be accepted as evidence of its desire to avoid even the appearance of embarrassing or obstructing our program in Mexico, and tend to strengthen mutual good will between the two nations. Having found its representative guilty of indiscretion, even though nothing more, England could not, for its own interest, continue him long at the Mexican capital without inviting friction. London observes that the minister has committed nothing more serious than indiscretion, which is quite grave enough under the circumstances. The United States might endure the conduct of the British minister, but his attitude could not fail to be embarrassing to our government. Spite of the explanation that Sir Lionel was originally destined to South America, his transfer from Mexico will be taken as a concession to the desire of our administration for British representation in Mexico in sympathy with our aims and purposes.

Wisconsin Marriage Laws Seem to be Quicker Contractions.

While requiring scientific tests of the candidates, they also seem to leave a loophole for them to hitch up without the routine of a marriage ceremony.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

COMPILED FROM BEE FILES

JANUARY 7.

Thirty Years Ago—The Board of Trade held its annual meeting and elected new officers for the year, as follows: President, N. B. Falconer, vice presidents, Max Meyer, H. G. Clark, P. W. Winters, J. P. Sholeley, secretary, Thomas Gibson, treasurer, W. J. Broach; directors, C. F. Goodman, John Evans, R. Bingham, C. Specht, George C. Ames, C. P. Driscoll, J. A. Wakefield.

An exhibition at the roller-skating rink was given this evening by the Juvenile exponents of the art, Miss Fuller and Master Bliss.

Mr. John Minick and Miss Maggie Ryan were united in marriage, the bride having come here a year ago from Schuyler.

Hon. Benjamin Harrison and party, consisting of Messrs. S. C. Martindale, H. P. Walker, J. R. McKee, W. J. Bradshaw, H. L. Gamble, C. S. Witherspoon, Mrs. George C. Hill, Miss Newcomb and Miss Harrison, arrived in a special car to attend the marriage of Senator Harrison's son, and Miss Saunders, to take place tomorrow.

Neftmar A. Kuhn is back from a visit in Illinois.

C. N. Whitney, late with Perego & Moore, has come on the road for the Omaha cigar firm of Chinn & New.

Twenty Years Ago—

Mrs. Maggie J. McCormick died at the home of her brother-in-law, Samuel Burns, 1724 Dodge street. She was the widow of A. G. McCormick and the mother of Fred.

Hon. John P. Irish of California was welcomed to the city as the orator at the annual Jacksonian feast. Chairman Euclid Martin, W. D. McHugh and other good democrats were at the depot to greet him. Irish had formerly been editor of the Iowa State Press and was familiar in these parts.

Dean Gardner preached a special sermon to lawyers at Trinity Episcopal cathedral on the text, "There is one lawgiver," which he said Daniel Webster once pronounced the grandest text in the Bible. The dean pointed the lawyers to Christ as the great lawgiver of Christianity, whom he hoped they would strive to follow.

About fifty unemployed men met at Knights of Labor hall expecting to receive instruction as to how to get work and hear the problem of no work solved by prominent leaders interested in their welfare, but they were disappointed. Only Father John Williams and Mayor Bemis were on hand to offer encouragement or assistance.

Central Labor union announced its intention of probing into the records of members of the late Nebraska legislature to determine who were and who were not the true friends of the laboring man.

Ten Years Ago—

John L. Webster expatiated at great length on "The Lawyer's Place in History" before the State Bar association in annual gathering.

Dr. Ashley of New York, assistant to the great surgeon, Dr. Lorenz, lectured before the students of the Omaha medical college on "Congenital Hip Disease." Dr. Ashley came out to join Dr. Lord in a delicate operation.

Republicans from over the state gathered at the Miltard hotel to further inflate the vice presidential boomlet of John L. Webster. Resolutions were adopted as drawn by a committee composed of W. G. Whitmore of Valley, Roscoe Pound and E. J. Halmer of Lincoln.

Rev. M. J. Stritch, S. J., professor of literature at Creighton university, apostrophized Dante in a lecture at Sacred Heart church, saying, "Dante, the Florentine, gifted beyond the ken of man, the high priest of nature's poets and poetry, the greatest of all the fine arts, embracing all others and the music of nature itself."

Lonnie Lawrence, the 16-year-old evangelist, preached at Kountze Memorial Lutheran church on "The Wage of Sin is Death, but the Gift of God is Eternal Life" after the sermon, saying he felt the call to preach at the age of 7 years and 6 months.

Twice Told Tales

It Looked Like Plenty. The talk topic at a recent social session switched to the rising generation, when Joseph E. Willard, the minister, alluded to Spain, looked up with an amused smile. He said he was reminded of an incident that happened in a country school.

Some time ago a small boy played truant and when he got back on the job next day he handed the following note to the teacher.

"Dear Teacher: Please excuse James for not being at school yesterday, and don't lick him. The boy he lagged school with, looked up and the man they threw stones at licked him, and the man whose dog they chased licked him, and the driver whose cart they climbed on licked him, and when he came home I licked him and when his father came home he licked him. He thinks he will attend regular in the future. Yours,

"MARY SMITH." After that letter the teacher was merciful and Jimmy was permitted to run out and play with no further damage to his hide. In the yard he met a chum.

"Say, Tommy," he remarked in a gleeful whisper, "ain't I dead lucky?" "Why," was the quick response of Tommy, "because the teacher didn't lick ye?"

"No," smiled Jimmy, "because I can write just like mother."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

A Tactful Person.

"Ring something!" begged the company, unconsciously cruel.

"Why, I can't sing!" demurred the young lady, unconsciously truthful.

"Oh, sing 'On the Road to Mandalay.' That's a great song."

"But I'll spoil it."

"You can't! It's a work of genius and it can't be spoiled."

And then, when she has struggled with it, the tactful hostess says: "There, didn't I tell you? That's a great song, no matter how it's sung!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

'Tis an Ill Wind.

A business man in the Midlands the other day circumscribed the customers of his firm.

"I am sorry to tell you that my partner died recently, but I am pleased to inform you that you may now have an additional 5 per cent discount, as there is now only one to keep."—Manchester Guardian.

Editorial Siftings

Pittsburgh Dispatch: The republican party is willing enough to welcome back the prodigals, but at the present prices of meat the prodigals want first to see the fattest calf.

Boston Transcript: About \$500,000 more tons of coal were produced in the United States this year than last, and, of course, it costs more to haul all that additional fuel, the consumers must expect to pay a higher price for it.

Chicago Post: The suggestion of our British friends that President Wilson's Mexican policy must come out right because Huerta is bound to fall sometime, since all Mexican dictators do, tends to disprove that idea that John Bull has no sense of humor.

Indianapolis News: If, as Mr. Arthur Reynolds of Des Moines, president of the American Bankers' association, says, panics won't be possible under the new currency law, it looks as if some very able financiers were going to be done out of some of their occasional profits.

The Bee's Letter Box

Tornado Danger is Slight.

OMAHA, Jan. 6.—To the Editor of The Bee: Kansas has refused to permit tornado insurance companies to raise their rates, because the probability of any square mile being struck is "less than one-sixteenth of 1 per cent per century."

Dr. D. G. Hinricks, director of the Iowa weather bureau, in the 1888 report of the Iowa Horticultural society, says in reference to a Washington publication about tornadoes: "Seven-eighths of these tornadoes in Iowa never had any existence."

He claims that most of the so-called tornadoes are not twisters or tornadoes proper, but mere straggling moving hurricanes. He also declares:

"We have never had a tornado in Iowa during the winter months, nor during the months of midsummer. The main tornado danger occurs in April, May, and June, and in October. A minor tornado danger exists for May."

The extensive work, entitled "Tornado Studies," published in 1885, by direction of General W. H. Hazen, of the weather bureau, gives details about 129 tornadoes. These for the months of March, April, May, June, September and October were as follows:

Table with columns: State, Date, Hour, Moving. Lists tornado data for various states including Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, etc.

The table would indicate that no one in Nebraska need worry over a twister at night. Most of the tornadoes in General Hazen's list were in the southern states, where they frequently happen from January and February.

General Hazen's list gave width from seventy-five feet to 520 feet; average, 1,007 feet. Average length, thirty-six miles. Average speed forty-two miles per hour.

Heavy tornadoes should generally be seen long before their arrival.

In seventy-six cases thunderstorms preceded. In forty-two cases hail preceded. In 111 cases, unusual warmth (for the season and locality) preceded.

ALEXANDER VAN NYDECK.

Odd Bits of Life

Mr. and Mrs. George Bentley are planning to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary in the log cabin in Beaver, Pa., where they were married. They have lived for the last forty years, however in Chicago.

An avocado, or alligator pear tree, 4 years old, the most valuable fruit tree in the world, owned by H. A. Woodworth, rancher, of Whittier, Cal., has been insured by Lloyd's of London for \$30,000 against loss by fire or frost.

An ear of corn which for twenty-eight years hung on the wall as an ornament in the home of Frank Stoner, in Belvidere, Ill., is to be tested, and if it is found that the kernels will germinate the seed will be planted next year.

Mrs. Malvern, wife of a Long Eaton (England) hairdresser, has given birth to a child five weeks after her last child was born. Both children and the mother are well. A similar case occurred at Barrow early this year, when a boy was born six weeks before his sister.

Ned Faulkner, an old-age pensioner, aged 82, who has to walk three miles every Friday into Ameystry, Hertfordshire, England, to draw his pension, is always accompanied by a pig, which follows him like a dog and lies down outside the postoffice while the pensioner draws his money.

Mrs. Julia Dayton of Winchester, Conn., now has three great-grandchildren through the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Lester Huribut. The infant is a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. George S. Beach and great-grandson of Mrs. Cornelius Andrus, who are also residents of Winchester.

While returning at night to his home in New Orleans, La., by automobile, Dr. C. A. Bohne was attacked by a large hawk which was attracted by the headlights of the machine. It struck at the lamp but missed them, and buried its claws in the driver's arm. It fought for almost a half hour before being thrown off.

Lines to a Laugh.

"You won't have to make any formal speeches for some time."

"No," replied Senator Sorghum; "but the heart-to-heart talks with the people out here are going to be considerably more trying."—Washington Star.

"People are so careless about the proper use of prepositions."

"Yes," replied Senator Sorghum; "but the heart-to-heart talks with the people out here are going to be considerably more trying."—Washington Star.

"I thought you and he were friends."

"No."

"But I saw you the other night when you had your arms around each other."

"That wasn't friendship. We were merely going over the story we intended to tell our wives, so that it would hang together."—Chicago Record-Herald.

"Say, waiter!" said the ride man in the cafe; "tell the orchestra to play 'Carmen' while I eat this beefsteak."

"Yes, sir. Might I inquire why?"

"I want to hear the orchestra sing. I feel like a bull fighter."—Chicago Post.

"Well, I've heard the first complaint about the Panama canal."

"They say it isn't long enough to accommodate half the moving picture people."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"Care much for music?"

"Fascinatingly fond of it."

"Any favorite instrument?"

"You betcher. To me, nothing beats the melodies that come out of the horns of plenty."—St. Louis Republic.

"Hullo! Sit down. I believe you have come to ask me."

"You have been misinformed. I haven't come to ask you anything."

Capture of Cactus Center.

Arthur Chapman, in New York Sun. Down here in Cactus Center our hill citadel's been took.

By a moving picture outfit that is fullin' every nook.

We've been crowded out by actors till there ain't a bed in town.

We sleep in trape and blankets, out on the prairie prairie.

They're doin' light housekeepin' on the Blue Front's upper floor.

And the boyse joint closes early, 'so's to let the actors score.

There's a bunch of leadin' ladies roped and hog tied the hotel.

And there's actors first at table when throbs out the dinner bell.

They are stagin' wondrous dramas on the ranches hereabouts.

And the cattle go plumb locoed when they hear the actors' shouts.

There are juveniles and "heavies" prancin' round the lonely hills.

There are guns forever poppin', but they ain't the sort that kills.

There's a sound like canvas rippin' when a bunch shoots off some blanks.

While the sweatin' operators turn them Roll my bed, give me a grubstake—I must muck out in the sand.

Where's there's rattlesnakes and gilas, but there ain't no movie band.

Lo the leatin' dreams of goin' to a huntin' ground of peace.

Where there's no objection fella when he lifts a white man's fleece.

It is a land of rumtin' water, where the grass is always good.

Where there's buffalo and fodder, and the cowboy now is dreamin' of a place that's like poor Lo's.

Advertisement for Food Bills, Macaroni, Sausage, Roast, Poultry, and food for thought. Includes text: "Food is the biggest item in the high cost of living. Meat takes up one-third of the nation's food bill. We don't need near that much meat. There are other foods that are far more nutritious than meat. Take one striking example—"

Advertisement for Ford Model T \$550. Includes text: "Buy It Because It's a Better Car Model T \$550".

Advertisement for The maker of advertised goods. Includes text: "THE maker of advertised goods owns his business. The maker of unadvertised goods is bullied by the jobber, bossed by the dealer and badgered by his own salesmen."