

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
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DECEMBER CIRCULATION
49,044

Files of Nebraska, County of Douglas, at Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing company, being distributed to the average daily circulation for the month of December, 1912, was 49,044 DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager.

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

Perhaps Mr. Rockefeller might write it down, or whither it.

No use to argue with a man who calls the railroad station a "deppo."

Well, now that we know there is a Money trust, what are we going to do about it?

That fine old season's pastime, trying Clarence Darrow, is on again at Los Angeles.

Old "Doc" Cook is probably lecturing to the Equimaux till the weather cools off.

Those dwellers in the Ohio river bottoms probably know by now that the annual floods occur.

Look out for an explosion, the Department of Justice is about to take a shot at the Powder trust.

M. Poincaré "gotta de big in-sult," but as he got the election, he managed to contain his wounded pride.

Demon Rum seems to be doing business at the same old stand in spite of all the New Year resolutions.

"How suffrage made me beautiful," is the title of an article by a British suffragette. Watch them come a-running.

As proving the progress made by world peace within the last thirty days, Zion City has had not more than one war in that time.

Where have our juvenile court officers been in all of this mess of young girls being recruited here in Omaha for a life of vice?

As showing that the cost of living is steadily falling, assurance is given that the tariff on lemons will be reduced 1 1/2 cents a pound.

Illinois belongs to the people of the state and politicians have no mortgage on it—Chicago Daily News.

You can't make the bath room boys believe it.

A Los Angeles woman of 105 winters is to be married. If they have all been spent in sunny southern California she may not be more than 30 years of age.

An exchange remarks that Governor Osborn of Michigan never had himself definitely located during the campaign and still seems to be confused. Also there are others, or were.

Congressman Norris is not able to attend the session of the legislature that will formally commission him to represent Nebraska in the senate, but he will be elected whether he is present or not.

In recasting his Board of Control appointments, Governor Morehead seems to have concluded finally that discretion is the better part of valor, and that he can make more headway by going slower.

President-elect Wilson, like President Taft, seems to think that saying a thing in plain, dignified English counts just as much as to proclaim it from the housetops in the jargon of the street.

And now the Omaha Woman's club finds that action taken at a special meeting for holding a house-hold exposition under such auspices is null and void because not in conformity with the constitution and bylaws, and will have to be done over again. Our club women have apparently not reached the point indicated by the remark of that famous statesman who said, "What's the distinction between friends?"

Blue Sky Varieties.

No little public sentiment has been crystallized behind a demand for the enactment by the Nebraska legislature of what is known as a "blue-sky" law. The suggestion comes originally from Kansas, where vendors of stocks, bonds, and other paper securities are compelled before offering them for sale to get the approval of the state authorities as a safeguard against the coining of their "blue-sky" into good currency of the realm.

That outrageous imposition has been practiced, untold hardship imposed on unsuspecting victims, and much money poured into distant rat-holes which could, and should, be used for legitimate enterprises at home can be easily established, and the argument in favor of a "blue-sky" law is incontrovertible.

But there are numerous varieties of "blue-sky" peddled off as the genuine article in other lines besides the sale of stocks and bonds. The essence of "blue-sky" is also there when a real estate dealer works off a section of the sand hills by representing it to be fertile loam or unloads a bottomless pit for a valuable city building lot.

The essence of "blue-sky" is likewise there in greater or lesser degree when a merchant dumps shoddy goods on ignorant customers at watered-stock prices or fills an order for a custom-made suit of clothes with a ready-made factory garment.

"Blue-sky" is a very expensive and elastic conception, and after we take the "blue-sky" out of stocks and bonds, there will still be plenty of it left.

That Telephone Puzzle.

The Department of Justice has turned over to the Interstate Commerce commission the working-out of the telephone riddle, to determine whether it is a trust, combine or merely a great corporation ignoring the law with comparative impunity.

It is said that the government's agents have discovered cases where the alleged trust has mistreated smaller and so-called independent companies, refusing to form connections and in other ways imposing upon them. Wonder if the government has found instances where these so-called "independents" have been established by a band of stock-watering promoters purely for the purpose of forcing the alleged combine to buy them out at a fancy price.

There is room for lots of interesting development looking both ways in an investigation of the telephone situation.

Divorce Blight on Children.

If from some form of accidental violence 70,000 children, mostly under 9 years of age, were annually deprived of one or both parents, what would not be done to avert the disaster. According to figures compiled by the New York state marriage and divorce commission, these blighting results ensue every year from an evil more insidious and far-reaching than the ordinary casualty—divorce.

The fracture of matrimonial bonds, the wrecking of family altars, destroying and blighting the young, as well as adult lives, add all the train of troubles following in the wake of divorce, are not to be compared in their withering influences with common physical disaster, even to loss of life. If every year, as this commission shows, 100,000 divorces are being granted in the United States, the total of disjointed families must directly run into the millions.

So callous have people become that, it is said, 90 per cent of the divorce cases go by default, the second party feeling not even sufficiently exercised to appear in defense. The significance is certainly alarming for those who regard the consequences to the unfortunate children of the mismatched couples and challenges redoubled effort to devise preventive remedies.

Treasurer Ure is praised by the school board for crediting liquor license receipts ahead of time, although in doing so he was violating an order of a previous school board. Presumably, it is results that count just as when the late democratic state convention endorsed Mr. Bryan's repudiation of the popular instructions put on him as delegate to the Baltimore convention.

The question of paid or unpaid members of the charter commission is hardly a live one because the home rule amendment to the constitution under which the commission is to act makes no provision for payment. The Bee ventures a guess, however, that there will be no dearth of candidates for the places on that account.

South Omaha is threatened with another governor-appointed police board fathered in the legislature by factors opposed to municipal home rule altogether. The easiest way out is for South Omaha to come in with Omaha and have an equal voice in constituting the police authorities for the whole of the greater city.

The Wyoming legislators who while away a day in fisticuffs on the floor of the house, perhaps took that means of resenting the imputation that the old frontier days of the west are a thing of the past.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

COMPILED FROM THE FILES JAN. 22.

Thirty Years Ago—
The fistie bout between the celebrated pugilists, Mace and Slade, proved decidedly disappointing. Mace is described as rather heavily built, bald on top of his head and wearing a heavy black mustache. Slade is referred to as "the alleged Australian," in all probability "Cockey" English imported for the purpose of putting money in his own and Mace's pocket.

The two thumpers walked gaily on the stage and after a few subterfuges began to paste one another on the head and breast in royal style. Slade called out, "I have got enough, and it was all over."

A successful test was made of the electric lighting plant put in by A. L. Strang. Twenty lights burned at once, glittering like so many stars.

Invitations are out for the marriage of Miss Flora Rosenthal, sister of Mrs. Charles Schlink, to Mr. Sol Prince of the firm of Schlink & Prince, to take place February 6.

The weather has moderated slightly and the sleighing is better than ever. The German fair at Masonic hall opened tonight, with good attendance and fine decorations.

The London ball players held forth at the opera house.

Major D. H. Wheeler, secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, came in from Plattsmouth.

Twenty Years Ago—
About midnight news reached the city from Lincoln of the wrecking of the Capital National bank involving the sum of \$200,000. The state lost heavily, as it had funded a deposit with this bank.

The appearance in Lincoln of National Bank Examiner J. M. Griffith of Washington, was responsible for the closing of the bank, as he had found enough from a brief investigation to satisfy him of conditions.

John G. Maher, a rising young democrat from Chadron, was in the city.

Henry C. Stuart left for Denver, whence he is going to Guatemala to see about a coffee plantation, in which he was interested.

Mrs. Richard C. Patterson and three children left for the south to spend the remainder of the winter, chiefly in Houston, Tex. Mr. and Mrs. Tinschler arranged to occupy their home in the interior.

Miss E. Leighton, 78 years old, died at her home, 3221 Capitol avenue, at 6:35 p. m.

General C. H. Van Wyck passed through Omaha en route to Washington to resume his senatorial duties. He was told by reporters that he was quoted from Washington as favoring the election of John M. Thurston to the senate from Nebraska. He denied emphatically that he had done so and said he had not talked of the matter to any correspondent except Perry Heath of The Bee and didn't make such a statement even to him.

Ten Years Ago—
The street railway company, through the Byron Reed company bought a site for a new power plant for \$15,000, near the foot of Jackson street. It was announced the new house would be started with a capacity of 5,000-horse power.

County commissioners convened in state convention endorsed the Sloan bill providing for longer terms of service.

Mrs. Hannah Stein, wife of Robert E. Stein, 418 Farman street, died of paralysis at the age of 49.

W. W. Morsman conducted the examination of W. R. Bennett as to the failure of the Bennett company before Referee in Bankruptcy Clapp. The examination developed the information as to the holders of stock: W. R. Bennett, 2,882 shares; S. F. Bennett, 2,000; E. W. Brown, 100; Irving Allison, 1. These shares had never been paid for and an arrangement was made between W. R. Bennett and J. E. Baum whereby the latter could possess them in case he was unable to form a company to take over the business.

George P. Cronk, grand exalted ruler of the Elks, was preparing for an official trip south, attending three days' Elks reunion at Dallas and making other calls on lodges.

People Talked About

A Leipzig genealogist throws another "scar" into England by showing that the reigning duke of Anhalt, a German, is a direct descendant of Brian Boru, and therefore the rightful heir to the kingship of Ireland. What do you know about that? Nabockillah!

S. J. Rockefeller, cousin of the oil king, manipulates the "juice" on a street car in St. Louis.

Miss Eva Lewry unveiled a bronze tablet in San Francisco last week which was placed in memory of the timely anniversary of the first breaking of ground for the Central Pacific railway. It was the beginning of the first transcontinental line and the marker was given by retired railway employes.

Dr. Hamilton Wright Mable of the Outlook in Japan on the Carnegie Foundation for International Peace, has found the Japanese so cordial that he has had to flee into the country for a fortnight's rest.

Ernest Thompson Betton, chief scout of the Boy Scouts of America, when among white boys teaches them Indian tricks. When he visits the Indian boys he teaches them tricks and stunts of the white boy. Recently when out among the Sioux Indians he taught the boys and girls the Indian reel.

Daniel Chester French, the sculptor, is working on a model for the memorial fountain for Major Archibald Butt, military aide to President Taft, and Frank D. Millet, the painter, who lost their lives when the Titanic foundered. The fountain will be placed in the park outside the White House grounds.

Now Be Good.
Chicago Record-Herald.
Just to dispel any suspicion of unfair discrimination the United States public health service has put the finger bowl in the same class with the common drinking cup and the roller towel. When the use of the perils that environ our daily life we have less admiration for the heroes of the Light Brigade.

Teacher's First Task.
Washington Post.
Governor Wilson seems to be laboring under the old-fashioned impression that the first duty of the schoolmaster is to lick the big bully who tormented all the people under the old teacher.

Twice Told Tales

Interpreting the Text.

In the Tennessee mountains a mountaineer preacher, who had declared colleges "the works of the devil," was preaching without previous mediation an inspirational sermon from the text, "The voice of the turtle shall be heard in the land." Not noting that the margin read "turtle dove," he proceeded in this manner:

"This text, my hearers, strikes me as one of the most peculiar texts in the whole book, because we all know that a turtle ain't got no voice. But by the inward enlightenment I begin to see the meaning and will expose it to you. Down in the hollows by the streams and ponds you have gone in the springtime, my brethren, and observed the little turtle, a-sleeping on the logs. But at the sound of the approach of a human being they went kerflop-kerplunk, down into the water. This, I say, then, is the meaning of the prophet: be speaking figuratively, referred to the kerflop of the turtle as the voice of the turtle and hence we see that in those early times the prophet, looking down at the ages to come clearly taught and prophesied the doctrine I have always preached to this congregation—that immersion is the only form of baptism!"—Everybody's Magazine.

Job for the Princess.

The crown princess of Germany takes the greatest interest in women and their work. A proverb of which there is a story that she once applied in person on behalf of a protégée of hers to a leading firm of dressmakers for the post of a model.

"I came," she said, "because I saw your advertisement and I thought—"

The manager laid his hand on her shoulder.

"My dear girl," he said, "I am sorry, but it is no use. You are not quite good looking enough. Still, you have a pleasant face, and I'll tell you what I'll do. Come again in a month's time and then I will see if I can fix you out as a junior saleswoman."

His consternation was only equalled by the fact of the crown princess in making him forget his disfigurement when he discovered her identity.—London Globe.

Turned Down.

"An apt retort," said Senator Dupont in a tariff argument. "As apt a retort as the pert young girl's."

"This young girl repulsed very haughtily the proffered attentions of a young man. He, wounded to the quick, exclaimed:

"Ah, well, you're as full of airs as a hand organ."

"She tossed her head."

"Maybe I am," she said, "but all the same, I don't go with a crank."—Washington Star.

Curiosities of Life

A St. Louis man has amassed a fortune picking rags—but not a piano.

By a Swiss tribunal it has been decided that in Switzerland it is not against the law to call a man an ass.

A chicken thief in Fallington, Pa., killed for a bee hive, and he was found stung half to death and shrieking to be arrested.

A writer in Good Housekeeping tells how he reduced the high cost of living in his own household. He began first where a man would usually begin last—on his cigars, saving \$78 a year on this item.

When a highly bred and prized bull dog jumped from a baggage car on an express train near Sunbury, Pa., after it had chewed itself loose from its leash, the train was stopped while the crew chased it over snow-covered farm lands for half an hour. The animal was finally captured. The train arrived nearly an hour late. Express employes said the dog was insured for \$1,000.

Oscar P. Shaw of East Canterbury, N. H., boasts that since April 1 he has fitted fifty cords of stove wood, sold twenty tons of hay and oat fodder, raised 200 bushels of potatoes and 175 bushels of corn, picked fifty barrels of Baldwin and 40 bushels of elder apples, made twenty-one casks of cider, raised five tons of pumpkins and a large quantity of garden vegetables, gathered 3,000 bushels of leaves for bedding and raised 130 chickens and 60 pounds of pork.

Home Ties

Because Frank Patrick Henry of Pittsburgh, shied at a bill for \$18.50 for a pair of silk, satin corsets, Mrs. Henry talked back, made him "good night" and went home to mother, she refused to come back and Henry carried his tail of woe to the divorce court.

When Fred Thompson and Miss Lida Evans called at the home of Rev. F. W. Hart at Chadron, O., to be married they found a ministers' meeting in session there. Rev. Mr. Hart called upon two of his guests to assist in the ceremony, as the young people were married by three ministers.

The police judge of Yonkers, N. Y., is trying to arbitrate the troubles of Mrs. Margaret Kelly and her daughter Norah, aged 18. Miss Norah is quite a charmer and having a surplus of suitors Mamma Kelly tried to help out, becoming so expert in the line that Norah's favorites switched to mother. The court is asked to restrict the activities of mother and give the daughter a show.

Three courtships have been going on simultaneously in the home of John Krenholm of New Britain, Conn. Now a triple engagement has been announced; his three daughters are to be the brides of local young men.

Down at Greensburg, Pa., the wife of a man condemned to death for murder, applied for a certificate of death in advance of the execution. "What's the use of waiting?" said the woman, when reproached on her haste to marry. "I may not have the chance if I wait longer."

SOME OLD YEAR FIGURES.

Chicago in 1912 collected \$13,824 in delinquent taxes.

Over 2,000 auto licenses have been issued in Cleveland.

A seat on the stock exchange is still worth \$2,000.

Arizona in 1912 produced 236,000,000 pounds of copper.

Commerce of Hawaii in 1912 was \$15,000,000 greater than in 1911.

United States 1912 domestic consumption of copper exceeded 325,000,000 pounds.

Canada is the great consumer for United States coal, taking all except 36,713 tons of the 2,793,102 tons of anthracite exported in 1912 and 19,677,392 of the bituminous coal.

41,700,000 lbs of bituminous coal.

The Bee's Letter Box

Against Mothers' Pension.

OMAHA, Jan. 21.—To the Editor of The Bee: When men were women who have the knack of making things look easy and tasteful, with their wonderful beauty and loveliness, knows her care (in fact) and tenderness and unalterable faithfulness, he thinks she is not only worthy of his protection and support, but she would have the best of everything.

And when he knows just one woman, who in his whole world, who fills him with a blessed inspiration and strange force, and he sees the answer to his love deep in her wonderful eyes, he thinks if any thing should happen to her—but let us not think of it, but rather of the thousands of women, just like her, who are living in privation and loneliness on the meager boarding house fare, mending and remembering, pinching and contriving in order to look well on her few dollars a week.

Think of the many women, young, middle aged, and some elderly, who are reduced to such meager circumstances that they advertise in newspapers for a husband, of women who are utterly hopeless of the future they will promise to marry, men that I have never seen or over before heard of. Think of all these women, and should we sacrifice them all by giving the one woman who is a mother a pension?

Why are some women reduced to such poor circumstances? Why are some women so utterly hopeless? Why does the mother need a pension? Is it not because we assume that women are weak and have not given them a square deal?

DR. A. I. DEXTER, D. C.

Throttling Improvement Enterprise.

OMAHA, Jan. 20.—To the Editor of The Bee: This is an opportune time for the citizens of Nebraska to see that provisions are made in our laws that will bring internal improvements in the shape of electric railways to our state, and put us on an equality with other states in cheap, frequent and rapid transportation. Our laws will not permit this class of internal improvements and our money is now going to buy cheap Canadian lands where the investor has a chance to take advantage of the increased valuation.

It is a known fact that the interstate and state railway commission came into existence as a result of our present methods and high finance of our present railroad systems and the irresponsible promoters endeavoring to float large stock issues to construct steam as well as electric railways, where 40 per cent of the money raised was used for advertising, 40 per cent for salaries and commissions and only 20 per cent actually went into the construction. This class of financial and construction should be stopped, but the commission of our present methods and high finance of our present railroad systems and the irresponsible promoters endeavoring to float large stock issues to construct steam as well as electric railways, where 40 per cent of the money raised was used for advertising, 40 per cent for salaries and commissions and only 20 per cent actually went into the construction.

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It does look to an outside observer that the state railway commissioners are working in the interest of our now present railroad systems instead of assisting in getting internal improvements that will benefit the local and short haul traffic, as the present railroad systems are devoting their best talent and energies for the long haul and through traffic to the detriment of the local and short haul.

Instead of the method now adopted and being enforced by the commissioners they should authorize a stock issue equal to the bond issue, the bond issue to be determined by the actual cost of construction, including the commissions, discounts and contractors' profits.

For further protection of the purchaser a clause should be incorporated in the trust deed that a certain percent of the earnings shall be set aside each year for maintenance and at the expiration of the first ten years another percentage shall be set aside to retire the bonds at the end of the term of years the bonds are to run, before any dividends can be declared on the common stock.

If the promoters of a system of railroads would start out on these lines and carry it through successfully no reasonable man should begrudge the promoter the right to hold and keep his stock as fully paid and entitled to any dividend accruing. He has certainly earned it and the community, where located, has had full benefit for the increased facilities he has enjoyed. GEORGE L. CAMPEN.

Wooster Speaks as a Farmer.

SILVER CREEK, Neb., Jan. 19.—To the Editor of The Bee: While lawyers, doctors, merchants, bankers and the men of scores of other professions and callings, are organized for their own protection, it is a well known fact often commented on, that the farmers are not organized and have at hand no means of acting together, either offensively or defensively. It is true that there are various organizations among them, some twenty of them will meet in Lincoln this week, but not one of them, or all of them together, can speak authoritatively for the great mass of the farmers of Nebraska. The farmers are more numerous than all these other classes of people; they are the solid foundation on which all the institutions and industries of the state rest; paraphrasing a saying attributed to Louis Napoleon, "They are the state." And yet they are exploited and preyed on; crunched to and fro; insulted and humiliated, and even reviled and abused as a lot of addlepated chumps who do not know enough to throw dirt in a mudhole.

Usually the farmer takes it all weekly, like a lamb going to the slaughter, and answers back not a word. But there is a limit to human endurance, and if our legislators do not want the legislature to get a lot of ill-advised schemes for gutting more grievous burdens on the backs of the already over-burdened farmers, something is going to happen. While I hold no commission to speak for the farmers, having with my own hands tilled Nebraska soil for more than forty years, I think I come pretty near to knowing what they want and what they do not want. They do not want to be taxed in the sum of \$16,000 or in any other sum, to buy Mr. Clemmson's school at Fremont; they do not want to be taxed in the sum of \$600,000 or in any other sum, for a building for the historical society; they do not want to be taxed in the sum of \$2,000,000 or in any other sum, for the removal of the State university, and, above all, they do not want the legislature to make any law for a state highway commission and a scheme of state road building which would eventually cost us untold millions, and be a useless burden on the farmers forever.

In my own behalf, and in the behalf of the farmers, nine out of ten of whom I know would agree with me in all I have said, I appeal to the legislature,

OUT OF THE RACE.

Each morning I am awakened by a smiling little tot.

"How's that?" "My wife is always pouring cold water on my plans of keeping me in hot water."—Baltimore American.

"Have you not and cold water in your house?" "Too much of both."

"My wife is always pouring cold water on my plans of keeping me in hot water."—Baltimore American.

Because of him my trunk is light and gladly all day long. Above the roar of traffic, I can hear his baby's song.

The postmaster at Plunkville says that if he doesn't handle more mail they'll close the office.

"Sell him to put an ad in the local paper stating rich widow wants husband."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"When you went to the front to help fight the Turks did you take a prominent part?" "Well, all I can say is if you had been there, you would have spent me still in the running."—Baltimore American.

"Here's a dispatch about a man bound over for stealing a load of pumpkins; case never came to trial."

"Head it, 'Indictment Squashed.'"

Chicago Tribune. "Up again, eh, for evading the law?"

Lines to a Laugh.

Words are queer things anyhow, ain't they?" "A motile face is a changing one, isn't it?"

"Yes, what of it?" "An automobile face is a fixed stare."—Baltimore American.

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