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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR
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That new million-dollar hotel for Omaha can't come too fast.

President Huerta must aspire to be the Theodore Roosevelt of Mexico.

Governor Metcalf has arrived at the canal zone. Now keep an ear to the ground.

These diamond thieves evidently object to the vulgar display of jewels at Newport.

J. Pluvius is another public servant who has been abusing his vacation privileges.

Bad as the tango may be, this Mexican fang-dango beats them all for sensational poses.

Mashers in cities with feminine police will have to be careful now not to pick the wrong woman.

Again we ask, "What's in a name?" A British yachtsman has christened his boat "Libertine."

Currency bill safe, House bill shows—Headlines.

But what does a poll of the senate show?

President Yuan Shi Kai of China says he will never rest till the revolt is crushed. He can't, that is the reason.

That poor Omaha gardener who has fallen heir to a \$2,000,000 estate in Germany has a right to exclaim, "I should worry."

Are you registered? If your name is not on the list by the end of this week you can't vote at the special election, August 19.

It is presumed, of course, that the State department saw to it that John Lind was properly healed with grape-juice before leaving for Mexico.

A Chicago man on trial in court was required to sing to the jury just before it balloted on his case. The verdict was "guilty as charged."

With his diplomatic career closed, ex-Ambassador Henry Lane Wilson might get even with Secretary Bryan by going onto the chautauqua platform.

Douglas county's contribution to the support of the state government for this year will be \$254,795, as compared with \$230,109 last year. Some boost that.

Speaking of the corn crop, perhaps you may be interested in knowing that, according to official estimates, Nebraska has a new wheat yield of more than 62,000,000 bushels.

Jim Hill's eldest son, Louis, head of the Great Northern, who is being groomed for mayor of St. Paul, is almost sure to be accused of intimate relations with the corporations.

"Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown" in Oklahoma also, where the governor fears to leave the state lest the unfriendly lieutenant governor commit an executive act hostile to the chief's policy.

Governor Sulzer is having his troubles over the investigation of his sworn campaign expense account. My! But wouldn't some high officials hereabouts undergo a cold sweat if their oath-made exhibits of electioneering outlay were to be checked up!

My, but it's lucky, in the light of later events, that our high and mighty election commissioner was not successful in his ambition to occupy a place on the bench where he would be expounding the law according to his anti-foreigner prejudices, with no way to set him right except by appeal to the supreme court.

Action and Reaction.

The proverbial fate of the uninvited peace-maker seems to confront Private Ambassador Lind of Mexico. There is nothing so well calculated to cause the people of a country to sink their own factional differences as foreign intrusion, either official or unofficial, into what they believe to be their own private affairs.

Changes have come so fast in Mexico during the last three years that the revolution has been in progress there that no one can safely make advance predictions, but it is at least possible the sending of Mr. Lind to Mexico by the president may have a far-reaching influence toward re-establishing peace in consequence of the reaction it produces—or, in other words, in a way entirely unexpected and unintended.

Receiving Foreign Gifts.

President Wilson has addressed a letter to congress through Vice President Marshall asking permission, which presumably will be granted as a matter of course, to accept from England a bust of William Pitt, the elder, the great British premier. If as stated, this is the first such request ever addressed to congress, still it is not the first time we have been offered gifts by other nations, as recall, among others, the German emperor's proffer of the bust of Frederick the Great to President Roosevelt.

The point may be raised that the federal constitution forbids the acceptance of such gifts in this proscription:

No person holding any office of profit or trust under them (the United States) shall, without the consent of congress, accept of any present, emolument, office or title of any kind whatsoever from any king, prince or foreign state.

Although the president has laid the matter before congress, the constitution refers only to personal gifts, and instead of those made, such as this would be, to the government. A bust of Pitt, the great commoner, author of the statement, "England has no right under heaven to tax the colonists," would seem on general principles a more fitting token to this republic than the busts of some of his illustrious contemporaries.

No Will o' the Wisp.

The light in the window reads, "Immediate Dollar Gas." And we are assured by the Water board organ that it is a real light. It is, then, no ignis fatuus like the one that read, "Lower water rates, not next year, not next month, but now."

How About It?

According to the report of State Fire Commissioner Ridgell, fifty-four fires occurred in Nebraska outside of Douglas county during July, of which 75 per cent were due to carelessness and preventable. These cases, he recommends, should be more thoroughly investigated. More thorough investigation as to causes might accomplish something, but not as much as better methods of prevention. If three-fourths of the fires are preventable and due to carelessness, then the need is plainly one of systematic effort for prevention more than cure.

While the inference of superior conditions in Omaha is gratifying, it should not excuse us from utilizing the occasion for a little closer scrutiny as to our own responsibility. Are we in Omaha doing all we should to prevent fires? Omaha has been freer from large fires than the average city; it has a notably efficient fire force, but how about the hazard involved in the erection of flimsy, firetrap structures, which constitute the big factor in fire risk? Is it not true that our building code is in many respects out of date?

Mr. Bryan's Texas Friends.

Mr. Bryan, we are sure, will be aware of Greeks bearing gifts when those cynical Texans proffer their donations to help piece out his meager income of \$12,000 a year to enable him to devote his full time to being secretary of state. Mr. Bryan may have erred in judgment in this chautauqua business, but he has seldom been tripped up by the old money devil, no matter how plausibly disguised. If any collections are to be taken, let them come from the "home folks," not strangers.

But as a matter of fact, the lecture platform as a supplement to salaries for cabinet premiers seems to have flattened out, whether under the impact of accumulated business in the office at Washington or adverse public opinion, and while Mr. Bryan may later fill dates already made for this season, it is a safe guess that he will make none for next season unless contingent on his retirement from the cabinet family.

Among other methods of influencing legislation tried by the National Association of Manufacturers is the "prodding up" of congressmen by artificially stimulated letters and telegrams from constituents. But every congressman with half a grain of sense has always seen through this transparent dodge.

Looking Backward This Day in Omaha

Compiled from Bee files. AUGUST 9.

Thirty Years Ago—

A concert which is pronounced a treat was given at Max Meyer's music hall by Miss Nellie Bangs, pianist, assisted by Miss Pusey from Council Bluffs and Mr. Gilmer. The concert was promoted and managed by Charles Stevens.

Some walking signboards have appeared on the streets. Dr. Graddy has made a large investment on Cuming street, near Dr. Mercer, through the Ames Real Estate Agency.

E. H. Griffin, yardmaster for the St. Paul road, has been called to Kansas by the serious illness of a brother.

C. E. Yost and Fred Nye have gone to Spirit Lake. Francis Smith of New York, largely interested in Omaha property, is stopping at the Paxton. He has not visited the city for three years and is astonished at its prosperity.

L. H. Tower of Hastings has come to Omaha to accept the management of the Edible Trust company, which is soon to open up.

Sands Woodbridge and bride have returned from their wedding jaunt. "How the Herald's local items will sparkle now." Miss Blackley has gone to visit friends at Burlington.

The old Allen Root home on Douglas street, between Sixteenth and Seventeenth streets, has been sold to J. E. Markel for \$7,000.

Miss Poppleton gave a Vassar lunch to Miss Clair Routh, Mrs. Parrotte, Miss Jeannie Woodruff, Mrs. Frank Lawrence, Miss Ross, Miss Rena Ross, Miss May Millard and Miss Rena Yates.

Twenty Years Ago—

Coal prices were skyrocketing for a start. Coal prices had the range for anthracite ranging at \$10.50, with a jump to \$11 and then to \$12.50 by October 1, whereas the previous winter it had started at \$5.50 and gone to \$11. The chief reason then as now seemed to be that the coal men needed the money.

Miss Blanche Paul of Hastings was the guest of the family of Manager Higley of the Murray hotel.

"Doc" George Smith, county surveyor, returned from eastern Iowa, where he went to attend the funeral of a sister. He stopped at Cedar Rapids to renew old acquaintances.

Gustav Bencke was around again after being confined to his home for a few days as the result of injuries. He and Mr. and Mrs. Zimmerman were thrown violently from a buggy in a runaway at Barry Mills.

"Now that the construction of the bridge across the river at East Omaha is assured," said John R. Webster of the Omaha Bridge and Terminal company, "we have begun to send out feelers to railroads to use our facilities." He seemed to think that Jim Hill, with his Great Northern, which had been flirting with Omaha, might come across.

Ten Years Ago— A balloon from Krug park lit on the top of the residence of President Horace G. Burt of the Union Pacific at 123 South Thirty-ninth street and for a time caused much excitement. Mr. Burt and others saw the vessel coming, saw it alight on his house, saw it sit, in fact, on his very chimney, and when they could see no aeronaut they hastily concluded he must have gone down the chimney. Some thought the person turned in the fire alarm to get a ladder and a Santa Claus. But by the time the engines arrived the aeronaut, it was found, had safely alighted elsewhere in his parachute. No damage was done and Mr. Burt enjoyed the joke.

L. M. Russell, one of the foremost peach growers of the state, said there was a very poor prospect for anything like a peach crop in Nebraska. The storm of May 17 knocked it out.

The Lee-Glass-Anderson Originals took two games from the Joe Smiths, 9 and 15 to 7. Saffelder and Creighton and Fenner and P. Smith were the bat teries in the former game and Sullivan, Saffelder and Creighton and H. Smith, Brown and F. Smith in the latter.

J. F. Hally, 2767 South Ninth street, fell from a Harnay street car and badly bruised his knee.

William Owens, an Omaha letter carrier, it was announced, had patented an indestructible fence post that promised to revolutionize the fencing of large tracts of land in prairie sections of the country.

The resignation of Rev. P. B. Foster as pastor of the First United Presbyterian church was announced. He resigned to go east.

Major Churchill Cokburn, one of three Canadians who won the Victoria Cross for valor in the South African war, was killed on his ranch at Battle Creek, Man., by a kick of a wild horse.

Halton Kikret Bey, son of a Turkish poet, will be the first Turkish student to enroll in the University of Michigan when he goes there next fall to take up work in the engineering department.

Taylor Bireley of Parkersburg, Pa., is the only one of seven brothers who served throughout the civil war now living. He enlisted at the age of 14 and is now one of the youngest veterans of the civil war.

M. H. Pape of Twin Springs, Idaho, is visiting his sister, Mrs. George Murray of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. This is the first time they have seen each other in forty-eight years. He is 72 years of age and she is 74.

Mr. Pape is an Elk, and came east to the Rochester convention.

Four sloopments is the record established by the family of Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Stege of St. Louis. Thirty years ago Mr. and Mrs. Stege eloped, and to date two of their daughters and one son have departed unceremoniously on their wedding journeys and sent back telegrams soliciting congratulations.

An Irish castle, built forty years ago by Harry I. Sheldon, at East Erie street and Lincoln Parkway, Chicago, to be the home of a bride he was to bring from Ireland, is to become a workshop and salaroom for a dealer in furniture. For two years the castle, which was built after the pattern of the home of the bride who failed to come, has been uninhabited.

The will of Mrs. Jane Lake, admitted to probate at Bellefontaine, O., Monday, is peculiar. "It provides," reports a local newspaper man, "that the estate shall be equally divided among three daughters, on the condition that none of them marry. If one of them marries, her share of the estate goes to the two remaining single. If all three should marry, the estate is to go to the board of foreign missions of the Methodist Episcopal church."

People Talked About

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"Japanese toys are rapidly supplanting those made in Germany" in many of our departments," states a large importer of toys in London.

In Other Lands

Army Grant in Germany. Three lieutenants and four noncommissioned officers of the German army are on trial before a military court in Berlin on the charge of revealing military secrets.

The trial grew out of Dr. Liebknecht's charges in the Reichstag that money was being used by the Krupp, famous manufacturers of armament, to secure advance information of German military and naval projects and in the manufacture of war scares for business results. The noted socialist leader fortified his charges of mercenary graft with documents revealing such collusion that the ministry could not ignore the gravity of the accusations, and a public trial is the result.

The accused officers, in their testimony admitted having given military information to the resident agent of the Krupp, because they believed the Krupp were on such intimate terms with the government that no harm could result. The resident agent of the gunmakers is a jolly, genial fellow, as entertaining and as free with money as an American Mulhail. Army friends were treated to champagne suppers frequently, and personal loans were to be had on a whim.

One officer testified that financial favors were pressed upon him on the score of friendship. The relations between the resident agent and the loquacious military men were of the pleasantest nature, profitable to both sides, and the details revealed at the trial so far are filling the political magazines of the socialists with high-grade ammunition.

Reforming the House of Lords.

Reconstruction of the British House of Lords is to be undertaken seriously by the new term of the present Parliament. Evidently the reform will be one of the planks in the liberal party platform at the next general election. When the veto restriction measure was pending the government pledged itself to bring in a bill recasting the membership of the upper chamber, abolishing the hereditary principle which has made that body a puppet of the unionist party.

The rejection of home rule, which disestablished manhood suffrage bills, each for the second time, brought from Premier Asquith the statement of the ministry's purpose to carry out its pledge of creating an upper chamber more responsive to the public will. The opposition has continually taunted the government with failure to carry out this pledge. The Parliament bill, it has been complained, was simply a device to get certain radical measures through Parliament. The government has always replied that the purpose of the Parliament bill was to enable the government to carry out its program in spite of the hostility of a chamber which had hitherto been able to make government by the liberal party almost impossible.

After the bill had served this purpose the government would proceed to draft a permanent scheme.

The Family in France.

The eminent French statistician, M. Jacques Bertillon, discussing the growing peril of the republic in decreasing birth-rate, insists the Frenchmen must be taught to regard a child as a burden which its father supports for the benefit of the whole community. But in order that a family should pay what it owes to the state it should consist of at least three children—two to fill the places of the parents when they die, and the third to fill the gap caused by those who die before attaining adult age. In order to promote this end M. Bertillon proposes a reduction of taxation upon fathers of three or more than three children, in proportion to the number of living offspring—a system already adopted in Prussia, Saxony, Serbia, Norway, Sweden and parts of Switzerland.

The laws of succession should be modified and formalities of marriage simplified. Mothers of large families should be assisted in various ways, and special provision should be made for widows left with children.

Finally, M. Bertillon suggests that among the humbler class of public servants those candidates for employment by the state who have children should be considered as eligible in proportion to the size of their families.

Temperance in Ireland.

The cause of temperance is making steady, if not rapid, strides in Ireland, and for the first time since the days of Father Matthew the people appear determined upon a concerted effort to rid the country of the stigma of drunkenness. In Monaghan, in the province of Ulster, there was recently a very marked and sympathetic demonstration in favor of this temperance movement and later on Drogheda and other towns in the north of Ireland followed suit. The size of the meetings and the enthusiasm of those present showed the sincerity of the people in their desire to rid Ireland forever of such a blot on its name.

At one time had become almost a national disgrace. The cause of temperance, said Cardinal Logue at one of the meetings, is the cause of peaceful homes and comfortable people, the cause of the children and the youth well looked after, the cause of growing prosperity and the regeneration of Ireland, and above all the cause of the eternal welfare of the people.

German Social Democrats.

The social-democratic party in the German Reichstag scored a notable victory in a recent bye-election. Ferdinand Ewald having been elected a member of his party, by an increase of 1,000 votes over the balloting in 1912. On two successive days the conservatives were twice badly beaten by the social-democrats and by a representative of the radical groups, which at times act with the social-democrats, the left now numbers no less than 208 members, which gives to it a commanding position—the total is 297 members—when it holds together. When it is recalled that the social-democrats had but eleven seats so lately as 1907 their extraordinary progress is plain. What if they should gain another hundred seats in the next twenty-six years?

Over the Seas

Kobe, Japan, has a population of 426,961. Italian state railways are now using more than fifty electric locomotives.

Spain annually eats 747,887,221 pounds of meat, valued at \$108,928,288, mostly beef.

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"Japanese toys are rapidly supplanting those made in Germany" in many of our departments," states a large importer of toys in London.

Horace P. Holmes.

The Bee's Letter Box

The Fish in Carter Lake. OMAHA, AUG. 7.—To the Editor of The Bee: I object to the sending of Carter lake for the following reasons:

It is done under pretense of getting out the carp, but in reality to get a big price to pay for what they want. A coil of \$300 is no protection for the game fish. The carp is sold to the poor man, and is the poor man's fish, and is as good as bass when properly cooked. Before the draining began fishing was good. If the state game warden wants to do some good let him seine out the bass, crappie and other game minnows on the east side of the lake on the park grounds. Fifteen thousand game fish can be saved, but in ten days they will be dead. Don't seine Carter lake, but seine and protect the game minnows. JOHN F. BELM.

Time to Believe. OMAHA, AUG. 5.—To the Editor of The Bee: I will believe that men are smarter than women when I find one voter in ten who knows the first principles of political economy, and is not influenced in his choice of candidates by his employer, his personal friends, his ambition for grafting or his desire for revenge. When men vote for candidates who are noted for their stern morality, their fitness and willingness to do their duty; when men refuse to support those whose desire for office is prompted by mean and despicable motives, I will believe that men are smarter than women.

When I hear men unholding the idea that whiskey, because it makes us feel old when we drink it, will lengthen our lives and restore the vigor of youth; when they tell me that midnight banquets, high-pressure excitements and a ridiculous display of club house ignorance will make a young man a gentleman, I pause and reflect that if men are smarter than women, female ignorance must indeed be deplorable. I will believe men are superior in intellect when they can regulate their conduct by the common dictates of morality and experience; when they cease to sacrifice innocence and virtue on the altars of lust; when they can expel their selfish and narrow sentiments and think as rational creatures ought to think.

The way the political and social balance now stands there is not one iota of evidence in favor of men being smarter than women.

True wisdom is nothing more than pure goodness of heart, and to compare men and women by this standard of excellence would be like comparing Beisebub with St. Peter. Competition in the marriage market has made women more or less a slave to the powder rag, but the competition of the industrial world has made man, with all his self-righteousness, a buyer and seller of white slaves, a parasite drawing his nourishment from the sweat and blood of children, an inventor of wild-cat arguments by which he overpowers his conscience, and a circulator of that extravagant piece of nonsense that women are not sufficiently intelligent to cast a sensible vote when a city admits that prostitution is necessary, and the only question up for decision is whether it shall be scattered or segregated, and when it is considered dangerous to marry a man who cannot produce a health certificate, it strikes me that women, even if they have nothing to recommend them but virtue, might take a hand in this wonderful science of politics without injuring the feelings of the most tender hearted man in the country. It requires no more wisdom to vote than it does to bake a batch of good bread. E. O. M'INTOSH.

Hallucinations or Associations?

SHERIDAN, WYO., Aug. 6.—To the Editor of The Bee: My columns of The Bee's Letter Box are still filled with the effusions of "E. O. M." whose mind seems to be overflowing with the general wickedness of humanity. It brings to the reader's mind the question of where he spends his time and what are his principal associations that he so continually harps on the evils he claims to be everywhere existent.

There are so many beautiful things in Omaha, so many elevating influences, so many noble men and women, that E. O. M. should find his mind too full of all that is grand and good there for him to let his brain emanations be so morbid. We should insist on his searching for the cream of life and not be ever swimming in the filth and scum of the cesspool. His last diatribe is upon the awful influence of that simple little picture, "September Morn." It is difficult to conceive what evil thoughts could arise from gazing upon the apparently shivering maiden in that picture. The first thought that came to the writer on seeing the little lady was that she was sadly in need of a warm suit of clothes. But E. O. M. first sees in it that which would inflame the sleeping passions of the common, ignorant man. How does he know, and on what personal feelings does he judge?

He says that Mickey O'Ruey should be prosecuted for placing it over his saloon bar, and then adds this incomprehensible, added, confusing sentence: "The pictures of a female form hung in a studio are sufficient to elevate the soul to the highest pitch of ecstasy and contemplation, but suspended the same picture on the walls of a dramshop and the daughters of poverty and the sons of the working class are greatly hindered in their battle against temptation." Will E. O. M. please tell what he aims to convey to the reader, and also tell us in what way a picture hanging in a dramshop can hinder the daughters of poverty and the sons of the working class in their battle against temptation? And will he also tell us how anyone will find out these pictures are hanging in a dramshop unless he frequents such places to such an extent that he becomes a teacher on such subjects? And here is another sentence that is a clincher: "Think not, miserable wretches, that your thoughts are their thoughts; think not that whiskey taken through a straw is intoxicating, or that the madness of a sick gentleman tormented by snakes and bobcats, or that whiskey taken through a straw may not be intoxicating. It is surely another proof that E. O. M. is laboring under a severe attack of mental hallucinations himself."

In closing let us say that the readers of The Bee's Letter Box may well hope that E. O. M. may improve in both his personal associations and his paucity of facts. HORACE P. HOLMES.

Out of the Rut

F. F. Brackett of Kansas City claims to have a hen which lays two eggs a day.

Ownership of a puppy was decided in a Cleveland court the other day when the pup wagged its tail at one of the two claimants.

Jack Fowler of Warsaw, Ind., owns a Scotch collie which he has taught to use a tooth brush after three months' training. The dog now insists upon using it regularly.

George Hudson, 37 years old, of Winfield, Kan., is living in a house that he recently built with his own hands unassisted by anyone. Mr. Hudson was a soldier in the Mexican war.

Mrs. Sara Denis was awarded \$100 damages against a Paris hairdresser, who employed on his client a liquid which instead of restoring her hair to its pristine beauty, made it a vivid green.

After using a plow for sixty years, Charles Lewis of Ridgewood, N. J., wrote to the makers of the plow in New York state for a new plowshare. The manufacturers had been out of business for forty years, he found.

Dr. H. L. Ross of Canaan, Conn., took a malleable cat with him on an automobile trip to Lake Champlain, in the Adirondacks. The cat was lost at the lake, but appeared in Canaan twelve days later thin and almost starved to death after its 150-mile walk.

The tea wagon, an evolved perambulator, now emerges as a lunch wagonette, under the genus laid upon it by Mrs. James J. Brown of Denver, a Newway summer resident. The new invention is under construction in Germany. It may be pushed from room to room. An ice chest and an electrical cooking stove and a cupboard will be part of the outfit.

A London magistrate has handed down a weighty opinion. A case growing out of an automobile accident was being tried before him and the evidence showed that the chauffeur, who was charged with manslaughter, had a woman companion seated beside him. The justice frowned upon the practice, declaring it a "distracting companionship," and adding, "some ladies are nervous, some inquisitive, some garrulous, some attractive."

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