

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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48,017

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss.

Dwight Williams, circulation manager

of the Bee Publishing Company, being duly

sworn, deposes and says that the average

circulation, less copies, unused and

returned copies, for the month of March, 1911,

was 48,017.

Dwight Williams, Circulation Manager

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to

before me this 28th day of March, 1911.

Dwight Williams, Notary Public

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily

should have The Bee mailed to them.

Address will be changed as often as requested.

What ails the lame ducks is that they

got no rain checks.

Even as a giant firecracker Senator

Jeffries Davis has fizzled out.

The aviators are coming. Things

hereabouts should look up now.

For a man who always loved peace

Mr. Taft occupies a very stormy pinnacle.

Think of the price Senator Madero

could command on the vaudeville stage, though.

A busy man like the president

ought not to waste time to explain or

defend his religious faith.

"Further Clearing of the Mexican

Sky."—Headline. It will resemble an

"aurora borealis pretty soon.

A spelling bee in Missouri recently

lasted seventeen hours. Well, what

else have they to do down there?

Observe that Mexico is controlling

its stray bullets much better than it

did before that Agua Prieta-Douglas

opsode.

At any rate, the poor, downtrodden

lawyer will get a chance at some fat

fees as a result of this dynamiter

business.

It will hardly be denied that that

dynamite found in a valise in the St.

Louis depot ready for business was

dynamite.

"To a barber," says the Memphis

Commercial-Appeal, "the forbidden

fruit ought to be onions." Yes, or

cigarettes.

The Charleston News and Courier

says, "One jackass stands on four

feet, the other on a technicality." Now,

whose ears burn?

The millennium is dawning. The

St. Louis Republic says even "Hell's

Half Acre" is being cleaned up. And

those who know "Hell's Half Acre"

know that is going some.

Queer, if true, since Mr. Bryan con-

siders Senator Martin a tool of the

trusts and all that, that he ever

picked him out as senate leader when

he feared the election of Bailey, isn't it?

The sleeve-bottomed dirt wagons are

still doing business here and there,

although supposed to be under the

ban. This is a nuisance that can be

stopped if the proper city authorities

will only act.

The County Board of Equalization

will grapple again this year with the

question. What is an automobile

worth that has been in use for some

time? It all depends whether the

person is buying or selling.

Having shoved the constitution to

one side as "antiquated and obsolete,"

Congressman Victor Berger has

proceeded to abolish the senate. Prob-

ably he thinks this the most direct way

of unseating the Honorable Lorimer.

It is worth noting in passing that

C. O. Pratt, who acquired a certain

notoriety in Omaha, seems to be still

on the job, manipulating the prelimin-

aries of the Philadelphia street car

strike, which he and confederates hope

to bring about soon.

If the paving contractors had their

way pedestrians and other traffic in

streets undergoing reconstruction

would have no rights whatever they

are bound to respect. And the paving

contractors seem to have their way

in Omaha unobscured.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch complains

that the World "does not seem to know,

on occasions, that the war is over and

that slavery has been abolished." Of course,

we know the war is over. Haven't the

Richmond Times-Dispatch become one

of the organs of a republican president?

Go it, Deacon, we'll hold your coat.

Reapportionment.

The house has passed the Houston reapportionment bill, which, in the main, is identical with the Crumpacker bill passed by the last house and blocked in the senate. It increases the membership from 391 to 432, exclusive of Arizona and New Mexico, which, when admitted, with one representative each, will bring the total to 435.

On the basis of the last census, this will save every state from loss in its congressional membership, if the senate should pass the bill and the president sign it, making it a law. Many states, however, will not gain additional members under the rearrangement. Twelve, or more than one-fourth of the new members, will come from three states, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The New England states will gain three, the Pacific coast states six and the southern states seven. These twenty-one states will make no gain nor loss; Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Of course, one of the chief effects of reapportionment will be its resultant enlargement of the electoral college. Those states making gains naturally are looking to that and the democrats are not indifferent to the advantages they will reap from this, particularly in the south, though some of the newspapers down there contended when the Crumpacker bill was pending last winter that owing to negro emigration some southern states had made but nominal population increases and that, therefore, the south could not be charged with selfish motives in the matter of reapportionment.

One of the arguments against a larger house is that it will make it unwieldy and less efficient, tending toward a centralizing of power in committees and the speaker. But that has not outweighed the fact that if left at its present number it would mean losses to some states and consequent extinction of present members from public life.

A Socialistic Sample.

The lone socialist member of congress, Victor Berger, who represents Milwaukee in the house, is finding his new role a gay life. No man, not even Uncle Joe sprinkling tacks in front of Champ Clark's automobile, is getting more real amusement out of it. He is a free lance, and as such may, like the court jester, do as he pleases with perfect impunity, knowing the more radical he becomes the bigger hit he will make at home.

But Congressman Berger is not going after small game. He aims only at the big birds. One day he knocks out the federal constitution because it is "antiquated and obsolete," and the next day he abolishes the senate because it is a useless functionary, strikes from the hand of the president the veto power and takes from the courts the right to invalidate legislation enacted by the house of representatives. The house and the president, shorn of authority, thus far escape with their lives. But the Honorable Berger's term is young; give him time and perhaps he will get around to them.

This evidently is socialism in its highest form and expression, for Mr. Berger is the arch-apostle of the creed, the reputed boss of Milwaukee, sharing with another exciting influence, credit for making that city famous. Now is the wisdom of the Milwaukee voters apparent. It affords the country a harmless taste of novel political nostrums. Having sampled them it is not likely to put in an order for a consignment of the goods. Berger, himself, must admit one thing, however, namely, that with all its drawbacks and delinquencies the constitution is a very tolerant document and congress is a very patient body and the nation a very powerful institution when one and all will indulge him and his vagaries so complacently.

President and Senate.

Evidently President Taft is none too certain of the senate's attitude toward his reciprocity measure, for he has taken the stump in the hope of "moulding sentiment" for the bill. This must be more with the idea of influencing the senate than the people at large at this time, for after the bill is enacted into law by congress, if it should be, the public will pass its judgment upon the results achieved.

The president makes one point in his New York speech regarding action on the reciprocity measure which seems to us eminently fair and that that reciprocity should stand alone and "ought not to be affected in any regard by other amendments to the tariff law." It ought to stand or fall on its own merits, and that is why, it has seemed to us the democrats were wrong in seeking to embarrass its passage, if not, indeed, to compass its actual defeat, by submitting their "farmers' free list" at this time. Their action in this regard smacks of partisan politics, of an attempt to pretend to do something they really do not want to do. Irrespective of the merits or demerits, if the democratic majority in the house really believes Canadian reciprocity to be desirable at this time, it seems passing strange that they should have gone so far with a scheme obviously calculated to endanger its success.

The last senate let reciprocity die for want of action. This senate may

scarcely be able to do that, but it is not a foregone conclusion that it will pass the bill unamended even under the pressure of the president's personal influence and declaration that it is reciprocity now or never.

Three New Days.

Although the people have not yet become fully aware of it, our late Nebraska legislature has written labels for three new days on our calendar.

By statute duly enacted October 12 is henceforth to be known as "Columbus day," in honor of the discoverer of America, and to be a legal holiday.

By the same warrant of law the first Friday in November of each year is to be set apart as "Fire day," on which fire drills are required in all public, private and parochial schools.

According to the same authority, too, the birthday of John Howard, which occurs on September 2, is to be a legal holiday in all penal and reformatory institutions of the state and so observed.

We have here, therefore, two holidays of fixed date and one of movable date, one of which, the birthday of John Howard, may occasionally fall coincidentally with Labor day, which is the first Monday in September.

It devolves upon all of us residing in Nebraska to revise our calendars to conform with these legislative decrees.

Human Slaughter.

The country is indignant, and rightly so, at such appalling and wanton destruction of life as that which occurred in the blowing up of the Los Angeles newspaper plant last autumn, and every man who loves justice craves the capture and conviction of the outlaws who commit such depredations. But, though there have been many dynamite explosions in the last year, the Los Angeles affair is exceptional in the scope of its fatalities. We hear of few such outrages in a lifetime. On the other hand, accidental explosions or fires in mines and other industrial plants occur with frightful frequency, snuffing out human lives by the scores, and yet reports of these catastrophes occasion scarcely a passing protest from the average person, who has become callous to such things.

No law-abiding citizen can afford to condone or palliate wanton murder, but neither should we longer wink at the wholesale taking of human life by criminal negligence. Of course, those responsible for safe operation of mines and other industries of a hazardous character intend to safeguard the lives of their employes, but the ghastly records of a hundred explosions and more show they too often negligently fail to do so. Perhaps we have been too squeamish in dealing with horrors such as have occurred within the last few weeks in mines and factories. Maybe if the public's attitude were changed the prohibition and mandates of the law would have more effect. As it is, when a mine explosion or a factory fire happens, with its terrible toll of lives, a formal and perfunctory investigation is held and nothing comes of it, except, possibly, a meaningless verdict to the effect that the blame cannot be fixed.

Loss or Gain?

State Treasurer George has completed the sale of several blocks of state bonds held for the permanent school fund, the proceeds to be re-invested in bonds issued by Nebraska counties, cities or school districts. The treasurer offered for sale all the holdings of the school fund consisting of bonds issued by other states, and received bids equal to or more than par and accrued interest for only a comparatively small part of them. It will be interesting to know, and we hope soon to have a public statement showing exactly what these financial transactions stand the state.

These securities were bought mostly from brokers on a basis computed to yield a certain stipulated rate of interest, which rate was presumably the current rate. The sales of these bonds have been to brokers bidding with a view of disposing of them again at current rates, and how much the state is loser or gainer should be easily figured out. It does not follow, of course, that, although the school fund may be at a sacrifice in the conversion of its holdings from the bonds of other states to those of its own subdivisions, it will in the long run suffer, for the rate of interest on the new investments should be materially higher than what was received on the old ones.

The costliness of the straight-jacket which has hampered and prevented the businesslike management of the school fund heretofore should emphasize the importance of now getting these trust funds so placed that they will yield the best returns for the schools commensurate with absolutely safe and sound investments.

Now it is intimated that the Water board will not formulate its bond proposition until after it hears from its appeal from the order entered in the specific performance case which is set for May 12. But the Water board knew all the time that this appeal was pending, and that it could not be heard before the middle of May. The hurry-up bond talk two months ago was plainly induced at that particular time for effect on the legislature only.

Our Junior United States senator from Nebraska has been assigned to a position of overshadowing importance on the committee on foreign relations, where it goes without saying

he will have an unusual opportunity to make himself especially serviceable to his Nebraska constituents. Wonder if he would have gotten a better place if he had lined up with the majority of his party behind Senator Martin for democratic leader instead of with the minority behind "Gum-Shoe Bill" Stone.

The letters which The Bee has printed giving information as to rates charged by auditoriums in other cities indicate that they are governed by no invariable rule, but that consideration is given the public or private use for which the building is desired. These big auditoriums have been erected as a rule largely as public enterprises and for gatherings of a purely public character calculated to bring attendance of crowds from outside without exacting an admission, concessions are often made.

The management of the Omaha Auditorium, which was erected by subscription in response to general solicitation, is also expected to discriminate between public and private use of the structure.

The new commission to codify the laws of Nebraska is made up of three members entitled to compensation each at the rate of \$3,000 a year. The commission has an appropriation of \$20,000 at its disposal. Puzzle—Figure out how long it will take to complete the work.

If the city council can usually find money in the general fund to pay for grading of streets where sufficient pressure is brought to bear it ought to be able to find the money to pay for city jail expenses, and by thus relieving the police fund permit the proposed increase of the police force.

Pointing His Way.

Washington Star.—With so many eminent democrats available, it doubtless occurs to Mr. Bryan that he may yet be called on as a compromise candidate for the nomination.

Let the Row Begin.

Chicago Record-Herald.—Two Americans have been arrested by Japanese officials for photographing a naval station while they were passing on a steamship. Congressman Hobson will positively refuse, when he hears about it, to put off the war any longer.

Passing Compliments.

Minneapolis Journal.—Senator Limanour brings the accusation against Don Madero that he is a vegetarian, a dreamer and a spiritualist. Don Madero rejoins that Senator Limanour is a hypocrite, a moonshaker, a timeserver and borelied. Let the armistice go on.

Pretion in Coal Combine.

Springfield Republican.—The stability of monopolistic conditions continues to prevail in the anthracite coal industry, but not so with the soft coal industry. That is more or less demoralized with many operators cutting prices to get business—not a very familiar situation of late years in coal mining. It would seem to indicate that supplies are in no immediate danger of giving out.

POLITICAL SNAPSHOTS.

Cleveland Leader: Miss Democracy to "Uncle Jid" Harmon: "This is so sudden!" St. Louis Republic: "We would again call attention to the portentous silence which hangs over Oyster Bay like a funeral pall." Washington Post: The president has been asked to name a bunch of Kentucky triplets. How would Initiative, Referendum and Recall do, papa?

Cleveland Plain Dealer: Mr. Bryan is booming Champ Clark for the presidency. Objections are given a decided advantage. No wonder the democrats are sorry they didn't tie a bigger can to him.

Kansas City Times: Lorimer has been made chairman of the senate committee on mines and mining, possibly in recognition of the able underground work by which his election was accomplished.

Baltimore Sun: Just because Speaker Clark has a new gavel of blackthorn, emblazoned with haw and shamrock, fear need not follow that he will be called to keep order in a Doneybrook fair in congress.

Sacramento Union: If Abe Ruef is honestly trying to do some good by teaching a Bible class at San Quentin his efforts should not be scoffed at. He is not to be denied the right of repentance any more than is any other inmate of the prison. Certainly his attempt to interest the prisoners in the Great Book should not be the subject for jest and sarcasm.

People Talked About



R. M. Haan is one of New York's notable hotel men. He holds the St. Regis metropolitically in his hand, and what he does not know about the hotel business isn't worth telling.

Representative F. H. Knight of Clarion county, Pennsylvania, is drafting a bill requiring every man and woman who desires to drink wine, beer or whiskey in Pennsylvania to take out an annual license at a cost of \$5.

Mrs. John A. C. Menton has just been elected on the school board in Flint, Mich. Her husband was elected mayor on the same ticket. Mrs. M. M. Cantrovitz was elected on the same date for a long term on the school board of Milwaukee on the non-partisan ticket. Though a Jewess, Mrs. Cantrovitz was actively supported by the Catholic and Protestant women voters.

In Other Lands

Side Lights on What is Transpiring Among the Near and Far Nations of the Earth

The imposing "road roller" of American politics has not yet appeared in the political literature of Great Britain. Other American campaign novelties have been welcomed over there. Doubtless the road roller will be introduced when its utility is fully understood. For the present the country has "something just as good," judging by the series of tests going on in the House of Commons. It is known as the "Kangaroo Closure" and is applied to minority tactics of talking a measure to death. Over 1,000 amendments have been offered to the pending bill limiting the veto power of the House of Lords. Each of these amendments, if taken up in turn and discussed without restriction, would carry the bill over into next year. The debate has been going on for over a month, the opposition doing most of the talking, chiefly for delay and to give the country an impression of fierce oratorical fighting. As soon as the amendments reached the balloting stage the Kangaroo closure began business and worked as smoothly as Thomas Brackett Reed's system of "beating a quorum." Each amendment voted down carries into the waste basket every other amendment seeking to accomplish the same end. Thus the defeated amendment excluding Irish home rule snuffs the life out of every other amendment relating to home rule and excludes of repetition the wisdom and sagacity shown in hesitating from one amendment to another without the weariness of additional votes renders the Kangaroo system the most effective and picturesque of Australia's contributions to the politics of the world. The ministry is determined to send the veto bill to the Lords early in May and the majority has the Kangaroo and the votes to do it.

"A savage, unsmiling tyrant, who has chopped off seven heads in a day without a twinge of remorse, who lives in the shadow of death, but is unafraid" are the broad outlines of a sketch of M. Stolypin, Russian prime minister, drawn by Francis McCullough, London correspondent of the New York Post. A tall, powerfully built man of great physical strength, he is a fitting representative of a ruthless autocracy and a mastery over guard for a weak autocrat. This explains why Emperor Nicholas induced the premier to resign his resignation, drawn by Francis McCullough, London correspondent of the New York Post. A tall, powerfully built man of great physical strength, he is a fitting representative of a ruthless autocracy and a mastery over guard for a weak autocrat.

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