

**THE ILLUSTRATED BEE.**

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**Pen and Picture Pointers**

This week The Illustrated Bee gives its space almost exclusively to what has become not merely an Omaha affair, but a real feature of life in the central west, the annual carnival and pageant of Ak-Sar-Ben. In doing this The Bee feels it is simply carrying out its well established policy of exploiting those things which are of interest to its readers and which tend to the material development of the region it represents. What was commenced in a spirit of local enterprise and which had at first only a local application, has broadened in its scope and extended in its perspective until it has far outgrown the plan of its earlier promoters and the Feast of Mondamin of a few years ago has become the great annual spectacle of Ak-Sar-Ben, in which all the people who have their homes and their business within the great agricultural region of which Omaha is the center know they have a share and feel a conscious pride in the knowledge. Ak-Sar-Ben's full pageant has become a standard in the line of carnival displays and its reputation has extended from the region of its inception throughout the entire country, until the very word has taken on a significance synonymous with prosperity and the great middle west. Therefore, The Bee feels that in exploiting this great pub-

lic enterprise it is but discharging its duty to the people it represents.  
 The artists have striven to give an adequate conception of not only the carnival itself, but of its preliminaries and the concomitant features that make it so acceptable an entertainment and exponent of the resources of the country it represents. The text well explains the illustrations and the whole make up an excellent exposition of the enterprise and its theme for the current year.

The details of the theme of the parade, the plans for the final demonstration and the general program for the week will be found in The Bee this morning. The illustrations show that the subject to be given

is all the more interesting to the people and to those of the knights who have not been let into the secret of the managers. Those who have had the privilege of looking in on the creations of the designer say that the floats equal if they do not excel any that have yet been put forward by Ak-Sar-Ben and that his majesty will redeem any anticipation his loyal subjects may have had as to his prospective magnificence in this, the seventh year of his glorious reign.

The men who have worked so hard to make the affair of this year a success, the board of governors and the hustling committee, feel naturally a deep interest and a certain source of satisfaction in the success of their undertaking. The Bee shows individual photographs of the board of gov-



A. H. Rawitzer, Harry E. Roberson, J. D. Weaver, C. Miller, John Steel, Frank Simpson, R. E. Wilcox, J. H. Daniels, Robert Haaker, Julius Rosenzweig, E. C. Hodder, Chas. Slosser, L. E. Lucas, Max Goldsmith.

AK-SAR-BEN HUSTLING COMMITTEE—PHOTO BY A STAFF ARTIST.

life in the floats this year is an uncommonly interesting one, based on the days of romance and knighthood in the Spanish peninsula. It is the very antithesis of the initiatory program and for that reason

errors and a group of the hustling committee taken expressly for its use. In the pictures will be found the faces of men who are closely identified with the commercial enterprises of the west.

**His Feathered Friend**

The New York man bowed to an immense red-faced man who was just leaving the bar. The red face beamed until it outshone the huge diamond stuck in the scarlet cravat and the silk hat came off with a sweep, relates the New York Sun.  
 "Who's your fat friend?" asked the Boston man who had been invited to drink at the New York man's expense.  
 "He calls himself Wilson now. I've an idea he opens the directory and chooses a new name whenever it seems advisable. I knew him twenty-five years ago in a little Dakota town and he was doing business under the name of Johnson then—Bill Johnson, grain buyer and tinhorn gambler.  
 "I was a young fellow and new to the west, but was trying to hold down a lumber yard for a Chicago firm. One night I was in the office late wrestling with a trial balance when the back door opened and in rushed the queerest looking object I'd ever seen. It looked like a feathered man in a spree and cut loose from its cover. Naturally I jumped up and grabbed the thing nearest my hand, which was the big ink well, but just then a voice came out through the feathers.  
 "For God's sake, man, don't make the mess worse. Hide me somewhere. I'm a friend of Mr. A's."  
 "Now Mr. A— was my boss, and I didn't know much about his friends, but if this was a specimen of them I didn't like his tastes. Just then there was a noise outside and the feather biped plunged under the counter in the dark little back office. The door opened and a man stuck his head in. There were other men behind him.  
 "Seen anything of a tattered and feathered scoundrel? He ran down this way and we've got some more business with him."  
 "I didn't know anything about the row, but it doesn't seem natural to give a man away, so I hid and the crowd went on down the street. Then I picked the queer bird out from under the counter.  
 "They had used him pretty hard and he was scared half to death. He insisted that he knew Mr. A— well and could get help from him if he were there. I suppose the scamp deserved lynching, but I was always a fool. So, finally, I hitched up my horse and buggy, wrapped the man up in some of my clothes and drove him across country to a town on the other railroad where he had friends who took him in.  
 "He cut the country after that and I never heard of him until almost two years later, when I got a note warning me that I'd better draw out all the money I had in the little bank there in town. I didn't know what to think, but I drew out the

money just for luck, and I'm blamed if the cashier didn't abscond the next day with every dollar the bank held.  
 "Some years ago I came to New York to live. The first person I met in the Fifth Avenue hotel was my old Dakota friend, minus the tar and feathers and plus a checked suit and a silk hat. He knew me like a shot.  
 "You got your money out of the bank, all right?" he said.  
 "Did you send me that note?"  
 "Sure thing. I was in the deal, but I didn't like to see you hit. I owed you a good turn. Don't believe it's all paid off yet."  
 "He never has anything to say to me, but he always looks glad to see me. I suppose he's a flash crook, but I've an idea that if I needed a little money I could borrow it from him more easily than from any of my Wall street friends."

**Modern Apartment Hotel**

"The modern apartment hotel," said the manager of such an establishment to a New York Sun man, "is likely to have for one of its features a complete telephone system, with an exchange of its own. Every tenant has a telephone in his own apartment, with local and long-distance connection. He can have this telephone right beside his bed, if he wants it there, so that he can telephone to anybody, anywhere, without getting up, if he so desires. But it is for communication within the house that this telephone system is brought into the most common and constant use.  
 "It is not necessary, for instance, to send a boy up to the apartment to ascertain if somebody whom a visitor desires to see is in. He simply telephones from the office to the apartment and ascertains the fact in one tenth the time it would take a boy to go and come. The tenant has a perfect means of instant communication with the office without leaving his apartment at all.  
 "The manager, or superintendent, on his part has communication from his office with the chef and with the engineer and with the housekeeper, and so on; so that he can speak with any of these persons of the house staff or any of them can speak with him, all without any running to and fro, without any loss of time.  
 "Such an installation costs something, but on the other hand a house thus equipped requires only half as many hall boys as one without such equipment.  
 "A newer wrinkle is the providing of a safe deposit box for every tenant. A section of the big house safe is divided into separate small locked compartments, one of which is set apart for each tenant.  
 "Though the apartments may not be de-

signed for housekeeping the tenants, at their pleasure, eating in the dining room of the hotel, or elsewhere, as they see fit, yet the modern apartment hotel has a refrigerator in every compartment; this for wine and fruit and that sort of thing. In some buildings no ice is used in these refrigerators, which are cold storage rooms in miniature, kept cold by means of a refrigerating plant installed in the basement with a system of piping extending to every refrigerator box. In some buildings ice refrigerators are preferred, these of course being specially designed for the use.  
 "In one house there have been built, for example, refrigerators designed to hold an ice block of a specified size, the ice being supplied by the house, the tenant having nothing to bother with about it at all. At fixed intervals, according to the weather, the house removes whatever ice may be remaining in the ice compartment of the refrigerator and puts in a new block. In the latest of modern apartment hotels, in apartments not designed for housekeeping, which may be had in any number of rooms from two up, a refrigerator and bathroom, of course, would be found in a two-room apartment, the same as in any other."



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**Features of the Carnival.**  
 King Ak-Sar-Ben is coming and when he gets to Omaha, which will be about September 11, according to the prophets, we know he will be greeted by a tremendous throng. The Omaha Plating Co. extends to the king and visitors a cordial welcome, and invites anyone who is interested in the art of electro-plating to call at their place of business and inspect the plant. Mr. Slagin, the proprietor, is a man who has spent the greater part of his life in this line and is thoroughly versed, having been about 17 years with some of the leading plating companies of the east, and four years in the Omaha plant which he controls. In the way of suggestion we might add that if any Omaha people have any metallic articles which are in need of replating, it would be well to get polished up before our Ak-Sar-Ben visitors get here. This can be done at a small cost and the articles made as good as new. We plate anything metallic in gold, silver, nickel, brass, copper or bronze, and a trial will convince you that replating is a success and decidedly economical.  
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