

THE OMAHA BEE

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Subscribers leaving the city should have the Bee mailed to their new address as often as requested.

If Creel had told it to the marines he might not have been caught as he was.

Instead of his former pull in war, the army mule sees his finish in the motor truck.

One thing the eligible young man can depend upon—Uncle Sam will tell him when he is wanted.

Less fat is finding its way into the waste, says the bureau at Washington, and conservation is only getting well started.

At home and abroad soldiers are doing the shooting while politicians are spouting. In that respect war shows no material change.

City Prosecutor McGuire is on the right track when he goes after the "slackers" dodging work at a time when so many jobs are open.

Every step Russia advances to the west doubles the speed of the spirit of democracy among the people of decayed monarchies.

King Corn's batting average picked up several points during the month of June. Just watch the sturdy old monarch come down the home stretch.

Nebraska's contribution of only \$368,710.97 to the individual income tax excludes us from the plutocratic class, but also relieves us from the suspicion of indigence.

Nebraska has no law to prevent anyone from taking an exercise gallop after a senatorial toga. On the contrary, the lists are wide open, with only the voters to make a decision.

The most inspiring feature of late reports in China is the convincing proof of widespread and united democracy. China's real leaders know what they want and show admirable speed in fighting for it.

Maximilian Harden's paper, Die Zukunft, has been suppressed again. The brilliant advocate of democracy may take comfort from the thought that he will be heard at the bier of autocracy later on.

Three billion bushels of corn, translated into terms of meat products, cornmeal and other forms of food, is a most eloquent answer from American farmers to a hungry world's cry for something to eat.

The so-called "reign of terror" in copper camps quickly subsided when the federal government took the part of peacemaker. In the presence of the nation's big stick local bulldozers become as meek as lambs.

General Pershing sounds the high note of conduct for American soldiers in foreign lands. Representing a people of high ideals, it is of first importance to vitalize ideals in action, not only on the battlefield, but in chivalric bearing toward the people. That such will be the case there are the best of reasons for confidence.

Official figures on wheat prices abroad show considerable range, though none equals the \$2 mark. The level price of \$1.80 a bushel in Great Britain and France is 45 cents below the top price in the Omaha market last Saturday. Rail and ocean rates widens the price margin. Evidently American prices do not control abroad or foreign buyers secure bargain terms.

Censorship Blunderings

Review of Reviews
The Germans know just how many regiments of our American "regulars" have already been sent abroad as the forerunners of the army under General Pershing. Everybody else knows, it is safe to guess, except the Americans who rely upon newspapers.

The writers in New York restaurants, even those who do not speak German, seem to know by fairly accurate hearsay about the movement of troops. It is not so many months since every one was permitted to know our available mobile army in the United States consisted of about 30,000 men. We are speaking, of course, not of the National Guard, but of the regulars. We are in the process of recruiting the regulars rapidly up to a maximum of something less than 300,000. It was duly announced that Pershing was to have at once a "division" of regulars, and that this would comprise somewhat more than 25,000 men. Whether these men sailed in advance of Pershing, or afterward, or still remain in the United States, is perfectly well known to the German authorities, but will not be known to the readers of American newspapers and periodicals until the War department authorizes publication. We are at this moment carrying reticence about such matters further in the American press than it has ever been carried before in any country in the history of the world.

The remarkable spirit of service and energy that the efficient men of the country are showing in bringing things to pass, and it is fairly forcing business-like methods upon officials. The newspapers have given an exhibition of loyalty, sanity and moderation that has never at any time been surpassed. Just why the administration has been so anxious to bring the press under the restraints of censorship has not been made clear. Contrasting the discretion of the one party with the discretion of the other party, it would seem more suitable that a committee of experienced editors and publishers should be appointed to act as a board of censors to control the utterances of the relatively inept and amateurish officials. Blunders of expression thus far have not been on the part of the press, but on the part of officeholders. Congress was compelled to waste many days, if not weeks, of valuable time in combating and finally killing a censorship measure that was arbitrary and needless. The espionage bill as a whole had perhaps some justification, although there was probably power enough already in the hands of the government to deal with offenders.

Germans and Their Home Affairs.

Internal politics of the German empire have reached a point at which they become generally interesting, if not exactly critical. The socialist and liberal elements are clamoring for electoral and other reforms that involve considerable changes in the administrative as well as the legislative methods of the empire. A Reichstag committee has been considering constitutional revision for many weeks and is now almost ready to make its report. Much talk has been heard of changes in the fundamental law of the empire that will put closer limits on the power of the emperor. This talk, had behind closed doors and seeping through channels that may or may not be reliable, is subject to the usual discount on such gossip, but that some plain speaking has been heard in the committee's councils is undoubtedly true.

Limitation of the autocratic power of the emperor may be had by his consent or through revolution. It may readily be doubted if the kaiser's party will consent to any extensive abridgement of the power now his under the constitution. William II and his immediate followers are too firmly committed to the divine theory to now recede. Nor is a revolution at present any more within the range of reasonable probabilities. Germans are too firmly united on the war issue at present to consider sweeping changes in their system of government. Leadership of the kaiser and his advisers has been unquestioned until events have shown their mistakes, but it is not apparent that the people of Germany even now consider the hopelessness of their situation.

Little prospect exists of the Germans swapping dynastic horses in the middle of the stream. A new chancellor may succeed Von Bethmann-Hollweg, who has been the target for much criticism, and conferences to be held this week may decide on what concessions are to be made to the people; but abdication and revolution are alike highly improbable.

Are More Millions for Ships Needed?

The report that another half-billion of dollars is to be asked for the government's merchant-ship building program shows an alarming tendency towards extravagance. Facts lay such an appropriation at this time open to question. On the 1st of January, 1917, American shipyards had under contract the largest amount of tonnage in the history of the industry—403 steel merchant vessels of 1,499,601 gross tons, to be delivered during 1917 and 1918. In December, 1916, American builders finished nine steel merchant ships of 24,363 tons and took on new contracts for twenty-nine vessels of 105,120 gross tons. Thus at the beginning of the year the industry was at its top, both in regard to activity and demand for its output.

Since that time congress has appropriated half a billion of dollars for the building of merchant vessels and almost as much more for naval construction, the latter program including 157 ships of all sizes, the contracts for which have not all been let yet. The government has feverishly pushed its program, has commandeered all shipping under construction and has fairly choked existing yards with orders, some delivery being postponed to 1919. Wooden ship building has increased wonderfully under the stimulating impulse of appropriation, abandoned yards have been revived and new ones opened, and yet the orders already provided for are far beyond the capacity of construction.

Blast furnaces are waiting on coke ovens, steel mills are waiting on the blast furnaces and the shipyards are waiting for steel plates. Under the circumstances it might do little harm if another big appropriation for ships were held back until the present jam can be cleared a little. Taxation will be high enough by the time congress gets over its gyrations around prohibition, and the needed ships will be built in season, but the program should be on reasonable lines.

European Neutrals and American Goods.

Announcement from Washington of a plan to make immediately operative the control of exports to European neutrals, amounting in effect to an embargo, makes interesting some figures gleaned from an official report just at hand. The Department of Commerce, analyzing our record of exports and imports for the month of May, shows that this year we sent abroad foodstuffs valued at \$131,609,024, as compared with \$98,326,973 for the same month in 1916. When prices are taken into consideration it will be noted that the actual quantity exported is not very largely increased. For the eleven months ended with May the total exportation of foodstuffs was \$1,124,373,874, against \$899,934,317 for the eleven months ended with May, 1916, and this on the basis of prices would indicate an actual decrease in quantity.

So far as the European neutrals are concerned, the report shows they already have been put on a restricted basis. The division of the figures under several heads is not given, but the totals for May, which include foodstuffs, are:

Table with 2 columns: Country and Value. Denmark: \$2,577,528; Netherlands: \$9,182,533; Norway: \$9,061,986; Spain: \$8,415,154; Sweden: \$1,038,318. Totals: \$29,732,087.

If allowance is made for difference in price it may be accepted that exports to Norway and Spain have increased in volume, that Holland has bought slightly less, while Denmark and Sweden got much below half this year of what they had a year ago. Totals for the eleven months show basis for similar conclusions, being \$340,324,633 for 1917 and \$284,184,252 for 1916.

For Sweden the report makes an especially good answer to the allegation that it had bought here to replenish stocks sold to Germany. Sweden's purchases for the 1917 eleven-month period are \$7,400,000 less than for 1916 in spite of the increased prices, showing the volume must have been less.

The Dehorning of "Censor" Creel.

President Wilson's committee on public information has decided that the "embellishment" of an official report by "Censor" Creel was putting it on a little too thick. Therefore, for the present at least, the literary efforts of this giant among raconteurs will be restricted to "reading copy" on the Official Bulletin.

The incident is one of the most remarkable in our history. Deliberate expansion or distortion of facts is condemned, even in yellow journalism, and in a government official becomes absolutely inexcusable. The story of the safe passage of the flotilla carrying our troops to France should have been sufficiently absorbing without "dressing up," and in truth it was not greatly improved by the addition of a "thrill," particularly when the latter quality rested on imagination solely. The new deal may help to restore confidence in the government's publicity bureau, but, having been caught with the goods, the censorship may expect to be closely watched for a while.

Styles and the Wool Market

By Fredric J. Haskin

Washington, July 7.—Commercial Economy board is one of the numerous subcommittees of the Council of National Defense. The names of these subcommittees are legion; they have been appointed to oversee and investigate the situation affecting all the important raw materials and manufactured goods for which the war may create an unusual demand. One of the things that the Commercial Economy board is concerned with is the wool supply, and the effect that the need for millions of uniforms may have on the clothing of the civilian, both in price, style and quality. Also, what effect the civilian's demand for clothes will have on the speed with which the new army gets its uniforms.

Recently the Commercial Economy board called a council of manufacturers of woolen goods from all over the country to meet in Washington and consider the situation. The conference arrived at several conclusions. In the first place, they pointed out to the public, what was already plain to themselves, that the war situation will not affect the clothing supply for the coming winter, for practically all the fall and winter clothes for next season are already made up and ready for distribution among ready-to-wear retailers. Hence, it will be poor war economy to refrain from buying woolen clothes this winter, when they are really needed, because to do so would simply be to cut down and interfere with business without saving the country any wool. If a need for economy in woolen buying comes, it will come next year. Probably it will.

The manufacturers' conference also took up the important matter of styles. By a unanimous vote, they agreed that fewer styles, and probably simpler styles, should be the order of the day as long as the war lasts. An important saving in wool can be effected by this means. Fewer styles mean that the retailers of ready-to-wear clothing for women do not have to carry so large a stock, that they have fewer unsold garments on their shelves at the end of the season, and that the amount of wool which is tied up in unused clothing becomes much smaller than would otherwise be the case.

The manufacturers' agreement to confine their output to a smaller range of styles will hardly affect women's clothing this year, but the selection of an Easter suit should be a less distracting task than usual in 1918, because by that time there should be fewer styles to select from.

The man or woman who gets clothes from a tailor faces the prospect of paying higher prices, on account of the higher cost of wool and woolen goods. There have been some very sensational advances in the market quotations on raw wool. Certain grades of wool have doubled in price. Last week there was a large sale recorded of wool in the grease at 64 cents. Before the war this same clip of wool brought 23 cents. Such advances are bound to be reflected in the price of the finished product.

Whether all the advance in wool prices is justified by conditions, is a matter open to some slight doubt, although conditions undoubtedly account for a great deal of it on perfectly legitimate grounds. However, any speculators who may have entered the game with a view to profiteering are warned by the government that an official investigation of the cost of production, with the possibility of government price-fixing, will follow any unreasonable advance in prices. Wool was among the articles put under government control in one draft of the proposed food control bill, but the opposition of the cotton states to the inclusion of cotton seems to have removed both cotton and wool from the list of controlled commodities.

The army and navy demand is tremendous. The navy has assured itself of a supply of 2,000,000 yards of heavy woolen cloth. The purchasing department of the army has already assured a supply of woolens sufficient to meet the needs of an army of 1,000,000 men for one year. Some idea of what the latter item stands for may be gleaned from the experience of the Australians. The Anzacs calculate that it costs \$48 to clothe a soldier for six months. Our rate will probably be even higher. A man on active service needs a new uniform every six weeks.

Of course, the army and navy demand does not represent a net increase over the ordinary demand. The men who wear the uniforms would otherwise be wearing civilian woollens. But military life always results in the use of an increased amount of wool by the individual, and the total when multiplied by millions of units is tremendous.

Britain's war needs for wool have been forcing up prices in this country for the last three years. We have always been heavy importers of raw wool from Australia and other British colonies. Under the pressure of war demands, England put an embargo on wool shipments from its colonies to neutral nations, and in consequence we felt the war shortage long before we entered the war. From time to time England would permit the shipment of a specified amount of wool to this country from Australia, on condition that the purchaser guaranteed the finished cloth would be used in this country. Only last month, 45,000 bales were sold to us under this special license arrangement. Now that we have entered the war, however, full co-operation with all the colonies of England is assured, and we will get all the wool they can spare.

Our Fighting Men

Thomas F. Davis, Brigadier General Thomas F. Davis, U. S. A., whose name became familiar to the reading public during the Mexican border troubles, has long been known in the service as a hard-working, professionally zealous soldier of high ideals and standards. General Davis is a native of New York City, was graduated from West Point in 1875, and won his present rank in 1913. Following the war with Spain he served for a time as collector of customs at Santiago, Cuba, and later was transferred to the Philippines to become governor of the Lanao district, Mindanao province. Since 1913 he has been stationed in the Southwest, first as commander of the Fifth brigade and later as commander of the Sixth brigade, with headquarters at Douglas, Ariz.

Reynold T. Hall.

Rear Admiral Reynold T. Hall, U. S. N., is a distinguished engineering expert of the navy, with nearly forty years of service to his credit. A native of Philadelphia, he entered the naval service as an assistant engineer in 1880 after completing his technical education at Franklin Institute. In the war with Spain he was chief engineer of the U. S. S. Petrel and was advanced several numbers for distinguished service under Commodore Dewey at Manila bay. Subsequently he was acting industrial manager of the Cavite navy yard. In recent years Admiral Hall has served as fleet engineer of the European station and as head of the department of steam engineering at the New York navy yard.

Shafts Aimed at Omaha

Norfolk Press: The esteemed Omaha Bee suggests that if the railroads really desire to practice economy they could take a long step in that direction by taking Washington off their visiting list.

Grand Island Independent: "Billy" Sunday has gone to Oregon, where he proposes to raise food for the army. At Omaha there is a fairly well established theory that he will be an improvement over raising hell—to use the evangelistic expression—with the police force.

Kearney Hub: An Omaha woman who secured a divorce from one good and lawful husband and secured alimony in the sum of \$15 per week, prays the Douglas county court to increase the amount to \$50 per week, all on account of the high cost of living. Quite a new crimp, that, in the H. C. L. problem.

TODAY

Proverb for the Day. Evil to him who evil thinks.

One Year Ago Today in the War.

Russians advanced fifteen miles in Volhynia. British hydroplane from French torpedo boat bombarded Beirut, Syria. French reported to be developing a special offensive on right bank of the Meuse.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.

The Adelphi society of the Christian church held a lawn festival at the residence of E. T. Gadd, 833 Park avenue, at which cake and ice cream were the stimulants.

The bursting of a water main on Park Avenue near Leavenworth created considerable excitement, the



water bursting forth in a torrent to the height of twenty feet and flooding the streets with many blocks.

Mrs. A. L. Goldstein of this city has left for Copenhagen, where she will spend the summer.

Messrs. N. B. Falconer and J. C. Cowin have gone to Spirit Lake for a week's holiday—and what fish they can catch.

N. A. Kuhn, the pharmacist, has gone on a month's vacation to the National park, and in his absence the store is being run by his head clerk, Charles Sherman.

Miss Emma Calhoun has returned from a visit to Marshalltown, Ia., bringing with her sister, Miss Lulu, for a two months' visit.

Frank Moores has received advice from the American National Guard, with Miss Minnie Wood and several other Omahans on board, had arrived safely in Europe.

An alarm of fire sent No. 3 engine company to Sixteenth and Leard and No. 2 to the melting works. In the first house box 41 sounded and in the second box 45 was struck. At the central police station box 43 was sounded. At last accounts the chief was busy looking up the confusion in numbers.

This Day in History.

1812—British subjects in the United States ordered to report themselves to the marshals of their respective districts.

1824—The first steamboat arrived at Chicago with General Scott and his troops.

1878—Emil Hodel condemned to death for his attempt to assassinate the German emperor.

1884—Anniversary of the death of William the Silent celebrated at Delft.

1890—Act of congress admitting Wyoming to the union.

1892—Governor Pattison called out the Pennsylvania National Guard to suppress the strike riots at Homestead.

1894—Constantinople shaken by earthquake; over 1,000 persons killed.

1897—Aeronaut Andrae started for the North Pole in a balloon and was never heard from again.

1908—Democratic national convention at Denver nominated William J. Bryan for president and John W. Kern for vice president.

The Day We Celebrate.

Felix J. McShane, Jr., former sheriff of Douglas county, is a native son of Omaha, born July 10, 1882. He is now in the automobile business.

Dr. Lynn Thompson Hall is just 21 today. His birthplace is Davenport, Ia., and he is one of Omaha's rising physicians.

Dr. James S. Loney, local physician for the Union Pacific, was born in Iowa City July 10, 1886. He has engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Omaha since 1911.

Theodore Marburg, former United States minister to Belgium, born at Baltimore fifty-five years ago today.

Hugh M. Dorsey, who has just taken office as governor of Georgia, born at Fayetteville, Ga., forty-six years ago today.

Pleasant A. Stovall, United States minister to Switzerland, born at Augusta, Ga., sixty years ago today.

Finley D. Dunne, author of the "Mr. Dooley" stories, born in Chicago fifty years ago today.

Rear Admiral W. H. H. Southerland, U. S. N., retired, born in New York City sixty-five years ago today.

Timely Jottings and Reminders.

The shortage in leather is to be the big subject of discussion at the annual convention of the National Leather and Shoe Finders' association, opening today at Milwaukee.

The Bee's Letter Box

One Early Iowa Episode.

Ogallala, Neb., July 8.—To the Editor of The Bee: The Villiken ax murder and its denouement is occupying a good deal of space in the papers and proves that truth is stranger than fiction; but will the truth ever be known in this case?

The writer is reminded of another Iowa murder committed many years ago which in some respects was as bad, if not worse, for the principals were respected citizens of the community, if not law-abiding.

For a number of years after the close of the civil war western Iowa and the frontier became a rendezvous for outlaws and thieves who made a livelihood by preying upon honest people. Finally a company of farmers organized a vigilance committee at a little town a few miles from Council Bluffs. In the summer of 1866 a young man came out from Ohio. He was not a criminal; the worst that could be said was that he drank and caroused and liked to gamble. However, he fell in with the gang, the worst element, but had not, as the saying is, been caught with the goods or even been suspected of anything more than training with bad company. About this time a farmer had lost a horse which had been quite common of late, and the committee resolved to make an example. They picked on the young man from Ohio, perhaps because he had no friends or relatives in the community, who they denounced as the man who stole the horse. He was taken out and hung by the lynchers.

A few days later the horse turned up at a neighbor's farm, where it had strayed and proof-positive was forthcoming that an innocent man had been hanged. This was bad, very bad, but the worst was yet to come.

The young man's relatives had been informed of his fate. The following spring a brother came out and brought an able lawyer with him to endeavor to have the guilty parties punished and to obtain damages for the parents. They drove to the little town in a buggy in an effort to obtain evidence with which to start prosecution. Returning to Council Bluffs that evening they put up at the Ogden hotel. At 12 o'clock that night a party of men entered the hotel and forcibly took the two men from their room, placed them in a wagon and drove two miles out of the Bluffs and hung them to a tree.

I crossed over the next morning from Omaha on the ferryboat. There were little knots of men discussing in subdued voices almost every man they seemed dazed, not to say scared out of their boots. Returning to Omaha the news had been received, and excited crowds were loud in denouncing the outrage and some advocated raising a company to go and clean up the vigilantes.

Residents of Council Bluffs can hardly credit this story of what once happened in that beautiful city, but there are plenty of men still living who can verify the facts.

I have purposely omitted the name of the place, formerly the headquarters of the vigilance committee, for it has since blossomed out one of the finest and best little towns in western Iowa, an up-to-date and law-abiding community.

EDWIN M. SEARLE.

LAUGHING GAS.

"Game and fish pieces used to be the thing for the dining room."

"Well?"

"I suppose the artists of the next generation will depict substitutes for meat and various foodstuffs."—Kansas City Journal.

Mr. Gotrox—My daughters, young man, are both worth their weight in gold.

Suitor—Then that is what I am asking you for the smaller one please any rate that I am not mercenary.—Boston Transcript.

Child—So you're my auntie?

Aunt—Yes, dear; I am your Aunt Nell, on your father's side.

Child—Well, you're on the wrong side; you'll find that out.—Akwagan.



Soothe Your Itching Skin With Cuticura

Bathe with Cuticura Soap and hot water and follow with a gentle application of Cuticura Ointment. The mission of Cuticura is not only to soothe and heal but to prevent skin trouble, by keeping the pores free from impurities and irritation. For sample of each free by mail address post-card: "Cuticura, Dept. 126, Boston." Sold everywhere. Soap 25c. Ointment 25 and 50c.

WOMEN! MOTHERS! DAUGHTERS!

You who tire, easily, are pale, haggard, nervous or irritable; who are subject to its melancholy or the "blues," get your blood examined for iron deficiency.



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Low Fares via Chicago to the East. CHICAGO & NORTH WESTERN LINE. These fares are for round trip tickets from Omaha, on sale daily June 1st to Sept. 30th with return limit of 60 days from date of sale, but not to exceed Oct. 31, 1917 and provide for liberal stopovers en route. Fares from adjacent points are correspondingly low.