THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING) — EVENING — SUNDAY

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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Questionaire from Columbus: "Who is holding back the Lucky Seventh?"

Official price fixers may not affect the Spencerian style, still the figures are clear enough for buyers to read.

The cries of Roumanian children for life-sustaining milk fashion another reason for the extermination of Prussian bloodlust.

Care must be exercised to avoid confusing Santa Claus' standard style of whiskers with the base imitations affected by the Bolsheviki.

Your Uncle Sam appears hopeful that Turkey and Bulgaria will be good for a while. Here's hoping Samuel will examine the package before cashing in on confidence.

One lone socialist piped dissent from the otherwise unanimous voice of congress on the war declaration against Austria. The expected happened. A socialist is a socialist first, an American later.

The treasurer of Cook county, Illinois, fulfilled a campaign pledge by turning into the public funds fees totaling $909,209 collected in three years. Strange to say the official is not featured as a museum exhibit.

Hebron falls to the British division operating in Palestine. The ancient cockpit of civilization is not unused to falls, but the present experience promises to be unique in its history. The natives may identify their homes without a surveyor.

"No surrender," once more is written large on battle flags of Italy's Alpine troops. The spirit of heroic sacrifice immortalized by Napoleon's old guard and the Swiss guard at the Tuilleries ennobles the gallant defenders of United Italy.

Thrift at its roots taps the sources of independence. Thrift in war time doubles the value of its strength. Individual independence expands in proportion to the effort and the fruits thereof stimulate political independence at home and abroad.

It is gathered from remarks on the subject that the state railroad commission regards capitalizing fat dividends as an obstacle to winning the war. If a corporation may not pull off a financial joyride occasionally reserved seats on the ground floor would not get a nod at a bargain counter.

The Red Cross stands unequalled as a war service organization, not alone in the extent and value of its operations. It is unique in commanding a greater number of unpaid volunteers in every branch of its service. For that reason every dollar of its funds accomplishes more than its face value.

Socialism as translated into action by its representation defies analysis. When it speaks in its native tongue, it speaks for war or wins a Liebknecht muzzle. Elsewhere socialism sounds the high note of peace chiefly because it serves the aims and ends of its native land. This part of socialism is Germanism, no matter how disguised.

Reports of the joint session of congress pictured certain senators sitting silent and glum while the assembly rose and cheered the president's message. What else could be expected after the president drove home this keen shaft: "I also see men here and there fling themselves in impotent disloyalty against the calm, indomitable power of the nation. They may safely be left to strut their uneasy hour and be forgotten."

Unload the Cars

New York Times

Prompt removal of food by the owners of it from cars at points of delivery would relieve to some extent that car shortage which, Mr. Hoover says, is causing "extreme anxiety." Reports last week from Ohio show inexcusable delay in that state. At Cleveland 4,000,000 pounds of potatoes and other vegetables were beginning to decay in more than 100 cars that had been standing on the tracks for eight days. There were 76 cars at Youngstown loaded with perishable foodstuffs. Press dispatches said that the owners were waiting for higher prices. These cars and 47 at Akron had been in the railroad yards for more than a week. The railroad companies deserved no censure. It was by them that complaint was made at Cleveland to the Department of Justice. At the end of the week several thousand bushels of potatoes were seized in Youngstown by the local food administration officers, taken from the cars and sold at auction. An investigation was begun by the food administration of Ohio and all the prominent commission merchants were asked to attend a conference. In other states there has been similar delay at city terminals. At Pittsburgh a grand jury has made inquiry concerning the failure to unload several hundred cars.

If every car should be released and returned to service without delay the railways would not have enough for the work which they are striving to do. This must be known to all owners of the foodstuffs and we can see no reasonable excuse for their inaction. Box freight cars are not storage warehouses. The food administration by means of its local agents should make thorough investigation in every state and compel the release of cars held like those in Ohio. If owners persist in delaying removal of the food it should be seized, unloaded and sold to the public

How to Increase Crop Yields.

From the day congress declared war on Germany federal and state authorities have admonished the people of the necessity for increasing crop acreage, for intensified agriculture and for larger products of live stock. Even before the declaration of war, when the demand from Europe for American food products was felt throughout the nation, the president in a notable public utterance pointed out the necessity for larger crop yields on American farms. Since that time every aspect of the case has been presented by governmental authorities and by the press, until everybody understands the necessity for swelling the products of the farm and the serious situation toward which we are tending if this advice were not heeded.

When the crops began to be ready for the harvest this year an extraordinary demand for additional farm workers was evident from one end of the country to the other. The selective draft, calling as it did many young men from the farms, intensified the demand for workers on the farm and resulted in a loud call for recruits for saving the crops and for preparations for next season's work.

Moreover, the various agencies operating in this city and state to induce Nebraskans to locate in other states are constantly active and are accomplishing results. The number of farm workers in Nebraska has decreased during the last 10 or 15 years because it has not been difficult for promoters to convince a considerable number of men that cheaper lands are available farther on.

It is to be hoped that the new situation precipitated by the exigencies of war may be so understood by the people at large that they will require of the next legislature enactments which will encourage men and women to leave the crowded cities of the east and settle upon Nebraska acres. The last session of the legislature made a start in this direction by providing in a small way for publicity work intending to apprise the people of the many opportunities in Nebraska for the farmer and the business men. The beginning thus made should be enlarged upon so that systematic efforts may be made to induce people in overcrowded cities to come to Nebraska and till the soil. Such measures are not only necessary during the war, but they will meet a very active demand after the war is over. It is one of the things which our statesmen must do to meet the changing conditions in Nebraska which must follow the advent of peace.

Patriotism of the Prairies.

The report that one little Iowa town, Moorehead, has contributed 5 per cent of its population to the country for the war, is deserving of at least honorable mention. Whether by this token it proves the village to be the most patriotic spot in Iowa is not so important as is the fact that the record has been approximated, if not surpassed in many other places in Iowa and Nebraska, where for instance, the volunteer enlistment reached the full quota of soldiers demanded by the first draft and gave full exemption from conscription. This is true of Council Bluffs, our neighbor across the way, and is a distinction which should not be lost sight of.

It is not necessary to draw invidious comparisons as between towns and states as to patriotism, but it is a pleasure to recognize it and commend the spirit behind it. The history of Iowa in the civil war was a glorious one, and its contributions to the man power and the money power for conducting the war for the union were large in proportion to the state's then population. That was 50 years ago and now the next generation is manifesting the same patriotic impulses which inspired their fathers.

These manifestations, moreover, give evidence that the people of the middle west are alive to the demands the war is imposing upon the nation and of their determination to meet them promptly and effectually. In the face of this splendid record, the men who mistake quiet determination for apathy as to the war must soon revise their opinions.

Raising a Far-Reaching Question.

A dispatch from Lincoln by our staff correspondent forecasts action by the State Railway commission limiting franchised corporations to dividends not exceeding a reasonable rate. The question arose upon the application of an Arlington public service utility for authority to issue and sell additional stock. From papers submitted by the company the commission finds that it has paid out in dividends since 1903, when it started business, more than its total capitalization, and that its dividend payments exceed a return of 7 per cent by the sum of $9,607. On this exhibit the commission calls upon the company to show why an order should not be issued for an assessment upon stockholders to restore to its treasury the excess dividends.

This action, if it presages the settled policy of the commission, will be an innovation. The theory upon which it is based is similar to that which pervades the congressional act respecting the authority of the government to appropriate the excess profits of corporations, except that the proceeds are to go to the public treasury, while ostensibly the return of dividends to the company treasury means that they shall go back to the patrons in the form of low rates. It is a new step, we believe, in the exercise of state authority and we may be sure its validity will be challenged.

The state commission may be fully justified in denying the application in hand for authority to issue additional stock, but to order a return of dividends distributed in a regular, legal way, however excessive these may be, opens up a big, far-reaching legal question, which to secure final decision will have to run the whole gamut of the courts.

A difference of $45,000,000 marks the estimates of cost of providing seed for drouth-stricken farmers of the northwest. A. C. Townley, political farmer of North Dakota, told President Wilson that $50,000,000 was needed. Senator Gronna of the same state figures $5,000,000 as ample. A wide disagreement between political farmers puts the decision up to congress.

Barkers in Chicago and the west intimate quite firmly that treasury operations which turn the bulk of Liberty loan money into New York coffers are not calculated to keep up steam in future bond drives. Reasonable equality of distribution is vitally important to business inland as on the coast.

Postmaster General Burleson counters vigorously on the blow delivered by the American federation at Buffalo. Honors are even and no casualties

The American Legion of Hunters

By Frederic J. Haskin

Washington, Dec. 8.—Despite the fact that war has boosted the price of ammunition to unheard of heights, and that many young sportsmen are spending the season in training camps, the legion of hunters seems to have taken the field this year in almost undiminished numbers. Early returns made by the New York State Conservation commission show that 10,000 sportsmen went deer hunting in four New York counties, and that they killed 1,755 deer and 53 bear. It is interesting to note that less than one man out of every five got his buck; so that every deer killed furnished an excuse for at least five men to take a vacation in the woods.

The experts of the Biological Survey, who make a careful study of the hunting habits of Homo Americanus, have some startling figures to offer as to the predilection of Americans for field sports. They estimate that no less than 5,000,000 persons go hunting in the United States every year. When you reflect that this means one person out of every 20 in the country, and that a majority of the 20 are women and children who never hunt, you realize that Americans are a nation of hunters, and that they are remarkably persistent about following their favorite sport in the face of a steadily decreasing supply of game, and a rapid growth of large cities.

A few years ago it looked as though the hunters would put an end to their own sport by destroying all of the game. Now a new spirit is manifest. The federal government and the states are co-operating in works of conservation. The federal migratory game law is given credit by leading conservationists for having saved the wild fowl from extinction for another century at least. Upland game birds are still dwindling in numbers, but their protection on government reservations and large private estates, and the enactment of rigid state laws, offers a reasonable hope that they, too, will pass the danger point, and begin to increase before they have been reduced to the point where recovery of abundance is difficult, if not impossible. The thing most needed now is federal action to save the big game of the west. An excellent bill has been introduced in congress providing for game refuges on national forests, which would definitely settle the difficulty. It has, of course, been forgotten in the rush of war legislation. But sportsmen and all others who have the slightest interest in wild things, should not forget it. It will come up again. Its passage means that protected "reservoirs" of wild life would be established on many of the national forests, and that they would serve to stock the surrounding mountains. Unless some such action is taken, the Americans that are now growing up will never see an elk or a mountain sheep or a black tail deer outside of a zoo or a park.

Just now the American sportsman has some special claim to consideration because of his usefulness as a soldier. A man who knows how to take care of himself outdoors, shoot a gun and ride a horse, is distinctly farther along toward becoming a soldier than one who does not know any of these things. This has been often pointed out. It is not the only side of the case, however. In the present mobilization, city men are often faring somewhat better than those from the country because they are more accustomed to collective effort, more adaptable, and more of them have some acquaintance with technical appliances other than guns which play such a large part in modern warfare.

The fact of the matter is, that the hunter, and the predatory and wandering traits of character which hunting engender, and which make a man like hunting, have not much of a place in our machine-made civilization. Devotion to routine work and ability toward co-operation, are what count for progress these days; not love of excitement and destruction. In some sense the man who goes hunting is archaic; he belongs to another age. A good many modern thinkers and writers have sensed and expressed this fact. Bernard Shaw has written an essay in which he attacks as barbaric all "killing for fun." The late Jack London took much the same viewpoint in an interview not long before his death. Prof. Veblen, an acute critic of modern institutions, says that hunting is an archaic occupation, and that the love for excitement, depredation and wandering, which motivates it, are traits that do not fit into the modern scheme of things.

Of course, no sportman concurs in these criticisms. His annual taste of primitive excitement holds a place in his heart from which no amount of theorizing could oust it. He knows that it seems good to him, and believes that it is good for him. And yet among the 5,000,000 hunters in America, no philosopher has arisen to set forth the theory of his sport, to defend its rights to a place in society.

One factor which all the critics of hunting seem to overlook is that man remains necessarily an animal of prey, and that if he did not eat other animals, they would eat him, or at least his sustenance. This is pretty clearly shown by the depredations of animals that are not regularly hunted for sport. The government has just stated that rats and mice eat $200,000,000 worth of food every year in the United States. The wolves, coyotes and panthers in the west have become so bold and destructive in their depredations that the federal government has been compelled to make an appropriation and hire men to hunt them. Thus we may be said to have a small standing army to defend us from the depredations of wild animals. And in some sense, the amateur sportsman is in the same position as the citizen soldier. If it were not for his services, a larger professional force would be necessary.

The future philosopher of field sports might also observe that the predatory and wandering traits, the love of excitement and hardship, are not wholly disserviceable to industry. Scientists who collect data in far countries, explorers, foresters and prospectors are all of this type and have need to be. Would civilization ever extend its frontiers if the unadventurous industrial type of man was the only one that survived? On the whole, sport seems to have a strong case.

People and Events

Anticipating a successful drive on the municipal fleshpots of Chicago next spring democratic bosses and heelers got together one evening last week and made merry over a $6-a-plate dinner. Sporty boys, those Cook county dems. When the prospect appears good, a look-in at $6 is a bargain.

The Cincinnati, Bluffton & Chicago railroad, nicknamed the "Corn Beef & Cabbage" line, has about disappeared from the railroad map. The road was 52 miles long, was largely financed by bonds and donations along the route, but the promoters didn't get enough aid to justify the prospectors. Junk dealers bought the remains at a forced sale and are sending what is left to the scrap heap.

The tragedy of the poor inventor was reenacted in Chicago last week. Printers may recall the Paige typesetting machine which preceded linotypes some 30 years ago. For a few brief years the inventor, J. W. Paige, had fortune dangling before his eyes and orders for his machine piled up. He held back, striving for perfection at the start. While he hesitated the Mergenthaler reached the market and shattered Paige's hopes. Alone, friendless and in poverty Paige passed away at the age of 76.

Despite the preachments put out by the liquor interests, practical results do not support the promises. Down in Kansas City some days ago the mayor ordered saloons closed during a day set apart for visiting soldiers. Instantly the saloon declared war on the mayor, rushed into the courts in defense of a wide open day, and carried the point. Patriotism, respect for the uniform or deference to the order of the mayor, did not press a feather's weight in the scale of souzed greed. These are the influences which prompted Secretary Baker to ask for better and cleaner conditions for soldiers visiting the city.

TODAY

Right in the Spotlight.

Theodore G. Bilbo, who will be the central figure in exercises to be held today in celebration of the centennial of Mississippi statehood, is now completing his second year as governor of of Mississippi. His public career has been a distinguished one, particularly in view of his age, for it was only recently that he reached his 40th year. A native of Pearl River county, Mississippi, he passed his boyhood on his father's farm, alternating school duties with farm work. At the age of 20 he won an appointment to the Annapolis Naval academy, under a competitive examination, but abandoned the idea of a naval career to study law, and began teaching as a means to this end. He studied at the University of Nashville and took a law course at Vanderbilt university. His public career began in 1907 with his election to the Mississippi senate. In 1911 he was elected lieutenant governor and four years yater he won the governorship in a contest with four opponents.

One Year Ago Today in the War.

New British war council, headed by David Lloyd George, officially announced.

The German merchant submarine Deutschland reached Germany successfully, completing its second trip.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.

Mrs. Lieutenant Dean of Fort Lovell is the guest of Mrs. Captain Ray.

Brennan's sandbank, which is located south of Vinton street, caved in.

A fine specimen of an ivory-billed woodpecker can be seen at the Pen-

rose & Hardin sporting headquarters.

Mr. Charles K. Urquhart and bride, Miss Edith Doris, are at home to their friends at 22226 Pierce street.

Chris Specht, a well known manufacturer of this city, is leaving this week for a visit to the home of his boyhood in Germany, after an absence of a quarter of a century.

About 30 members of the Douglas County Teachers' association met in the office of the county superintendent.

The fourth annual meeting of the Women's Christian association was held in this city. Devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs. Perine and Mrs. Doolittle.

The women of the First Methodist church will hold a fair at the residence of A. L. Strang, at which a large and choice collection of handwork of the women of this society will be sold.

This Day in History.

1787—Thomas H. Gallaudet, who established the first school for deaf mutes in America, born in Philadelphia. Died at Hartford, Conn., September 9,fl 1851.

1817—Congress admitted Mississippi into the union as the 20th state.

1842—Viscount Hill, a former commander-in-chief of the British army, died. Born August 11, 1772.

1862—Port Royal, Va., was nearly destroyed by efderal gunboats.

1864—General Sherman arrived at Savannah and invested the city.

1877—Women were authorized to vote and hold office in Wyoming.

1887—Ten counties of Michigan adopted prohibition.

1900—Count von Buelow announced German intervention in the South African war to be impossible.

1914—French captured town of Asnach in Alsace.

1915—German recalled Captains Boy-Ed and Von Papen, attaches of the German embassy in Washington.

The Day We Celebrate.

Leonard C. Kohn was born in Savannah, Ga., December 10, 1875.

Charles R. Jewell was born in Oregon, Mo., just 47 years ago today.

Charles A. Goss was born in Edinburgh, O., 54 years ago.

John S. Helgren, the accountant, is celebrating his 51st birthday today.

Brigadier General Edward M. Lewis, U. S. A., recently in command of Camp Shelby, born in Indiana 54 years ago today.

Captain Herman O. Stickney, U. S. N., whose last assignment made public was the command of the battleship Vermont, born in Massachusetts, 54 years ago today.

Thomas P. Gore, United States senator from Oklahoma, born in Webster county, Mississippi, 47 years ago today.

Francis E. Nipher, noted physicist, who recently announced new discoveries in connection with the law of gravitation, born at Port Byron, N. Y., 70 years ago today.

Asle J. Gronna, junior United States senator from North Dakota, born at Elkador, Ia., 59 years ago today.

James H. Johnston, outfielder of the Brooklyn National league base ball team, born at Cleveland, Tenn., 28 years ago today.

Timely Jottings and Reminders.

Today marks the beginning of Hanukah, or Feast of Lights, which is the great midwinter festival of Judaism.

By proclamation of President Wilson the baking industry throughout the country will be brought under federal license.

In a campaign to last 10 days, starting today, the American Red Star Animal hopes to raise a $250,000 fund for the relief of horses in the war.

Cases involving the constitutionality of the draft law are docketed for early argument in the supreme court of the United States, which reconvenes today after the two weeks' recess.

The effects of the war on the hotel business will be discussed at the annual convention of the Greeters' association of Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota, which is to begin a three-day session today at Winona.

Hundreds of delegates representing prohibition and temperance organizations in all parts of the country are to gather in Washington today to participate in the annual convention of the Anti-Saloon League of America.

Storyette of the Day.

"The kaiser is a queer customer," said Jacob Schiff, New York banker and philanthropist, during a Cooper Union debate. "The more the German people ask of him, the less he gives them.

"The way the kaiser has treated the German people about this business of universal suffrage reminds me of the Blue Mill.

"The hands of the Blue Mill, you know, waited on the owner and told him they wanted shorter hours.

"'Very good,' said the owner. 'Your wish shall be granted, men. We'll begin with sh orterdinner hours.'"—Washington Star.

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

A Riverhead (N. Y.) woman willed $10,000 to her maid for faithful service.

More than 600,000,000 gallons of mineral water are now used in the United States each year in the manufacture of soft drinks.

A woman of a Massachusetts town made application for a Liberty bond, and in answer to question on the blank as to the denomination desired, she filled in Methodist

The Bee's Letter Box

No Tax Shirking for Dewey.

Omaha, Dec. 8.—To the Editor of The Bee: I read in the local paper that the county, municipal and state officers were exempt from paying a war tax. I don't think anybody should escape paying their just portion of this tax. I desire to go on record before the public and am also sending a letter t oour members in congress asking them to amend the law so as to include everybody.

If this law is not amended and I as a county officer am exempt, then I w illtake that portion that I should pay and donate it to the Red Cross and Young Men's Christian association.

FRANK DEWEY,
County Clerk.

Camouflaging an Xmas Fund.

Omaha, Dec. 8.—To the Editor of The Bee: I object to the manner in which a money "shower" was conducted Friday night at the Auditorium in connection with a wrestling match held under the auspices of the city, according to the new ordinance. The shower was announced as being for a "Santa Claus fund," and the general inference was that it was for a fund to be raised by the city to hold a muny Christmas tree celebration in the Auditorium. There is no mistaking the fact that most of those who contributed took it that way.

The money was in fact raised for a private Christmas enterprise and should have been so explained in the announcement. Though there was promiscuity in the gathering up of the coins, I am not questioning but that they will go for Christmas relief, but I do insist that donors at an entertainment held under municipal auspices, as this affair was held, should know exactly what the money is being asked for. I have heard a number of kicks on this, so I assure you I am not the lone kicker in this instance. It is time to play square with the public in these matters, for the protection of all worthy enterprises. Above all, city officials should not lend themselves to such an affair, but should be the ones to insist on announcements so plain that a child could not misunderstand them.

P. B. X.

Suffragists Repudiate False Report.

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 6.—To the Editor of the Bee: We are anxious that the following resolution, passed at the morning session (December 5, 1917), of the State Suffrage convention, should appear in your paper:

Inasmuch as an article has appeared in the World-Herald giving an absolutely inaccurate report of the afternoon session of the State Suffrage convention,

Be it Resolved that we repudiate the published report and make the following statement:

Mrs. Barkley said that it was part of the work of the women to maintain the moral standard of our fighting forces in order that our boys may return clean and give to the next generation the heritage which is their right.

The National American Woman Suffrage association was the first to offer its machinery to the government when war was declared. It is well known that two-thirds of the leaders in the Nebraska Red Cross and Council of Defense work are suffragists. The suffragists of Omaha have had a Red Cross workroom open every Friday morning since May 1, and $2,500 has been contributed by this organization to war relief work. The suffragists have done their share of the Liberty loan, Young Men's Christian association, Young Women's Christian association, and all other activities. No more loyal body of women can be found anywhere.

MRS. DRAPER SMITH.
MRS. H. C. SUMNEY.
MONA COWELL.
ANNA CORNISH METCALF.
MRS JOHN L. KENNEDY.
MRS. J. P. WHITE.
MRS. E. C. TWAMLEY.
MRS. JAMES RICHARDSON.

AMERICA.

New York Mail.

Where the orange blossoms shimmer in
the California sun,
Where the Rocky mountains glisten in the
morn,
On the eastern seaboard, gleaming 'neath
a silver veil unspun
By a million stars advancing to meet
the stars unborn;
On the lonely plains of Texas, where the
buzzards wait for prey,
By the scented bayous where the white
magnolias blow,
There's a stir that thrills the faintest and
makes wonderful the day,
There's a chant that fills the heavens like
a sky that's filled with snow:
"America, America, our hearts are
filled with thee,
America, America, one from sea to
sea."

Where the fisher folk go sailing from the
ancient ports of Maine,
Down the mines that hold the treasures
of the world,
In Alaska's solemn stillness, where the
winters ever reign,
In the hovels of the poorest—when the
lovely flag's unfurled,
There's a tearing of the heart-strings,
there's a moistening of the eyes,
There's a lilting, lyric glory in our
hearts,
For we know that while above us the starry
banner flies,
We are freemen giving freely and not
slaves upon the marts:
"America, America, our hearts are
filled with thee,
America, America, one from sea to
sea."

Where the Mississippi river floods the bountiful rich loam,
Amidst prairie fields that bloom with
corn and wheat,
In the land of Eldorado, where the Indians
still roam,
In the cities, in the hamlets, I can hear
the tramp of feet,
I can hear a mighty organ bellowing a
mighty song:
Through the whirling dust that darkens
every road
They are singing, singing, singing: "We
have come to right the wrong,
We have come to help all mankind, we
shall lift this fearful load."
"America, America, our hearts are
filled with thee,
America, America, one from sea to
sea."

MIRTH FOR MONDAY.

"Father," said vivacious Vivian, as she lay in the hammock on the winter resort hotel piazza, "this place seems just like home."

"Yes, it's the dearest spot on earth," promptly replied father, putting away his fountain pen after writing a check for that week's board bill.—Froth.

"It is freezing cold in your flat. Why don't you complain to the janitor?"

"I don't want to give him any excuse for reflecting on my attitude in the matter. He may have a good reason for it."

"How so?"

"He may be giving us a heatless day."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Singleton—Doctor Pellet is certainly the most absent-minded man I ever saw.

Wederly—Is that so?

Singleton—Yes; he was married last week, and during the ceremony, when he should have placed a ring on the bride's finger, he actually felt her pulse and asked her to put out her tongue.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Worried.

"I don't know what I'll do if my boy has to go to war."

"I wouldn't worry so much if I were you. Perhaps he won't be drafted."

"I know; but I just can't bear the thought of him ever having to go."

"That is a fear that all mothers have to face. Has your son registered?"

"Dear me, no, not yet. But I'm just worried to death for fear that some day he will be called away from me."

"How old is your boy?"

"Just 6 months old yesterday, and the loveliest boy that ever was born."—Detroit Free Press.

The Dry Limit.

For nine long years he had been wooing the fair daughter of the farm.

"Jennie," he mused, as they sat on the old fence, "I read the othe day that in a thousand years the lakes of Killarney will dry up."

Jennie clutched his arm excitedly.

"Oh, Tom!" she exclaimed.

"What's the matter, lass?"

"Why, as you promised to take me there on our honeymoon, don't you think we'd better be a little careful that they don't dry up before we get there?"

N. B.—The next month the wedding bells rang in the village.—Cork Examiner.

Help for Bald Heads.

When a man loses his hair, his scalp (having no growing crop to support) becomes much thinner, and the skin is so stretched over his skull as to acquire a smooth and polished appearance.

Nature (always regardful of the happiness of her creatures) provides in this way a "rink" for flies that have a taste for skating.

It is hard on the bald-headed man, who deserves much more sympathy than he gets. Nevertheless, a contrivance for his relief has been invented.

The man with the denuded cranium, occupying a rocking chair provided with this contrivance, may comfortably rock, while automatically, so to speak, the tasseled cloth that waves about his head makes him safe against fly-attack.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Overloaded.

The driver of the jaunting car of Ireland is always ready to excuse himself if he is reproached for the condition of his horse.

"I say, Paddy," said a tourist one day, "that is the worst looking horse you drive I ever saw. Why don't you fatten him up?"

"Fat him up, is it?" queried the driver, as if he could not believe his ears. "Faix, the poor baste can hardly carry the little mate that's on him now!"—Youth's Companion.

Father Explains.

Tommy—Father, if I take a half crown out of somebody's pocket, that's stealing, isn't it?

Mr. Figg—Certainly.

Tommy—And if I bet a half crown and win his half crown, that's gambling?

Mr. Figg—Of course.

Tommy—And if I've got something worth only half a crown and sell it to him for 5 shillings, what is that?

Mr. Figg—That? Oh, why, that's business, Tommy—simply business.—London Tit-Bits.

Explained.

A Tommy, lying in a hospital, had beside him a watch of curious and foreign design. The attending doctor was interested.

"Where did your watch come from?" he asked.

"A German gave it to me," he answered.

A little piqued, the doctor inquired how the foe had come to convey this token of esteem and affection.

"E 'ad to," was the laconic reply.—Toronto Globe.

Not Very Taking.

A candidate for municipal honors, irritated by the groans and unfriendly remarks with which he was received at one of his first meetings, exclaimed furiously:

"I don't care what you say, you have got to have me whether you like me or not!"

"Why, guv'nor," inquired a placid individual at the back of the hall, "you ain't the blessed measles, are you?"—Christian Register.

The Lesser Evil.

"If you were compelled to engage in conversation with one, or the other for an hour which would you choose, a woman with a mission, or one who thinks she is misunderstood?"

"The woman with a mission."

"Why?"

"She would do most of the talking. A woman who thinks she is misunderstood usually wants a little confidential advice."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Obstacles to Saving.

"I presume you are able to save more money, now that this town has strict prohibition laws." "Save more money!" snorted Mr. Jagsby. "The time was when a thirsty individual could get two drinks here for a quarter. Nowadays he frequently has to pay twice that much merely for information that will lead him to a drink."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Old Tales Welcome.

"Miss Willing," began the young man as he wiped the cold perspiration from his brow, "are you fond of stories?"

"If they are new, Mr. Woodby," replied the fair maid, "I simply dote on them."

"But the one I was going to tell you, Miss Willing, is not new," said the young man. "It is, I might say, Miss Willing—or Clara—the old, old story, but—"

"Oh, never mind, George," she interrupted. "Even if it is a chestnut, I'm sure I never heard it. Go on, please!"—Philadelphia Ledger.

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