

THE OMAHA BEE

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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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Who will guarantee a made-in-Germany peace treaty?

"Delays mean better guns for the army," says a manufacturer. A poor excuse is better than none.

General Chaos reigns in Russia with the consent of any faction.

The country doesn't care whether Washington kicks incompetents upstairs or down, so long as they go.

Cheer up! The country will have plenty of sugar next year. If the sweet tooth starts trouble meantime, consult a dentist.

It will be noted that while the central powers talk about peace they carefully avoid laying their cards, face up, on the table.

The Red Cross is doing well, but might do still better, if some of its activities were expended on home training camps.

What is most illuminating about the kaiser's present peace ideas is how different they are from what they were three years ago.

If failure to join the Red Cross is due to lack of money, it is excusable. If it is due to lack of patriotism, it calls for some drastic discipline.

Boston tagged a 50-50 mayor and elected a 100 per cent American. Big Bill Thompson of Chicago grows more conspicuous in his loneliness.

The Lincoln city council has taken time by the forelock in passing in December an ordinance restricting the sale and use of explosive fireworks for next Fourth of July. Here is a tip for our Omaha solons.

Bulgaria's premier hotly resents the charge of his country being a small tool of Germany. His indignation is warranted. Strictly speaking Bulgaria is more a land robber than a tool, and works for No. 1 all the time.

The epidemic of pay roll and bank robberies in and around Chicago shows a score of 31 victims and institutions and a cash loss of \$400,000. Strange to say suspicion is not directed toward alien enemies, although the operations, in a small way, bear a striking resemblance to the Teutonic trimming of Brussels and Warsaw.

Every day marks a substantial advance in the unity of the Allies. The interrelated council set the pace for co-ordinated effort all along the line, not only in army and navy work, but in the essentials of shipping and supplies. Unity of action substantially strengthens the forces of democracy and advances the winning of the war.

They do things differently and more efficiently even in England. Responsibility for defective shells was directly placed on the managing director of a munition factory and a jail sentence imposed. In a similar case in Philadelphia the authorities relieved the manager and inspectors of responsibility and made two piece-work mechanics the goat.

The welfare funds solicited by the Young Women's Christian Association go toward sustaining one of the most important war services undertaken by women. The shelters already provided and projected at various army camps afford accommodations for visiting wives, mothers, sisters and other women relatives of soldiers, safeguards their coming and going, and renders a service well worthy of public support.

The Undiscovered Superlative

Philadelphia Ledger

With all the bunting fluttering in the breeze, all the men in uniform, all the cheering spectators, all the tall buildings, such as he had never seen before, to meet his eye, Prince Ferdinand of Savoy, arriving in New York, made one remark which did special credit to his powers of observation. "What beautiful women are your Americans!" he said. This distinguished representative of the royal house of Savoy comes from a land where beauty reigns—beauty of nature, beauty of art and beauty of humanity; belle signorine everywhere, from the bella Napoli to Genova la superba, models for another Raphael or Titian, black-haired, red-haired, every dazling type. Yet the beauty of the women of New York at once appealed to him. Ovid somewhat cynically observed that no woman is displeased with her own appearance, and it may be measured by the fact that beauty lies in the eye of the beholder. The testimony of the prince was spontaneous, so genuine, however, that it should stand without question.

What would he have said, it may be permitted to inquire, if he had come to Philadelphia? A choice connoisseur in beauty—"elegans formam spectator," as Terence puts it—would find the very flower of American womanhood, not on Fifth avenue, but on Chestnut street. There are jaundiced critics even of our girls, who find fault with the attractive way they dress, who talk scornfully of powder and paint, often existing only in their own vain imaginations, a red and white by "nature's own sweet and cunning hand laid on." Not Amaryllis nor Lalage, nor yet Titania herself, could surpass the charm of Philadelphia beauty, as awfully arrayed to captivate mere man as that Austrian army which boldly by battery besieged Belgrade. Prince Ferdinand does well to praise the American woman in general, but he can never appreciate the full value to the superlative unless he come to its proper environment.

The Kaiser's Subterranean Peace Politics.

What kind of politics the kaiser and his advisers are playing with the representatives of the Bolsheviks in the negotiations for peace between Russia and Germany may not be easily discerned at this distance, but we may be sure that things are far different from their surface appearance. It takes no specially keen insight to see that what is worrying the kaiser is not so much the question of terms for making permanent the armistice on the eastern front, for Russia has not been a serious menace to him for nearly a year, but rather the perplexing problem of using the Russian breakdown, and the German influence over the powers in control at Petrograd for the time being, as a leverage to bolster up German plans to "put something over" on the allies.

Let us not forget that the kaiser is involved in a two-fold complication: First, to keep his own people keyed up to a belief that they are having matters their own way and are really victorious, and second, to delude us in America into the idea that Germany is ready to accord all we set out to fight for and that we therefore need not push our preparations to get into the fight. That is really our most serious danger and the kaiser's most subtle scheme. He cannot succeed in it, however, if we realize what these moves mean and decline to be deceived by pretended yearnings for peace by those who wantonly started the world war and are responsible for all its atrocities and inhumanities.

What the War is Costing

By Frederic J. Haskin

Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—The figures relating to this war are stupendous beyond the power of the human mind to compass. There has never been any war in history, of any other human activity, approaching it in magnitude. To reckon its cost in men, in materials, or in money is to impose an almost insupportable strain on the power of the intellect to comprehend or to realize. Nevertheless, the whole world is thinking of this cost, and of what it means to the individual and society. It is literally one of the most interesting subjects in the world.

The following estimates do not pretend by absolute authority. They are the result of careful study and research, based on a great variety of information. Casualty lists of the belligerent nations, the estimates of their enemies, financial statements, loans, statements from official sources both American and European, and the results of several unofficial compilations have been studied in an attempt to arrive at some reasonably accurate statement of the totals.

The cost in human life is perhaps the easiest to set down. When a human life is lost it can be checked off the list. When a dollar is spent, it is not only necessary to record its spending, but also to trace the fate of the material it buys. When a man's labor is taken from industry it cannot be set down as a loss without giving credit for any productive value it may have in a new channel.

The number of men killed in battle has been between 7,500,000 and 8,000,000. Some estimates have put it at over 9,000,000. Against this death toll must be set down the number of deaths which would have occurred in time of peace among the 55,000,000 men under arms. As most of these men have passed some sort of a test of physical fitness and are comparatively young, this figure cannot be put very high. It is safe to set the war loss at more than 7,000,000 men.

Notwithstanding the enormous size of this total, the actual death rate has been about one man in 20 for each year, of the whole number mobilized. The figures are large, but they are based on the greatest armies the world has ever seen. Moreover, the death rate has been falling steadily throughout the war as methods more economical of human life are adopted and hospital efficiency increases. The well-prepared nations lose least. Russia has suffered casualties disproportionately large, because in the first year of the war its troops were sent to the front poorly supported by artillery and sometimes literally unarmed. On the western front the French losses were heaviest for the first two years, but as England takes over the bulk of the fighting its casualties increase and those of France fall off.

In addition to the dead, the permanently disabled total about 5,250,000 men. Thus the net loss in men amounts to about 13,000,000. There have probably been about 10,000,000 men less seriously wounded, in such a way that they have either been returned to the front, or able to pursue some useful occupation in civil life. In scanning reports of the wounded it should be remembered that the impression they give is usually exaggerated. One man may be wounded several times. The same applies to figures of "total losses," which not only include prisoners and missing, but may also include the same man or oftentimes the wounded, and again among the prisoners or the dead.

Some realization of the meaning of these totals may be gleaned from the reflection that the dead and the totally disabled equal more than half the able-bodied men in the United States.

The money cost is a vastly more confusing problem. The total is beyond all comparison with any national debts, loans or expenditures of the past. At the beginning of the war the cost was \$30,000,000 a day, and it was predicted that Europe could not stand it for six months. Now, well along in the fourth year, the cost is nearly \$175,000,000 a day, and there are no signs of a financial breakdown.

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It has become increasingly evident that lack of "money" will never make any nation surrender. Financial operations are fundamentally only methods of getting at the economic resources. As long as sufficient economic resources actually exist, in the shape of men and munitions, food and beasts and iron and steel, so long can the nation in question continue to make war. In looking for a German breakdown the eye should turn, not toward the depreciated German mark, but toward what Germany has left in men and food and steel.

This is because a nation can mortgage its future. It can purchase everything in sight, or at least in its power. When its own credit is gone it can draw on the credit of its children through numberless unborn generations. In drawing on its own resources the German empire is in the position of a man who enters a shop with empty pockets, to pay for goods with signed notes pledging the labor of his children. It is easy to sign notes. He can only be made to stop buying when there is nothing left in the shop to buy, and the shopkeeper is in no position to question his credit.

TODAY

Right in the Spotlight.

Rev. John Joseph McDonough, Bishop of Newark, who today celebrates the fortieth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, is widely known as a Catholic preacher and educator. Born in Newark in 1875, he received his A. M. degree at Seton Hall college at the age of 20 and then went abroad to complete his education for the church. For several years he studied at the American college in Rome and the University of Louvain in Belgium. Returning to the United States after his ordination in 1897, he spent the years from 1878 to 1895 as a professor of philosophy and theology at Seton Hall college. In 1895 he became pastor of St. Joseph's church in Newark and in 1901 he was elevated to the bishopric.

One Year Ago Today in the War.

Altena reported Russians defeated in Dobrudja.

French raided German lines in re-connaisance at St. Mihiel.

Ambassador Gerard explained re-education move to German foreign minister.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.

The first annual ball of the Father-Mother-Son organization, at Canton No. 1, was held at Masonic hall, and was a distinguished social affair.

The Odd Fellows and their guests numbered 200 persons.

The Elks held their first meeting in their new quarters in the Continental block, corner Fifteenth and Douglas streets.

Manager Jones, of the Grand opera house, left for St. Paul for a few days' absence.

E. F. Bouffer, connected with Fred Krueger's brewery, left for New York, for a vacation of several weeks, which will be spent in New York in a visit to his mother.

L. W. Wakeley of Chicago, assistant general manager of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad, is in the city to pass the holidays with his father, Judge Wakeley.

W. F. Fitch, general manager of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroad, left for New York, to be absent until January 10.

E. L. Dana, formerly connected with the Bradstreets offices, has become editor of the Denver Exchange Journal, which has just made its appearance.

At the postoffice since Monday 100,000 Christmas packages have been handled and the great rush of business still continues.

This Day in History.

1798—George W. Crawford, governor of Georgia and secretary of war under President Taylor, born in Columbia county, Georgia. Died near Augusta, July 22, 1872.

1811—John Smith Phelps, who served as military governor of Arkansas and later was elected governor of Missouri, born at Simsbury, Conn. Died in St. Louis, November 20, 1884.

1824—Matthew Hale Carpenter, celebrated lawyer and senator from Wisconsin, born at Moretown, Vt. Died in Washington, D. C., February 23, 1881.

1831—Charles Wells was elected mayor of the city of Boston.

1854—British parliament passed a law permitting the enlistment of foreigners in the British army.

1911—A squadron of German aeroplanes dropped bombs on Dover, England.

1915—House of Commons voted without division to increase the British army to 4,000,000 men.

The Day We Celebrate.

Solon H. Borglum, sculptor, was born December 22, 1868, at Ogden, Utah.

Albert H. Manley, commissioner of the Omaha Commercial club, is 40 years old today.

Robert W. Patrick was born here in Omaha 59 years ago.

Fredricka Tenn, 30 years ago today, Bainbridge Colby, member of the United States Shipping board, born in St. Louis, 48 years ago today.

Alexander Petrunkevich, professor of zoology in the Sheffield Scientific school, born at Plaski, Russia, 42 years ago today.

Frank B. Kellogg, junior United States senator from Minnesota, born at Postdam, N. Y., 61 years ago today.

Appleton, well known Chicago author and journalist, born at Nashville, Tenn., 65 years ago today.

Edward C. Stokes, former governor of New Jersey, born in Philadelphia 67 years ago today.

Timely Jottings and Reminders.

A street procession of 20,000 Sunday school pupils is to usher in a four-day Christmas carol festival in Philadelphia today.

A notable social function in Chicago today will be a reception at the home of Mrs. George M. Pullman to introduce her granddaughter, Miss Florence Lowden, daughter of the governor of Illinois, and Mrs. Frank O. Lowden.

James W. Gerard, former American ambassador at Berlin; Wellington Koo, the Chinese minister at Washington; and Irvin Cobb, the humorist and war correspondent, are to be among the speakers at the annual dinner of the New England Society of Philadelphia to be given in Philadelphia tonight.

The twenty-fifth anniversary reunion in celebration of the first law degrees granted to women in the state of New York will be held in New York City today by alumnae and students of the school of law of New York university, which was the first institution in the state to provide a law course for women.

Story of the Day.

The plaintiff in giving his evidence halted and hemmed and stuttered. The principal witness for the defendant, then, in the Sheffield Scientific school, born at Plaski, Russia, 42 years ago today.

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SMILING LINES

Author—My last novel was refused by the publishers. It is up to a dozen pieces and sell them to the magazines for short stories.

—Life.

"Mith, I'm ashamed of you. I saw that young Frenchman kissing you repeatedly."

"How could I french? You know I can't speak French."—Boston Transcript.

The Bee's Letter Box

Jerry Becomes Sarcastic.

Omaha, Dec. 20.—To the Editor of The Bee: Notwithstanding the spread of announcements about Americanizing (commercializing) the foreigners, it seems that the State Council of Defense and the other flag-raising dress parade patriots who claim to be the legitimate owners of all the patriotism are neglecting the natives wherein there is so much criticism about the omission of the national anthem from school programs and other entertainments. I herewith submit for publication in your widely read paper a facsimile of Francis Scott Key's original manuscript of the national anthem so that the native and naturalized citizens will have an opportunity of reading the sacred song and thereby commit it to memory. JERRY HOWARD.

A Farce if Not Such a Tragedy.

Omaha, Dec. 20.—To the Editor of The Bee: The spectacle of Senator Hitchcock sitting as an investigator on the slowness of war preparation by Brigadier General Crozier, chief of ordnance, would be laughable if it were not so tragic. General Crozier has evidently exhausted every resource to expedite giving munitions of all kinds to our army, while Senator Hitchcock and his coterie have just as clearly hampered the administration at every possible point and cut down its speed to the lowest possible stage.

Is it possible that the people of this country can so soon forget that Mr. Hitchcock was foremost in the effort to prevent the manufacture and shipment of arms of any kind to Europe, steadily opposed making any kind of preparation, taking any kind of care for the future? To a man up a tree it would look as if he and La Follette and Reed and Gronna and Norris and "Gumshoe" Bill Stone had never thought of anything but of clinching the pro-German vote in their states.

Only last week Senator Hitchcock was showing great willingness to vote favorably on a declaration of war against Austria, whose armies and navy were killing our people, and declaring the only thing that induced him to vote for it, was President Wilson's assurance that no territory held by Austria should be taken from it after it was conquered. Crocodile tears flowed freely over the injustice that might be done Austria, and the arms of Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1908, without a pretext of law, or of right, or of justice, weighed nothing with him. That she has oppressed and exploited Italy for 100 years cut no figure with Senator Hitchcock. Such a tender heart for Austria! The other hand, plundered, ravished, slaughtered Belgium; devastated northern France; outraged Serbia, the theft of which by Austria was the match that lit this war. Senator Hitchcock expresses no sympathy or compassion for. Evidently he feels none. His heart is bleeding for the robber, the assassin.

THE SONS OF OUR FATHERS.

We are the sons of our fathers—
Passions of the storm and battle,
Bred of the storm and battle,
Crest in their mighty mold,
Proud of their ancient glory,
Strong with their ancient might,
Bearing with their world-winning story,
And we, as the sons of our fathers,
Must live by the ancient light,
Our fathers they smote the forest,
Our fathers they bridged the sea,
Our fathers came down and built the town,
Where the myriad peoples be,
One hand on the sword his riding,
And one to labor withal,
They loved and fought and they won, God wot!
A place and a home for all,
And we as the sons of our fathers,
Must gain the ancient wall,
Our fathers bequeathed us honor
And the glory of toil and song,
And the deathless joy of longing,
And hearts for the battle strong,
And our faith and our land, and our women,
And the children that round us rise,
And by God's grace we will purge the race
Of wrong, lest their glory die,
For a fairer land than our fathers planned
May for our children rise!
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VICTROLAS AND RECORDS

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Cosmetics only hide skin trouble

Resinol makes sick skins well

Whether it is a serious affection like eczema, or just a pimply, rough and unattractive complexion, you can usually rely on Resinol Ointment and Resinol Soap to set it right, promptly, easily and at little cost. Resinol Ointment stops itching instantly.

The daily use of Resinol Soap for the toilet is sufficient to keep most complexions clear, fresh and glowing.

Resinol Ointment and Resinol Soap contain nothing that could irritate the skin, even on the most sensitive skin.

They clear away pimples, redness and roughness, stop dandruff, and form a most valuable household treatment for eczema, itching, cuts, burns, etc. Sold by all druggists.

THE OMAHA BEE INFORMATION BUREAU

Washington, D. C.

Enclosed find a 2-cent stamp, for which you will please send me, entirely free, "The Navy Calendar."

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People and Events

"A broth of a by" carrying the name of Emmet O'Brien blew into a patriotic labor union rally in St. Louis and remained glued to his chair while the assembly rose in deference to the playing of "The Star Spangled Banner." A sudden wave of heat melted the glue and Emmet shot out of the hall to an accompaniment of fists and boots. The boys will rough house the yellows when they flaunt their colors.

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