

THE OMAHA BEE

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The groundhog's jurisdiction over the weather yet has a week to run, so do not do anything rash before next Saturday.

American soldiers who would rather take a chance with German bullets than go hungry all day may be depended on in other emergencies.

Knitting competitions among the men folks bid fair to be popular this coming summer, but a lot of them could help in other ways just as well.

Women have been notified officially that the navy does not require them as radio operators. Uncle Sam insists that to "man" a ship is not a mere figure of speech.

A San Francisco former democrat has had himself registered as a bolshevik, but why did he go to all the trouble? His actions would have designated him sufficiently.

Norwegian sailors still feel the sting of the U-boat in a way that makes them wonder what would happen if Germany were to assume an "unfriendly" attitude towards them.

A Russian agent of the bolsheviks managed to "blow" \$26,000 in a single sitting in a New York hotel, which proves that he, like his superiors, has little regard for money.

War bread is becoming a lot more popular as it is better understood. It does not look quite so nice as the snow white loaf of old, but that is more than offset by what it stands for.

Japan is willing to co-operate with China in saving eastern Siberia from the bolshevik-German combination, and is also willing to take a chance on its offending the Lenin-Trotsky adherents.

Shade of Thomas Jefferson, look down on decadent democracy! When Mayor Hyland of New York returned to the city hall after a winter vacation in Florida Tammany had his walk lined with palms and similar tropical growths, to remind him of the devotion of the unwashed and hungry, no doubt.

Food Stocks in Farmers' Hands.

One of the features of the report from Washington of grain in hands of farmers on March 1 was that even with the usual shortage in crop yield, more than 10,000,000 bushels of wheat were held by the raisers in excess of the amount a year before. Some commentators have hastily deduced from this the conclusion that the farmers were loath to part with their grain. Better reasons are back of the fact, first is that in April last year the president of the United States put an end to speculative purchase of wheat, and before the new crop came into market a basic price had been fixed. Moreover, the milling operations of the United States were licensed, and since have been under strict federal regulation. Therefore, if a larger amount of wheat remains unsold in hands of the farmer this spring than last, it must be ascribed to the effect of oversight and control by the food administrator, and not charged to any effort by the farmer to hold up a hungry world. The extra 10,000,000 represents at least a portion of the saving effected, and means that much more to be added to the amount available for export.

The soft corn situation appears serious at first glance, but two important factors must be considered in connection. One of these is that the actual amount held by farmers does not materially differ from that of ordinary years; another is that pigs going to market show a very decided increase in weight, the average for the last two weeks in February being 232 pounds, as against 203 pounds for 1917, an increase of 15 per cent in meat value. This is quite significant of the use the farmer has been making and will continue to make of his soft corn.

When Order Comes to Russia.

Writing of Russia's predicament before the bolshevik peace was finally signed, Count Ilya Tolstoy expressed views to the effect that the days of the Trotsky debacle were numbered. In his opinion, the next experiment to be tried by his unhappy countrymen will be under direction of the social revolutionaries, who aim at the same end as the bolsheviks, but hope to attain them by evolutionary rather than revolutionary methods. This group seems to be gaining the ascendancy. Whether it will meet more of real success than came to the extremists is yet to be proved. The point is that Germany has not made peace with the Russians. In the treaty of Brest-Litovsk are set down terms on which armed hostility is to be ended, but in none of these is found the solution of the problem. How to conquer the Russian heart and gain friendly confidence is yet unsettled. Order must be restored to the country through some agency, and when that time comes needs must be supplied from some source. Two countries only will be in position to meet the Russian need for the materials that must go into the work of restoring industry of all kinds—the United States and Germany. Americans will have easy access to this great market if the Russian can be disabused of the false notions spread by the bolsheviks. Our statesmen must find means to prove to the people of that land the genuine quality of our friendship and the sincerity of our interest in their future. If this can be accomplished, the crushing of Russia by Germany will prove the most expensive achievement of all the kaiser's many costly accomplishments in this war.

Back of Peace with Austria.

Washington has word that Austria still is studying President Wilson's fourteen theses and that discussion at Vienna leans strongly towards acceptance of them in principle at least. It will be worth while for Americans to study these proposals, too, that they may be understood at home as well as abroad. For the present they are taken as embodying the aims of Americans in the war and their endorsement by our allies makes them fairly the basis of future peace.

As applied to Austria, the exact wording of the 10th thesis is most significant. "Freest opportunity for the autonomous development of the peoples of Austria" is the language used. How this will be interpreted by Austrian statesmen is not within our knowledge, but that it holds a wide range for application is plain. Some intimation has been noted from Austria and Hungary of a willingness to admit Bohemia on an equal footing, the dual to become a tripartite monarchy. It is also clear that such an arrangement is not especially popular just now with the Czech element. In the Bohemian legislature, assembled at Prague in January, complete independence was demanded and to this the great mass of Bohemians is devoted. Those of the nationality who have come to America have earnestly worked for the consummation of their dreams in freedom for their country and will not be content with a peace that leaves Bohemia less than an independent nation.

If Austria accepts the Bohemian construction of this condition of the president, accompanied as it has been by a statement of no intention to interfere with the internal politics of any of the nations, peace may easily be reached. It may be questioned, though, if Americans will now abandon the Bohemians or Poles any more than they will recede from efforts in behalf of the Belgians or Serbians.

Work for the History Teacher.

In the recently published report of the commissioner of education emphasis is laid on the value of teaching history as a method not only of stimulating patriotism, but also of stabilizing judgment as to the meaning of events or the value of policies. This was brought to public attention through a leaflet issued to teachers of history early in the spring of 1917, and is again referred to because of the importance of the subject.

Dr. Claxton is justified in giving the weight he does to the topic. It is not especially creditable to our schools that so little attention is given to the teaching of history, particularly that of the United States. For some reason not exactly clear, and certainly not sound, history has been pushed into the background and its place in the major curriculum has been taken by other subjects of far less service so far as the foundation for understanding citizenship is concerned. It is not enough to trust to other agencies or other channels to provide this teaching. Americans have reached a point in national development where they not only require, but should demand that history be taught, and be taught correctly, in the public schools.

This means that the text book and the instruction must go beyond the recital of chronological tables, or the unfolding of tales of heroes, but that some comprehending notion of the philosophy of history, the relation of events and the development of policies be given to the pupils. It is unreasonable to think that knowledge of our own country will not make better citizens of the boys and girls now growing up. When they understand more fully what it is to be a citizen of the United States they will be less liable to be carried away by false notions. The teacher of history is needed now if ever.

"Patrioteering" Versus Profiteering

Senator Williams Reads His Colleagues a Lecture on the War

In the senate of the United States on Saturday, March 2, the conference report on the soldiers' and sailors' civil rights bill was up for adoption. A number of senators made "war talks," and finally Senator John Sharp Williams of Mississippi, apparently out of patience with the tone of his colleagues, read them a lecture, from which the following excerpts are taken:

Mr. President, the observation of my friend the senator from New Hampshire (Mr. Hollis), about "giving men furloughs while they go home and harvest a crop," or "run home and load the truck or relieve a railroad congestion, or something of that sort, reminds me of the old story they used to tell of Governor Joe Brown of Georgia, during war between the states. It was said that he wrote a letter to Jeff Davis and said: "My dear Mr. President, why do you keep the farmer boys away from home in camps all the time? Why do you not let them stay at home and make a crop until they are about to fight a battle, and then tell the boys to come, and they will all go there and fight? I know the Georgia boys will." Mr. President, we can not carry on war in that sort of way.

Now, what is this situation? Whom have we drafted? Have we drafted all the men in the United States? By no means. We have drafted the men between 21 and 31, or the men who have arrived at 21 and arrived at 31. Do you mean to tell me that if all the men between 21 and 31 were to die tomorrow America could not raise food enough for itself and food enough to export? That it would be a great inconvenience, there is no doubt. That it would be a hardship, there is no doubt. That it would be a serious hardship, there is no doubt. But if they all died, so far as the farms of this country are concerned, there would be plenty of men left to work them under 21 and over 31 to make foodstuffs enough to feed the American people.

Now, Mr. President, I am getting a little tired of this "patrioteering" business. I love patriotism, but I have been reading the last two numbers of the Saturday Evening Post and a couple of poems on patrioteering that I found there, and if any senator has not read them he ought to read them. Men go out and exploit themselves about "meatless Tuesdays" and "wheatless Thursdays," and they seem to think they are doing something very patriotic. The whole confederacy lived without wheat at all for I do not know how long—about three years, at least, in the east and southwest departments and the southern department; they had none. I as a boy in the confederacy did not see anything except a bit of wheat from the early part of 1862 until the surrender, except now and then we would plant a little patch of wheat and grind it on a corn mill and sift it as best we could in the kitchen for the purpose of making Christmas and birthday cakes.

Then we were confronted with the fact that we did not have any sugar for the cakes, and we had to make them with molasses for "sweetening." What is the use of talking about the "hardships" of the American people? They have not suffered any hardships. You have not put your front foot into the anteroom of the temple of Mars. You have not done anything except to complain, and to complain again, and to repeat complaints about the efforts of those who are as patriotic as you or I in attempting under official oath and high responsibility to do what they can to win the war. Read those two poems on patrioteering. They are worth reading. I wish I had them here; if I had them, I would read them with proper emphasis right now.

Every man between 21 and 31 years of age, who is a common farm laborer, or who is merely a farmer, can, if absolutely necessary, be spared; but is it absolutely necessary? It ought not to be even under these circumstances, unless you find that a man presents an exceptional case. I know an instance of a boy who is running a motor tractor, for example and cultivating 150 acres of land in corn and peas and oats and soy beans, and with them feeding hogs and cattle. If he lived farther north he would be cultivating it in wheat. He ought not to go out to bear a musket, if he claims exemption. This particular boy did not claim it, but he ought not to have been sent, because he could have done infinitely more good with that motor plow than he could do with a musket, even if he killed the German every time he went into the trenches, which is upon the average, once in four days.

I am sometimes afflicted with the utmost pessimism when I hear men talking about the lack of certain supplies to accompany soldiers to France to fight, when I hear men complaining that this or that or the other regiment did not have a hot "foodwarming" stove, when I hear men complaining that overcoats were lacking, when, even if a sufficient number had been furnished in the first place, boys, with their carelessness, would have lost or misplaced or sold, or pawned a great many of them, and more would have had to come from the quartermaster's department; when I hear men complaining that soldiers and sailors had no sleeping cars to ride on when they were being transported to the point of duty.

Why, do you know, Mr. President, a story was once told me, which I have every reason to believe to be true, that there was a company in the confederate army which at one time, in 1864, had but one skiller? The captain wanted it, and he found out that the first lieutenant had it, and he sent for it. The first lieutenant reported that he was sorry, but the sergeant had borrowed it, and they found that the sergeant was washing his feet in it.

What do you know about war? What do you know about the sufferings of war? Are you going to sit down here diletante fashion and talk all the time—talk about peace at one end of the avenue and talk about war at the other end of the avenue? What you want

is men in France—men in France. What you want to put them there is ships, and what you want to go along with them is something with which to shoot. All the balance of it is secondary. If you can not put up with the hardships that are mere incidents to the first three demands, then you are unworthy of yours, because if there is anything in God's world that they understood it was hardship, suffering, endurance, fortitude, standing out to the bitter end so long as a man could stand.

What is the use of all this patrioteering camouflage? Why, you have not even done what you ought to have done long ago. You ought to have called the boys of 19 and 20 into the service; not to go to France to fight, but for those 19 years of age to be trained two years until they are 21, so as to be ready for fighting, and for the men of 20 to be training for one year until they are ready to fight.

You have shown the most remarkable instance of American capacity to understand and to adapt itself to a situation that has ever been shown in the history of any country. What was it? When you turned these boys loose—most of them college boys—into the training camps, to make our officers out of them; and you have made thousands of the best subordinate commissioned officers that the world knows today, in three months' training. Often they had to take three more months, even better training while they are training and teaching their men. You have done that. I say "you," no, it is not you; oh, no. It was not you; it was not the legislating part of the United States, although you laid the foundations wisely; it was the boys; they have done it. They are ready to go; they are ready to put up with some hardships. They do not expect buckwheat cakes for breakfast. This reminds me of what I heard during that "Chickamauga war"—the war with Spain—when a good part of the army never got any further than Chickamauga. There was a row raised down at Chickamauga because the troops did not have enough to eat; and old Major Patrick Henry of Mississippi, came to me and said, "My God, John, I have examined into it, and do you know what they are complaining of, chiefly? They are complaining that they do not get pie over twice a week." He said, "John, if we could have given the confederate army pie once a month, it would have had Washington captured in less than six months."

People suffering on account of the war! Labor suffering! Labor never had as much money in the life of the world, here or anywhere else. Farmers suffering! They never made as much money out of their cattle and corn and oats and wheat and cotton and hogs since agriculture came into existence, here or anywhere else, as they are making now.

Do you imagine that there is no food in France and none in Switzerland or Spain or the Argentine or Cape Colony or India, and none in England? Do you imagine that ours is the only country in the world with any food? What is all this talk I hear of danger of Americans starving? Does anyone believe it? Suppose we have to take a beef-steak less now and then, or a mutton chop less here and there, or a cup of chocolate less in another place, or a little bit less of sugar, would we be any less healthy or strong or wise or good? I think there has been too much of that talk; that hysteria, in fact; and it has given too much comfort to the enemy. I picked up the other day what purported to be a translation of an editorial in a Berlin paper, and it went on to tell that the "entire transportation system of the United States had broken down," which was not true, but partly true; that the American government was going to "ration its citizens" pretty soon or "else they would not have food enough," which was not true in any sense of the word; and that the Americans were "dependent altogether upon the English and French for big guns and ammunition," which was not true at all, even at the beginning. The only reason we ever bought any from them at all was because they begged us to do it, and because they could sell them to us cheaper than we could buy them, and save transportation; and yet that article, purporting to be a translation of an editorial in a Berlin newspaper, went on to prove every assertion, quotation, or statement in congress and from American newspapers!

People and Events

March, in its melting moods, is a prince of charmers.

Not the least of the horrors of war is the callous refusal of income tax gatherers to permit deductions for poker losses. Have a heart, uncle!

Early risers on one of the sun-kissed heights of Omaha remarked the presence of bluebirds on Thursday morning. The event acclaims the open season for spring poets and thrummers of the season's lyre. Go to it!

A Tammany assemblyman waxes hot under the collar because the assembly chaplain officially prayed for the success of prohibition. In his efforts to have the prayer stricken from the record the Tammanyite vindicated the wet policy of the tribe by perspiring copiously.

Some of the hot stuff of James W. Gerard, former ambassador at Berlin, is going the rounds in phonograph records. One prize four-minute speech regaled members of the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce and closed with this peroration: "I have traveled six years over all the United States, through the Alleghenys, the White mountains and the Catskills, the Rockies and the Bitter Root mountains, Coast Range and Sierras, and in these mountains there is no animal that bites and kicks and squeals that would bite and kick and squeal equal to a fat German-American if you commenced to tie him up and told him he was on his way back to the kaiser."

Twice Told Tales

Safety First. Recently a young man became enamored of a beautiful girl, and on eventually proposing marriage he was told by the fair one that he would have to consult her father.

"By the way, Gladys," remarked the stern parent on returning home to dinner the next evening, "that young man who wants to marry you has more brains than I gave him credit for."

"Oh, papa," was the rather pleased rejoinder of Gladys, "do you really mean it?"

"Yes," came the joy-killing response of father. "Instead of coming to see me he called me up on the telephone."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

Dreadful Doings.

"Do you know there are times when it is positively terrifying to enter a church," observed a lady to the bishop of Lincoln, at a dinner party.

"That cannot be, madam," returned the bishop; "pray explain."

"Why," said the lady, "it is when there is a canon at the reading desk, a big gun in the pulpit; when the bishop is charging his clergy, the choir murdering the anthem and the organ trying to drown the choir."—Boston Transcript.

There's the Rub.

The Reporter—What are your views about municipal ownership?

The Boss—It's all right if none of them inquisitive fellows come snooping around to find out how you got to own it.—Baltimore American.

Making a Hit.

"Don't you think my new novel has a punch?" asked Scribner.

"It sure has," replied the friend.

"It puts me to sleep, I know."—Cincinnati Inquirer.

The Bee's Letter Box

Omaha, March 7.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am amazed that Arthur L. Warrick, in the columns of a local paper, should openly dare to criticize Candidate Smith and his chief adviser and backer, Mossman, for calling a political meeting under the guise of a patriotic banquet.

Mr. Warrick will now undoubtedly be placed in the large bolshevik class of Mr. Mossman. What if the city hall did send 61 boys into the service of Uncle Sam, as Mr. Warrick says? Does that give the city hall the right to deny the invective of this great reformer and patriot, who for years has been striving to get into the city hall himself?

The so-called patriotic banquet was just what its supporters are, "camouflage." Each campaign they seek some new slogan to carry them into office. And they start off this time by doing exactly what they have criticized the administration for in past years, namely, "steam-rolling" opposition and picking a slate that will make their candidate mayor. They were very careful to see that control of the "organization" stayed in the proper hands. Hence they left it to a "committee" to be appointed by the chairman of the meeting, to decide what other candidates should go on the ticket and what steps should be taken to insure the election of Ed P. Smith for mayor.

As for patriotism, they showed how patriotic they are by giving such a fine banquet in times of food scarcity. Mr. Hoover has pleaded with the American public to save beef, but each guest at this patriotic banquet served with more roast beef than he could possibly eat, unless his lime gone without meals for the week. Patriotism, bah!

The true bolshevik is Mr. Mossman and his associates, who pulled off this camouflage banquet in order to further their own selfish ends. They have heard that Mr. Mossman and his associate, Murray, have ambitions toward the city legal department. If their candidate or "slate" is elected, let us see if the prediction is true. But I most sincerely hope that their camouflage campaign and their camouflage silk-stockinged slate are just as much failures as their patriotic banquet.

"HOT-SHOT" MURPHY.

Let Japan In.

Omaha, March 9.—To the Editor of The Bee: Without general council with a definite aim, organization and progress in the world will grow slow. Japan would like to fight if its offers could be accepted, and under the circumstances there is no good reason why it should not want to fight. Japan has developed a considerable military strength. Ultimately that strength will be exerted somewhere. As the world is in war for world power, good and bad, Japan's strength should be used in a way that will render the greatest service for the best cause.

The United States, the allies, Russia and Japan should council together and arrange for Japan to assist Russia on the eastern front, in the same manner that the United States is assisting the allies on the western front.

Fixing the Sabbath.

Council Bluffs, March 8.—To the Editor of The Bee: Mr. Walter Johnson's answer in regard to the Sabbath is interesting, in view of the facts. It is possible that the Sabbath of the Lord and the ceremonial Sabbaths have confused him. The number of the days in a month does not change

the weekly cycle. Verily, "he shall think to change times and laws" (Daniel 7:25), and the original seventh day remains the same upon the present calendar, although much of Christendom keeps the first day, believing they are keeping the commandment of God. Leviticus, twenty-third chapter, re-rites the ceremonial Sabbaths to be observed and the thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth verses say in part, "These are the feasts (or ceremonial Sabbaths) of the Lord." The fact that our Lord became our Passover (1 Corinthians 5:7); being sacrificed at the time of the Passover, according to the Jewish calendar; that He rose at the date of the First Fruits offering, becoming the First Fruits of the dead (1 Corinthians, 15:20-23), and that the Holy Spirit was given in fulfillment of His promise (John 14:26), and the antitypical feast of the Harvest (of souls) on the fifth day after the Passover (Pentecost), demonstrate plainly to the seeker of truth, that Christ fulfilled the ceremonial Sabbath laws. The seventh day can not only be accurately placed in history by astronomical testimony, but the first day, and later upon which the Holy Spirit was given stand out in history on dates absolutely authentic.

Will Mr. Johnson kindly go more into detail and give proof for his statements? Also, you who say in Hosea, sixth chapter, "Come and let us return unto the Lord; for He hath smitten and He will blid us up." After two days (2,000 years) will He revive us; in the third day will He raise us up, and we shall live in His sight." Give us your testimony, Israel, of the blood of the Harvest (of souls) day and Sunday come on every day, of the week in the Jewish calendar, in a period of seven years, as Mr. Johnson makes claim? Sincerely, A BIBLE STUDENT.

"LOVE TALES."

My love for you I'll tell the stars That shine in skies so blue, And when you see them twinkling They're trying to tell to you.

My love for you I'll tell the flowers That grow in wood and field; I know if they could only speak I know you they would not shrink.

My love for you I'll tell the birds, And when songs they sing so sweet, 'Tis only you they want to know And are trying to repeat.

And when you've heard these love tales Which all have tried to unfold, I will have to tell you, The sweetest story ever told.

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TODAY

One Year Ago Today in the War.

British force under General Maude captured Bagdad from the Turks. First day of organized revolt in Petrograd, culminating in the capture of the strong fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul by the revolutionists.

The Day We Celebrate.

William L. Yetter, president Yetter-Davidson Wall Paper company, born 1847.

Baron Sidney Sonnino, Italy's minister of foreign affairs, born at Pisa, 71 years ago.

Walter E. Weyl, noted economist, born in Philadelphia, 46 years ago.

Dorothy Gish, actress in motion pictures, born at Dayton, O., 29 years ago.

Al Reich, heavyweight pugilist, born in New York City, 28 years ago.

This Day in History.

1512—James Speed, who served as attorney general in Lincoln's cabinet, born in Jefferson county, Kentucky. Died there, June 25, 1887.

1812—Thomas Le Clear, celebrated portrait painter, born at Oswego, N. Y. Died at Rutherford, N. J., November 26, 1882.

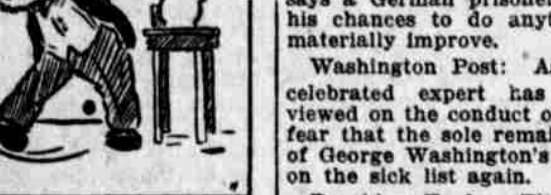
1861—Confederate states congress provided for the organization of an army.

1865—Samuel Lethin Dana, who perfected the modern method of bleaching cotton, died at Lowell, Mass. Born at Amherst, N. H., July 15, 1795.

Just 30 Years Ago Today

E. E. Whalley has been elected president of the State National bank in place of E. L. Lyon, who resigned.

M. V. Cannon was principal speaker at the Irish National league.



which held its regular monthly meeting in St. Philomena's hall. Miss Rose Finney sang the popular Irish song, "Over the Mountains," and Charles Taggart gave a declamation.

One of the largest audiences of the season was present in the Grand opera house when the curtain rolled up on the first act of "Shulamith" or "The Daughter of Jerusalem."

J. L. Brandeis & Sons added another store room to their great dry goods house, commonly known as The Fair, which is located on the southwest corner of Thirteenth and Howard streets.

W. G. Albright, the Omaha real estate rustler, has flooded the state with maps, descriptions and statistics of the marvelous growth of Omaha and has harvested a large crop of complimentary notices from the country press.

Whittled to a Point

Louisville Courier-Journal: "God has been with us," says the kaiser upon the occasion of Russia's knocking under. It is the popular impression that Trotsky and Lenin have been "with us."

New York World: "I did not have a chance to do anything before an American grabbed me by the throat," says a German prisoner.

Washington Post: As every other celebrated expert has been interviewed on the conduct of the war, we fear that the sole remaining survivor of George Washington's bodyguard is on the sick list again.

Brooklyn Eagle: The 150 Jewish volunteers from New York accepted by Great Britain and going via Boston to join the British force in Palestine show race enthusiasm. The spirit of the Maccabees is alive throughout civilization.

Minneapolis Tribune: Those returned Canadian soldiers at Toronto who prevented Bryan from making his speech probably were just trying to show that they had learned from experience how to repel gas attacks.

New York Herald: Officers of the German-American alliance insist that "kultur" is misunderstood—that does not mean culture. It does not mean the bombing of cities. It does not mean the murder of sisters of the church whose only crime is that of devoting their lives to Christianity and to culture.

Aimed at Omaha

York News-Times: Omaha's municipal political pot is beginning to boil. Dollars to doughnuts the old gang divides the field of the opposition, and holding together, wins out.

Blair Pilot: During February Omaha's corn receipts were 6,146 cars. The figures for January were: Omaha, 2,210 cars; Chicago, 1,597 cars; Kansas City, 1,233 cars.

York Democrat: Food Administrator Bakers has called the bluff of the Omaha bakers who declared they would close their bakeries before they would sell bread at 7 1-2 cents a loaf wholesale. And we happen to know what occurred when better organized men than the bakers tried to bluff Gordon W. Watt and he was

Harvard Courier: Another effort is being made to organize a farmers' packing company in Omaha. Such a company would have a long, hard row to hoe in competition with the big packers, but it would be a good thing if it could win out. A state will be made towards organizing the company as soon as the state railway commission gives permission to sell the stock.

There's the Rub. The Reporter—What are your views about municipal ownership?

The Boss—It's all right if none of them inquisitive fellows come snooping around to find out how you got to own it.—Baltimore American.

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