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- The Bee's Platform**
1. New Union Passenger Station.
 2. Continued improvement of the Nebraska Highways, including the pavement of Main Thoroughfares leading into Omaha with a Brick Surface.
 3. A short, low-rate Waterway from the Corn Belt to the Atlantic Ocean.
 4. Home Rule Charter for Omaha, with City Manager form of Government.

Concerning Primary Elections.
Baltimore has just held a primary election, with an experience in some ways paralleling that of Omaha on similar occasions. This moves the Baltimore American to remark:

No matter who were the winners, it made little difference to the ordinary household. The more we use them [the primary] the more indifferent to them we become. If we are to use them at all, then why not arrange matters so that we won't have to use them except when the need is clearly manifest, and meanwhile, cut down the waste and inefficiency of the present system?

This fits the Nebraska system very snugly, but a further comment by the American exactly hits the nail on the head so far as this state is concerned:

The sooner we cut down the number of candidates and the sooner we make the party managements legally responsible for the men they offer for office, the better and more businesslike it will be for all concerned.

A great pretense is made that any effort to reform the primary system in Nebraska is a blow aimed at the people, when, as a matter of fact, it is but an effort to head off the politicians. Under existing conditions it is possible for a combination wearing all sorts of political labels to do whatever it feels like doing when nominations are being made. Non-partisan leaguers, masquerading as democrats or republicans, may name the candidates on either ticket they select, or on both, and on election day may vote for the man who has received the silent endorsement of the organization. Other combinations may do the same. A great todo was made last year over the fact that the Bryanites appealed to the women to vote for the peerless leader, regardless of their party affiliations, and the fact that he was sent as a delegate to the San Francisco convention is unquestionably due to republican votes. Such a law makes a farce of the primary by destroying its spirit.

The Bee believes the people should select their candidates; it does not believe in the democrats naming the republican nominees, or the other way round, nor in a system that makes it possible for a secret combination to choose candidates and then put them on either ticket. Nominations should be open; political parties should work in the open.

A law now sent to the referendum, passed by the last legislature, aims at reforming the manifest abuse of the primary system in Nebraska. It is opposed to crafty schemers who pretend they are not politicians, but who practice the most nefarious sort of politics, that which is carried on behind closed doors and in secret conclaves, and whose followers always vote. Such movements are subversive of free government, and more dangerous than any scheme ever set up by the so-called "bosses" from whom the primary law was designed to rid the people.

Nebraskans have a chance to save responsible party government, or they can turn the state's elections over to a secret group whose headquarters are outside the state, and whose leaders have only their own interests to serve. The choice ought to be easily made.

Wizards Are Working Again.
All the entertaining reading is not found in the popular magazines these days. One who follows the news columns of any daily paper with even casual application is certain of diversions, and may even obtain something that will cause him to wonder. For example, there is the tale of the two pseudo-scientists who are going to make snap shots of Mars. They will secure a deep mining shaft in Chile or Peru, place at the bottom of it a dish fifty feet in diameter, containing mercury. By rotating the dish the mercury will be caused to assume sufficient concavity to afford the largest reflecting lens ever created. This will magnify 25,000,000 times, and bring Mars within half a mile of the earth, permitting snap shots instead of time exposures, and forever settle the question of whether the planet is inhabited. We tremble as we think of the disappointment of this pair of enthusiasts in event they are unable to discover a mining shaft of sufficient depth which is aimed directly at Mars.

Then, in another column one reads that on the 6,000,000 square miles of the Sahara desert the sun daily expends fuel energy equal to 6,000,000,000 tons of coal. As this amounts to 1,000 tons of coal per day per square mile, one wonders if the ciphers did not get mixed as they came over the wire. However, 1,000 tons of coal will generate considerable energy; and if the chemists find a way to transmute the sunlight that now makes life in the Sahara more or less unbearable under the heat of the day into useful power, we may yet hear of something other than Arab dates and Moorish uprisings coming from that region of mystery.

However, the work-a-day world has been entertained with these tales for so many years. Several other problems confront the commercial chemist, the solution of which is more important to the world than the turning of Sahara's sunlight into electric energy, while the general run of people will continue to get more pleasure out of seeing any one of a number of favorites fit across the snap than would flow from viewing a series of snap shots of Mars, even if they

GRANDEUR MODERNIZED.
Oh, the grandeur that was Greece,
And the glory that was Rome!
Ere that luster did decrease
It inspired many a poem—
Poets vied to sing their praise,
Tuneful lays without a flaw,
How 'twould make their lyres blaze
Could they gaze on Omaha.

Strings of lights upon the streets,
Lights of variegated hue,
Flags and bunting that completes
Schemes of red and white and blue;
Comes the famous festival
Of King Ak—and they relate
'Twill bring added fame this fall
To the city of the state.

PHILO-SOPHY.
The early bird catches the choice seat in the grandstand.
Rip Van Winkle was, it has been stated, a lucky man. He slept for 20 years during a period of time when there wasn't really much of anything else to do.

Of course Rip missed the revolutionary war, and maybe a few minor engagements, but imagine missing 20 Ak-Sar-Ben festivals.

Those long-headed men who insured their picnic against rain have at least discovered a way to keep a picnic day favorable, even if the \$90 paid as a premium does seem to be, in a manner of speaking, a total loss.

Like paying out good money for medicine, we never know but what we might have recovered without it.

RAHI RAH!
School's begun,
Nebraska's son
Will realize his dream;
Off to college
Seeking knowledge
On the foot ball team.

Father will now resume his time-honored job of working his son's way through school.

"Will not show nor brush off," claims a face powder ad. Wouldn't mind having charge of the proving grounds at that powder factory.

Speaking of Ruth Law—well, she's "ace high."

ADD LONGFELLOW.
It was autumn and incessant
Piped the quails from shocks and sheaves,
And the living coals the apples
Burned among the withering leaves.
Soon those apples will be dropping
On the ground, in heaps to lie,
We might have 'em in the cellar,
But the freight rates are too high.

Wanted: A few snappy contris for this column. Either prose or verse. If you can't write, typewrite.—Adv.

The street car company has been denied a raise in rates. And just now when there is so much wear and tear on the straps, too.

JUDICIOUS PERSPICACITY.
There is a man in our town
And he is wondrous wise,
He knows that in his business life
It pays to advertise;
Discrimination, too, he shows,
And trades sagaciously—
He knows when he's being sold
And runs them in the Bee.

Chief Dempsey warns that pickpockets will follow the crowds to Ak-Sar-Ben. We must look out, not only for the professional pickpocket, but for the novice who is just getting his hand in.

Ouch: What makes you walk so funny?
Grouch: Corn.
Ouch: Foot or moonshine?

HE DOESN'T SHINE 'EM.
A man will tell a girl he isn't fit to shine her shoes—and after marriage he makes good.

ISN'T IT THE TRUTH?
A dollar earned looks big today,
And bigger if we lend it—
But how its value shrinks away
When we go out to spend it.

AFTER-THOUGHT: Speaking of dull times—at least the penmanship teacher's is flourishing.

Less Tax, More Families
"As a result of the proposed reduction on income taxes for married people the nation may expect a greater number of weddings in the year ahead that was witnessed in the year passed," said Joseph T. Stanchfield of Pittsfield, Mass. "An exemption of \$500, as the original proposal, with \$200 additional exemption for each dependent, applied to persons whose income is below \$5,000, is far greater than many people believe. It will be an incentive to many men and women who have held off merely because they could not see their way clear to contract matrimony. In the industrial centers of New England we hope for an increase in marriages. The reason is obvious. Marriage makes for stability. People who are married are not prone to shift from place to place. They are settled in their ways, in their habits. Further, they become home owners as a rule, and home owners always are desirable people in any community. In fact, the great industry of America owes their present-day supremacy to the men and women who have married and settled down near the places that offer permanent employment. Were it not for these the turnover in the labor market would have been such that many cities would never have built up.

Diabetics and Normal Diet.
Dr. J. R. Williams, speaking before a Pittsburgh medical society, answered some questions which diabetics frequently ask him. Dr. Williams has been treating diabetics for about five years according to the following method:

The first question was: "Does the method ever restore the diabetic to complete health and enable him to live as satisfactorily as the normal person?"

To that Dr. Williams replies: "It is very improvable."
Dr. Williams has had one man so thoroughly cured that he can eat what he pleases, including some cane sugar; but even that man does not eat as much as the normal person.

The second question is: "Can diabetics be kept from falling?" That question the doctor answers in the affirmative. He has some extreme cases that can eat only 700 calories a day with safety, but they have learned to live satisfactorily on that.

The third question is: "Is the gain from carrying out the treatment considerable enough to make the sacrifice and expense worth while?" The answer is "Yes."

The fourth was: "Does carrying out the treatment add materially to the length of life?" The answer is "Yes."

In the case of children it can be expected that living the prescribed life will double the life expectancy. The improvement in the life expectancy of diabetic young adults is somewhat better than in the case of children.

Older adults may live out the life expectancy for persons of that age. In fact, a person who carries out the treatment faithfully and intelligently generally can expect to live longer than the expectancy of persons of his age.

Of course, among diabetics there are all sorts of people—the courteous and the cowardly, the enterprising and the slothful, the attentive and interested, and the indifferent.

Some are those who are wisely advised, who are willing to learn, who have developed self-control, and who are courageous, who can be cured. Others are the slothful, the indifferent and cowardly will die. The treatment means nothing for them. When the people of the deficient class have any disease they must have a specific, a short cut, a magic, overnight cure, or they are "goners." Anything which is not a healthy day-by-day living the law is out of their reach.

The Bee's Letter Box
The Bee offers its columns freely to its readers who care to discuss any public question. Its requests are brief, not over 300 words. It also insists that the name of the writer appear in full, and that the editor may use the name of the writer in any publication, but that the editor may not pretend to endorse or accept responsibility for the views of the correspondents in the Letter Box.

Writing of History.
Blair, Neb., Sept. 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: This question comes to my mind: Why, or by what authority, did the Knights of Columbus at their convention in California take it upon themselves to set aside a large sum of money and think it incumbent upon them to rewrite history for our public schools? Next we know the Methodists, who are at all times a very strenuous body, may take upon themselves the self-appointed duty to rewrite history from their viewpoint, or the great Masonic body may take it into their heads their viewpoint of history, is the Simon-pure fact. Surely any creed or organized body think or be allowed to foist their particular product on our schools? If our school histories are to be rewritten, would it not be more satisfactory to all concerned to take the brains men or women from our American colleges and assign them all important work to them? History might be less shaded in their hands. I wish we might hear from the 100 per cent Americans on this subject. Let all parents keep hands off our public schools. If this is the Christian nation of which we boast God's word should be read without comment in all schools.

EX-SCHOOL TEACHER.
Editor's Note—Anybody who writes a history; getting it accepted as authority and adopted as a textbook, is quite another matter. It may be well to suspend judgment on the work proposed by the Knights of Columbus until it has been printed in form, in so that its merits may be properly weighed and determined.

Profiteers in Building.
Omaha, Sept. 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: If the comparative values of forms of government are to be judged by the protection they afford to the citizen, then our government stands at the very bottom of existing governments, for in no government of Europe is the private citizen so completely exploited and robbed so openly as with us.

With the demand for homes and building operations never equaled, with more people unemployed than ever known before, we have not a form of government that can reach the criminal profiteer in material, nor the equally criminal labor leader who refuses to allow his men to go to work for fear that in accepting a reduction in wages he may lose his job as a bargaining delegate. In the meantime the unhoused citizen is robbed by rental agencies. A government that cannot reach the building materials combine or the labor union walking delegate is a mighty poor kind of government.

I am not one who believes in the government doing special things for different classes, but we have a right to demand that the government shall protect us against these illegal combinations of labor and capital. We have the police administration to keep the stick-up man from taking money out of our pockets by force in a retail way, but we do not seem to be able to do anything to the wholesale holdup on the part of the material combines or the labor combine. We had better do a little labor union walking delegate is a mighty poor kind of government.

CHARLES WEAVER.
Editor's Note:—It may interest the writer of the foregoing to know that the federal grand jury in New York last week indicted 94 members of the I. O. O. F. for conspiracy because of their violation of the Sherman anti-trust law. A large number of

Why They Want Us.
They appear bound to get us into the League of Nations. The league is to use the American dollar as its medium of payment. All Europe would like to use American dollars. That's why they want us in the league.—Leavenworth Times.

Quicker Than a Sneeze.
This year the golden rod seems to have slipped up on the hay fever fans and got in several weeks of blooming before they began to sneeze at it.—Chicago News.

Questions concerning hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease, submitted to Dr. Evans, will be answered personally, subject to proper limitation, where a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed. Dr. Evans will not make a diagnosis nor prescribe for individual diseases. Address letters in care of The Bee.

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From the New York Mail.
"No rogue ever felt the law draw with good opinion of the latter. In the same sense all bootleggers and many who unwittingly sympathize with their practices are united just now in a chorus of denunciation of the anti-liquor-selling law because of the opportunity it offers for violation of the fourth amendment to the federal constitution, which guarantees the right to every citizen to be secure in his home and person against unreasonable searches and seizures."

The bootlegger's tender solicitude for the sanctity of the home and its preservation from the so-called depredations of officers of the law is truly astonishing to those who recall before the law was passed the baleful influence of these same bootleggers—then open saloons—over every family circle in the land. There was not a home that wholly escaped its debasing and destroying force; it crossed every threshold of the law, and every man's shadow of death; every prison was crowded with its victims; every jail was the altar of its sacrifices; every ruined household the scene of its tragedies. On every street corner it could pre-empt by rentals that decent business could not afford; this degrading influence of the law may rank women with its "Family Entrance" lure, robbing them of their senses and their self-respect as well as of their money. It made every street corner the breeding place and refuge of thieves; far and away the foulest blot on civilization, for it tainted everything it touched.

It is this influence that is now filling the columns of newspapers and debates in congress with absurdities about the violation of the fourth amendment in the enforcement of a law that stifles its nefarious calling. Citizens, they brazenly declare, are no longer secure in their homes; they are crowded with drunken homes at will, stop and search innocent automobile parties, accost citizens on the public highways and insult the presence of drunken men and women.

Who knows of any home that has been so invaded? Who knows of any citizen who has been so held up? And if he and these some person knows of one or two or three instances in which overzealous officers have trespassed, let your mind run back to the not distant time when all about you were scores of homes and families whom you knew were brought to ruin by the saloon; recall the Mondays when the police courts were crowded with Sunday drunkards, when every resort to which you brought your family for an outing was made impossible by the presence of drunken men and women.

Recall that picture of the recent past, recall all that you personally saw of the tragedies of the liquor-selling days; take the lightest phase of that horrible past and contrast it with the worst that can be charged against law-enforcing officers; then, in the quiet of your own conscience, ask yourself where you stand as between the two.

There never was such hypocrisy as this cry from the saloon to protect the rights of citizens in their homes from unwarranted search and seizure. These new-found advocates of the constitution never knew law or morals in the days when they were in control of legislatures and congress; when they arrogantly dictated to governors, senators and mayors whether they would or would not be kept in office; when decent citizens kept far from the saloon's corner because he feared a knife in the back or a pistol shot from the dark.

The men who until the anti-liquor-selling law was enacted brought more tragedies into human life than

all other influences are the men who now seek to delude unthinking people into fear that their constitutional rights are being violated—that their homes are in peril of the law. Here and there senators and congressmen are used as stage-dressing in the anti-liquor-selling law; but back of those dummy figures stand the real sponsors of the movement—the saloonists.

In Exclusive Kansas.
A new ruling in Kansas is that no man shall be admitted to the state penitentiary who has not a certificate of good health. Perhaps a few recommendations of honesty and morality should be required, too. Recently in Sing Sing, which has no such entrance requirements, several inmates were found to have stolen blank checks out of the office and have obtained money on them by forgery.—Kansas City Times.

Ford's Synthetic Hen.
"Ford Truck Hatches Eggs" is a newspaper headline for a story that eggs kept under the hood became chickens. We regard this as a pure nature fable. The eggs might have been fried, or scrambled, but with heat and continuous vibration do not produce incubation.—Brooklyn Eagle.

New Battle of BrandYWine.
Another flying squadron of "dry" agents is said to be taking the field under the Volsteadian banner. As they are moving on Philadelphia, they may be expected to stage another BrandYWine battle.—New Orleans Times-Picayune.

The Reserved English.
When one hears of the "reserved Englishman" nowadays, it is almost impossible not to think of Margot Asquith, E. F. Benson and the gentleman with a duster; and titter gently behind one's hand.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

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