## THE OMAHA BEE

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### The Bee's Platform

1. New Union Passenger Station. 2. Continued improvement of the Nebraska Highways, including the pavement with a Brick Surface of Thoroughfares leading into Omaha.

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.

### The New Party's Platform.

With all its preliminary movements attended to in detail, the new-born Progressive party makes its appeal to the voters of Nebraska on a platform that deserves to be closely studied. Not merely because it is all inclusive, but because some of the things it sets forth in alluring form as generalities must be carefully examined in order that the voter may know exactly what is meant. Political platforms too frequently fail of expressing exact meanings, and, perhaps, it may be asking too much to pin the parties down to particularities. Yet, when a plank has to do with specific grievances, it ought to propose a remedy that is understandable by any, and which does not mean one thing to one man and another to another, and is finally capable of being interpreted in such fashion as to cheat the hopes of both. That sort of politics is unfair, no matter by whom it is practiced.

In the platform adopted at Grand Island promises of reform in the administration of Nebraska's business affairs are freely made, together with the reduction of taxes. This is easy to pledge, but may not be so readily achieved. What is more interesting right now is contained in these paragraphs, which may be overlooked by the casual reader of the preamble:

Prices for farm products must not be permitted to go below the cost of production, plus

a reasonable profit. Wages must not be permitted to go below the cost of living at American standards with a margin for old age.

Those sentences mean something, or they mean nothing. What is the cost of production of a bushel of wheat, for example? Experts of the Department of Agriculture reported to Secretary Houston about three years ago that they could not determine the unit cost of producing a bushel of wheat, because the elements of the problem varied too greatly. If this is true, the promoters of the new party have set themselves to a hopeless task, if they are honest, or place reliance on their ability to befuddle voters by loose and inaccurate statements, along with

specious promises they do not expect to fulfill. What is the American standard of living? Who fixes it? And, after all else is said, who is there to determine for any man or woman what his or her standard of living is to be? In Omaha a workman drives his own car; another, employed by the same concern, with the same hours and wages, has trouble to meet his living expenses. What is to be the determination betweeen these two?

Political prophets who profess to settle such questions offhand are open to the suspicion that they are not especially profound in the science they pretend to practice, or they are not entirely sincere in their professions. The Progressive party may make headway, but it will do a better job if it take on one thing at a time, and not undertake to put over an omnibus job of reforming at a single sitting.

### Dying Memories of the War.

When a week has been crowded with interest and excitement, one often remarks on how swiftly it has passed. A week is long only when nothing much has happened. It is that way with years, too. History has been made with great swiftness since 1914, and it is hard to realize that seven years are past since the opening of the world war.

The freshman class of a great university, isked to give the date and result of the first pattle of the Marne, has been stumped. Not one of those boys and girls knew the story of the saving of Paris. Naturally a great many unkind things are being said about this. A more thoughtful and charitable observer, however, makes the point that when this battle was fought the college freshmen were between the ages of 10 and 12 years. In the last seven years so great has been the rush of events that it is not surprising to find they have forgotten or missed

some. There is not the vividness about the victorious advance of the allied armies that there once was. The stories of the starving people of the invaded regions seem today a little unreal. Those who did not actually bear arms are a good deal like the college freshmen, and the names and scenes of the great war are passing from the minds of men to take their place in books.

### Testing the Zoning Ordinance.

Holding up the erection of an apartment house through means of a restraining order will apply another test to the zoning ordinance. Last summer a court order set aside the objections of residents in one district to the erection of a church in their neighborhood. This point has not been definitely decided, for an appeal has been taken, and the subject is, therefore, in abeyance. The apartment house comes next, and it in turn will be followed by the merchandising establishment, and then the factory, for each of these will be objected to in turn as they undertake topinvade the region sought to be maintained

for purely residential purposes. To be sure, there is little, if any, comparison between a church and an apartment house, or between either of these and a store or factory, but all seem to have in some degree a quality that is objected to by the home owner. A reasonable regard for proprieties supports the desire to keep exclusive residential districts safe from invasion. When the city commission adopted the zoning ordinance prepared by the planning board, it was after considerable debate, and solely with the thought of making conditions that would be understood by all and not onerous or burdensome on any. Whether its restrictions are reasonable and wholly within the power of the city to establish must be left to the courts for decision.

Changes Due in Rail Policies.

The spotlight will be on the Interstate Commerce commission December 14, when hearings on the general rate situation will begin. President Harding set the stage for this significant meeting in his recent address to congress, where he said: "The existing scheme of adjusting freight rates has been favoring the basing points, until industries are attracted to some centers and repelled from others. A great volume of uneconomic and wasteful transportation has attended, and the cost increased accordingly."

Here is a matter in which the middle west ought to take a vital interest. Scarcely a town of any considerable size in this region that has not some once prosperous manufacturing plant now closed or merely dragging on account of unfavorable freight rates that give the advantage to competitors clear across the continent. The president speaks what is in many minds when he urges a check on the concentration of manufacturing in the overcrowded centers and the encouragement of local enterprise. More of the raw products of the farms should be refined out here instead of being shipped back and forth across the nation. Thus could costs be cut and employment the year 'round be assured for labor in the rural districts.

Congressman Jefferis, speaking before the bankers of the state, touched on this proposal on the same day Mr. Harding did. New basic points for figuring freight tariffs should be established in the interior instead of on either coast, he declared. The determination of the railroads to compete with traffic by ship through the Panama canal was condemned. There is no public policy which calls for hauling goods by rail that can be more cheaply carried by sea. It is, however, imperative that the railroads should serve the great landlocked interior as cheaply as possible. New basic points for rail tariffs must be selected; on this the middle west should take a firm stand.

Mr. Jefferis urged that support be given some middle western man for appointment to the vacancy on the Interstate Commerce commission. This, too, is a good idea. President Harding has outlined a revolution in transportation methods. It is now up to Nebraskans, Iowans and those of the neighboring states to carry the movement on to completion.

### Watson's Remarkable Performance.

Some folks may be moved to ask whether the nquiry into the charges made against the officers and nurses of the A. E. F. by Senator Thomas Watson of Georgia should not be adjourned until competent alienists have had an opportunity to examine the complainant. The performance he staged in the senate when he was making his scandalous charges caused wonder as to whether he was entirely in his right mind, an impression that will be heightened by his threat to assault an army officer who was one of a group listening to the proceedings before the committee that is conducting the inquiry. Well-balanced men seldom behave as

Senator Watson is doing. It is interesting to note, in this connection, that one of the letters Senator Wason read into the record was signed Thomas F. Gowran of Albany, N. Y., formerly regimental sergeantmajor, inspector general's department, Fortysecond division, who writes of himself:

I admit frankly that I did not honestly do my duty while in this office. I was the stenographer. I knew the court-martial manual. Trial judge advocates were appointed who bewent into service were grocery clerks, oil salesmen, etc., and the court-martial manual was simply a bunch of words, and the form used in the conduct of a trial usually started at the wrong end and wound up in the middle. I am glad to say that my knowledge of procedure, which I learned in the judge advocate's office, was of material help to me in mixing up the reports of trials, which, of course, in many instances, threw the case out or forced the commanding general through recommendation of the division judge advocate to cut the sentences imposed by the court to a mere matter of detail with the accused's com-

Regrettable as it is, there is no way to reach his soldier who constituted himself the "deus ex machina," and substituted his own judgment, dishonest as he knew it to be, for that of the court of which he was a servant. He will be a splendid witness for Watson, but his presence is only further proof of the weakness of the senator's case. It is a good thing for the world that all the soldiers were not of this stripe.

Germany, too, is in favor of an international currency, which will help it to make good on the billions of paper marks it has put out. We may expect that Russia will also endorse the plan. The United States, however, remains the only country capable of paying its debts.

The ex-kaiser is reported to have written a book. It will be interesting if he will only tell who and what induced him to think he could put it over when he started in 1914.

The governor's price probe at Lincoln has developed that some prices came down and others stayed up. This may surprise a few folks, but not many.

In Russia 35,000,000 people are reported to be in imminent danger of death from starvation, a notable commentary on the efficiency of bol-

Fewer deaths reported for the year just closing encourages the life insurance man. Perhaps life is more worth living, or death too costly.

Eamonn de Valera may console himself with the thought that he is not the first leader who had to be content with less than he hoped for.

The L. C. C. "hopes" for lower freight rates. We thought its chief business was to make rates.

Harding's tariff plan is liked by the senators, which means it is to have democratic disapproval. fear a frost is dew.

### THE HUSKING BEE -It's Your Day -Start It With a Laugh

RUFF STUFF.

Oh, gentle muse, with your soft, soothing ways, Oft' have I wooed you while singing my lays, Your touch on my heart strings, soft, gentle and Has brought glad expressions of love to my mind.

Oh, muse now lay off of the soft, gentle stuff, Lay on the muscle and treat me right rough, Can the soft pedal and turn on the juice, Hand me ju-jits till I yell like the deuce.

Grab my typewriter, that trusty machine, Swat me a wallop on top of the bean, Follow that up with a clout with a brick, Land on my slats with a heart-rending kick.

Break the monotony of love-poem class, Connect up my think tank and turn on the gar Jazz me and razz me with noises accursed, Beat on my car drums till they almost burst.

Haze me till I see the sun, moon and stars, Take a few hints from your old daddy Mars, When you've done all this then I'll have in spiration To say what I think of enforced vaccination!

PHILO-SOPHY. When a man succeeds it's brain-when he

If life seems a shadow the chances are you are standing in your own light.

The packers' strike brings to mind the thought that there is a shade of difference between getting work out and getting out of work.

Modern problem of medical science-vaccinating a flapper where the scar won't show.

An idle breeze-Babe Ruth threatening to knock Landis for a home run. The Babe will have to swing lively to bust

his record next year. His season doesn't open until a month after the regular schedule. HAPPY BILL. Willie isn't very well, Guess he's got a bilious spell,

Doctor says he needs some beer Just to keep his system clear.
-C. R.

SPORTS. Now on! Great International Contest-Reducing the Navy! Taxpayers of winning country cop cash prize as nucleus for savings account. All entries laying down arms win money award and benefit of peace prices on luxuries formerly prohibited under the guise of neces-

Bonds of brotherly love will extend 'round the world like policeman hugging hired girl. After disarmament conference only war left will be between Prohibition and the United States. And there's no tax on home-brew!

Annual six-day bike race pulled off this week n east. For 31 consecutive seasons six-day pedaling contest has kept riders busy while New York sleeps. Only darb feature we could ever see in six-day grind is that it gives husbands an excuse for staying out nights.

Participants in a wrestling match sometimes lock 'emselves in a fond embrace, lie down on let her go this time. As an ex-magis-the mat and doze off for a couple of hours, while trate M. C. O. B. thinks this is a the mat and doze off for a couple of hours, while spectators cheer 'em on with hearty yawns, but six-day bike racer goes into trance from which nothing can arouse him until he finishes a little week. And even the wheels are tired.

YOU SAID IT, PAUL. Dear Philo: If Saint Xavier is a college, it goes to prove that Saint Vitus must be a danc-

Ill fares the team, to hastening ills a prey, Where bribes accumulate and men won't play.

ing academy.

As a man is known by the company he keeps, a newspaper is known by the company it advertises, Yours, P. R. B.

WE DON'T KNOW 'EM, EITHER. Dear Philo: In looking over a pamphlet pertaining to the building trades I note that "the words 'carpenter' and 'joiner' are anonymous.'

> HAPPY. A novel says They fell in love, And they were happy-very," From which we judge This man and dove Decided not to marry.

IF YOU ARE WELL BRED. You will not ask a girl to be your wife while you are married to another.

EVERY LITTLE MOVEMENT.

See where Walter Camp has doped out a new system of exercising the muscles, set to phonograph records. If the records are jazz we have an idea of what the exercises consist.

Ex-kaiser is to marry again, it is rumored. We have always contended that old Bill was

THE CLUBWOMAN. It's wash the dishes, Polly, Also the kitchen floor, And then before you've rested Go back and wash some more.

I wish I'd been an Indian, Their way was best, it's proved, When the wigwam got too mussy They just got up and moved.

Plague take the bric-a-brac, And all the things we tat, The only things not dusty Are the books and my new hat.

> HE'S THERE. We like the cheerful Smiling guy, Who always says "You Bet, Ill try.'

It is, we opine, going to be a disappointment to old Santa if he doesn't find a little something on the sideboard to warm and cheer the inner

One can get plenty of ready-to-wear clothing if one has plenty of ready-to-pay money.

Some people believe in having music in the

home, while others just buy a phonograph and a bunch of jazz records and let it go at that. . . . ISN'T IT THE TRUTH? Christmas is a time of joy, Everything's in trim.

Happy is each girl and boy Full of trimming vim; Watchful waiting is the worst Thing they all agree, So they trim old father first Then they trim the tree.

AFTER-THOUGHT: Getting colder-we

## How to Keep Well

Questions concerning hygiene, sanita-tion and prevention of diacease, sub-mitted to Dr. Evans by readers of The Bee, will be answered personelly, subject to proper limitation, where a stamped, addressed envelope is en-closed. Dr. Evans will not make diagnosis or prescribe for individual diseases. Address letters in care of The Bee.

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### THE 100 YEAR RACE.

When the American Public Health association met in November to celebrate the fiftieth annual meeting it featured a banquet in honor of Dr. Stephen Smith, the man who when health commissioner of New York City called together a group of sanitarians to plan a fight against cholera and in that way started their

association.
Dr. Stephen Smith will be 99 years of age on February 23 next. However, Dr. William H. Welch, presiding as toastmaster at a ban-quet to the patriarch, said that in counting age we should figure from the date of conception rather than the date of birth, and on that basis Dr. Smith wanding Dr. Smith was within a few months of being 100 years old.

It will be recalled that the Rev. V. E. Barton employed the same method in proving untrue certain stories to the effect that Abraham Lincoln was not the son of Thomas Dr. Smith, responding, told his

audience how to live to an active, vigorous old age. vigorous old age.

He gave the most prominent place in his list to good parentage. One of Dr. Smith's sisters lived more than hundred years. He agreed with Dr. Welch that careful selection of ancestors recently the control of the company of the c tion of ancestors, parents, grand-

ears.

He especially stressed the neces- farmers and ranchers who need sity for right living, calling it per- men this winter. sonal hygiene

Many thousand people had written for one, am ready. him asking for his formula for a long and useful life, most of them interpolating facts about themselves To those who wrote they could not cat eggs he replied, "Then cut them out." But to those who wrote they could not drink milk he answered, "Drink more milk." His own diet has been very simple

-mostly milk, cereals, vegetables, and fruit, with meat only at rather intervals. To those who wrote for a drug or remedy or "brand," as some of them called it, he replied that "he had unless work without worry be called such."

He thought there was practically no harm in even excessive work if it was not mixed with worry. He had not harmed himself by he use of alcoholic beverages tobacco.

Nor was ill health a bar to longevity. During the first 50 years of his life he was not vigorous. His poor digestion made it necessary for him to live on a very simple diet.

### Some Medical Testimony.

M. C. O. B., an ex-magistrate, sends an account of a woman in New York who, having been charged with burglary, pleaded that she had hypothyroidism. A physician testi-fied that hypothyroidism was due to a lack of thyroid secretion and this caused the sufferer to take things. The magistrate said he could not see the point, but he was willing to accept the doctor's word for it and bad precedent and if followed might open the door to let many criminals escape.

rold secretion it is possible to per-fect the evidence. By means of a cause of the short-sightedness and metabolism test, which the magis-trate might have ordered, it is pos-in the south. We are republicans sible to tell whether a patient has because we cannot help ourselves. 10 per cent thyroid secretion or 100 The south is democratic because it per cent, or 150 per cent. Not so won't help itself. If the south would per cent, or 150 per cent. Not so with the secretion of the other ductless glands. Had the evidence related to over-amount or insufficiency of some other ductless glands the court might have had to draw straws to decide whether to accept or reject the medical testimony. However, it looks to me as if the physician was mixed at that. The thyroid has only a mederate. The thyroid has only a moderate effect on sanity or insanity. A york City and other places. The person with too little thyroid is not apt to take what belongs to her, to say nothing of what belongs to the other fellow. A sentence to confinement during which she would take

Offers Many Perils. probably would go down to normal work, but in which we my throat is thoroughly healed and where our votes count. the gland is swollen about the size Mr. President, with patience

advise me to have it removed? Is about it afterward. We are willing there any possibility of this gland going back to normal and what treatment could I use? What is liable to develop if I let it go too long without having it removed. long without having it removed? REPLY. This gland is infected. The gate of infection may have been the tonsil, the gland having been overloaded with infection before the tonsil was removed. infection may be with pus

germs. Infection with tubercle bacilli from drinking raw milk from tuberculous cows is another possibility. Most glands of the kind de-scribed can be cured by treating scribed can be cured by treating them with sun rays. Some need operation.

There is more than a possibility that the gland will go back to normal. If left alone it may sup-purate, discharge, and cause scrof-Tuberculosis of the lungs is a

Dividends Already.
Since the marines were placed on mail trains, the net result of attempts to hold up Uncle Sam is three dead bandits. Perhaps the out-laws will learn something after a while.-Detroit Free Press.

## WINGLESS VICTORY.

Clouds of dust along the trail, Seep into his mouth and eyes, Like relentiess, leaden rain. Pelting him from sullen skies. Lagging feet in silken dust.
Lift with labored, rhythnic best;
Yet he drags himself shead.
Why does not the man retreat?

Why will not the fool retreat? Safety calls to him, "Turn ba Ease points out a wayside inn Snugly off the dusty track,

Worst of all, like wraiths of fear, Pale processions pass in flight; Ghosts of men whose light of day Suddenly turned blackest night. "Doom and dole." they call, "await!
Dols and doom are ambushed her
Choked with dust he forges on
Past the last redoubts of fear.

Racked with pale, he wins his goal,
But the rout that ran amuck
Gibbers, "Say, that's pretry soft!
If we only had his luck!"
—Kilas Lieberman in the New York Times.
Piedmont.

## The Bee's Letter Box

(The lice ofters its columns freely to its readers who care to discuss any public question. It requests that letters be remountly brief, not over 300 words. It also insists that the name of the writer accompany cach letter, not necessarily for publication, but that the editor may know with whom he is dealing. The Bee does not pretend to endorse or accept views or opinions expressed by correspondents in the Letter Box.)

Watching the Convention.

Seward, Neb., Dec. 4 .- To the Editor of The Bee: This is the week of the mass convention of the new third political party to be held at Grand Island. Of course, Taylor of Custer county, in conjunction with Edgar Howard of Columbus, will stand forth as brilliant and force-tul exponents of a new era in which all the blessings of paradise will be enjoy in the end. It is pleasing to note that the new enterprise is unnote that the new enterprise is unnote that the new enterprise is unnote that the new enterprise is unnoted to the things of the large poultry at one of the large poultry at one of the large poultry. ier such brilliant leadership. The learning for such brilliant leadership. The bublic will watch the wheels go around and take especial note of the grist that comes from the mill. The plants are two stown and got what he considered town and got what he c to the cause of the people are so well known that nobody should be deceived. But there is some truth in the saying that some people like to be humbugged.

### ARTHUR V. SHAFFER.

On the Farm Hand's Side. Denison, Ia., Nov. 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: It surely sur-It surely surfarmers think they can't afford parents, and great-grandparents feed a man all winter. I, for in-was the first duty of the person who stance, would be very glad and planned to work union hours at 30 thankful if the lady could give me

If you want help, just holler. I,

D. DEPPELER.

Answer to Emma D. K. Red Oak., Ia., Dec. 1.—To the Editor of The Bee: Some time ago another farmer from Greeley was heard from, but I thought surely there were not many like that, since they tell us of late years the farmers take so many daily papers they know as well as the town people about questions of the day. It is perhaps a little out of the ordinary to tax the farmers to help with any charity work in the cities. Yes, because never to my knowledge has a farmer or bunch of them contributed in any way to help a poor famfly in town. I was practically raised in a small inland town. When was a baby my father lost his arm. We moved to town, but he arm. always worked for the farmers until the past 10 years, as that was all he knew, and is considered one of the very best stock men and can handle horses and all kinds of machinery like very few know how to

### The Black and White Votes

(A. L. Jackson in the Chicago Defender, We agree with the president that solidly democratic south and a solidly republican black vote anywhere Fortunately with regard to thy- is a hindrance to the best interest

during which she would take prove that gratitude and will go furthyroid with a provision for release ther.

The president will accomplish lit after she had become normal would tle unless he backs up his talk with deeds. The so-called race problem is a national one; so is the task of J. M. P. writes: "About two months ago a gland in my neck, between the chin and right ear, swelled. I saw a local doctor and he advised me to have it removed. I went to a hospital and the doctors there said I had tonsilitis and that the infection of the sland was from the infection of the gland was from strongest supporters in the senate that, so they operated and re- and in congress come from those disthat, so they operated and re-moved the tonsils, saying the gland tricts in which we not only live and work, but in which we vote and where our votes count. We wait, of a plum and seems to be very anxiety for the action which shall hard. Lately it has begun to give me slight pains in it, as well as in the neck close to the gland. Would you advise me to have it removed? Is

it was merely a repetition of an age old human folly, an attempt to set-tle a quarrel and remedy a grievance by wholesale murder and destruc-tion; and, though it was a struggle on a wider stage, on a larger scal with more deadly instrumentalities it was in its essence the old foli-repeated and multiplied.—Everit B Terhune in the Boot and Shoe Re corder.

Battleship Poor. Enough figures and facts on arm ament economics already have been revealed to indicate that one of the things which chiefly ails the United States today is that it is battleship poor. So are other naval powers.-

#### St. Louis Post. CENTER SHOTS.

Memory test: With what well known bird is the cranberry asso-ciated?—Chicago News.

Beer may be good for an illness, but illness is good for a beer.—Flint Journal.

and the audience may break some home-run records.-Muskegon Women are said to be rapidly increasing in height. Do you sup-pose it comes from standing up for their rights?—Toledo Blade.

Babe Ruth will sing in vaudeville,

Correspondent suggests a tag day to raise money for the soldiers' bonus. Why not? There is still one Friday left in each year that is not a tag day.—Richmond Times Dis-

patch. Russia is said to be ready to recognize" the old imperial debts. Why not? Quite a number of European nations "recognize" their debts to this country.-Greenville (S. C.)

## of the girls, but it is also true of the farm hands. If they are paid anything like wages the farmer thinks he owns him, not to say he is always given the worst bed in the house, nearly always an attle room, cold in winter and unbearably hot in summer. Meals of all sorts, dirt and filth in some places, which a

he says, "we pay so high for every thing we had to eat and it is jus

money out all the time." And one farmer's wife said to me one time that she would not mind living in

town if she knew she could always have the money to meet all the little

bills that were always coming in.
Yes, that is what keeps us all
guessing, as well as working and

planning in every way to meet them. MRS. H. H.

road Man's Wife" is talking about, too, "Three cheers" for her. There

are only three in our family and in this town \$30 a month would just

pay for our grocery, meat and milk.

America and Ireland.

Milford, Neb., Dec. 3.—To the Editor of The Bee: I notice in The

Bee today a letter from Alfred Adams, who, in part, asks the American people to lend their aid and sympathy to the cause of Ire-

land and stating there will be no peace in Europe till Ireland is free. I would say, we are Americans and

have enough to attend to with our own affairs, and if anyone wants to

spend his own money on Ireland or any other country let them do

so, but let our country keep out of other people's affairs. I would like

land, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, are not all governed by the same

constitution and general laws ex-cept in local affairs. England, Scot-land and Wales are happy and con-

land that is not for the best for the whole people. If we have a few in

would say go over there and do so.

They are not Americans. I am an

American, first, last and all th time. G. W. WOODRUFF.

America who want to mix in,

other people's affairs. I would to know if the British Isles,

tented, why not Ireland? It is be some disturbing element in

P. S .- Yes, I know what "A Rail-

girl could help and remedy, but a man must put up with it.

Now, my husband is a railroad man. He worked at the hardest kind of work for seven years to learn his trade, only to be laid off a nformality evokes the deepest, most profound expression of year ago now. We have had to leave our home, which we were buyartistic talent. The ing, and move to another town in a different part of the state in order soul of the artist pours forth in beaut to get his kind of work again. In our home town I positively know of one farmer who thought all of us iful interpretation in the presence of personal friends. At such times the

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