

# THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING)—EVENING—SUNDAY

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## The Bee's Platform

1. New Union Passenger Station.
2. Continued improvement of the Nebraska Highways, including the paving with a Brick Surface of Main 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 Battle of 1922.

As the new year brings the promise of greater strength to the cause of peace and concord between the nations, so far as physical warfare is concerned, so also it brings the certainty of an intensification of the economic strife that has grown to be so bitter within the last generation. Whatever it is, something is wrong, and until the cause is found and removed, the struggle will go on, gathering in force and increasing in its virulence until the world will be prepared for another debacle such as that through which we passed between 1914 and 1918.

No accumulation of good intentions, no repetition of platitudes, or reiteration of formulas will avert this. Only the exercise of good sense, the recognition of certain fundamental principles, moral as well as economic, will avert the disaster. And this recognition is lacking at the moment. Leaders of thought among the nations are not seriously at work striving to secure a settlement, but are feverishly endeavoring to gain an advantage. That competition can not avail to restore the world. The French demand for greater naval and military strength, the Japanese maneuver to secure a stronger hold on the Asiatic mainland, Germany's apparent determination to engulf all Europe under a smothering blanket of irredeemable fiat money, all are signs pointing to the same end.

Of all the nations, the United States alone is able to stand out from the prevailing madness. Such nations of Europe as are solvent are menaced by the bankruptcy of those that are not. Our government can and will redeem all its promises. The Hughes program was laid down in good faith, and such of its provisions as finally are agreed to will be observed in letter and in spirit by the United States. Not only in this but in other ways are we striving to help. A bridge of boats is forming to carry to starving Russia 20,000,000 bushels of grain, only a small portion of our surplus food stuffs, yet enough to feed hungry women and children, to aid the soviet government to renew in some measure at least its attempt to correct its mistakes and get the country on a working basis once more. Trade opportunities are presented to all the European peoples, but only on sound conditions, and in other ways we are useful.

The battle of 1922 will be fought in the councils of nations, and only as they are willing to mitigate their claims, discount their aspirations and postpone their ambitions, will they make progress towards recovery and draw away from the disaster that now looms so big because of the program they have adopted.

## Disappointing to Democrats.

The move made by Governor McElvein in calling an extra session of the legislature has apparently irritated the Nebraska democrats beyond endurance. Only on this ground can we account for the steady fire of adverse criticism that is being aimed at the plan from the opposition. Having preceded the call for the legislature by announcing that he is not seeking any office, particularly not that of United States senator, the governor disarmed any allegation that he is trying to make political capital out of an effort to relieve a distressing condition. Nebraska's citizens, who are mainly farmers, find themselves embarrassed on account of low prices. Taxes are delinquent, and oppressive under the circumstances. Governor McElvein has undertaken to find a way to relieve this situation to some extent. To carry out his plan he must have the assistance of the legislature, for certain laws will have to be repealed, and perhaps some others passed. Because he has done this, every democratic popular in the state is blazing away at him. It would have been far better to let bad go to worse, in order that next fall the untrified spellbinders might shout their denunciations of republican incompetency. Whether the governor anticipated this or not the effect of his action is to rob the calamity shouters of one of their biggest sources of inspiration. The republicans are trying to do something to help the state, and the democrats are not pleased; that is all the politics in the incident.

## Extending the Police Service.

As might have been expected, The Bee proposal that the efficiency of the service performed by the Omaha police be extended by adding to the force sufficient men to permit the proper patrolling of residence districts is getting general support. The necessity for this increase is admitted, and public opinion in connection therewith is being well exhibited to the commissioner. The main question is from whence to take the needed funds. A general cut in estimates will have to be made, but that is a matter of course, for conforming to long-established tradition, preliminary estimates always allow for liberal shrinkage. In this case a net reduction will have to be figured out in some, in order that

the police force may be supplied with the needed money. Property owners will be content if in some other departments economies are practiced, that the safety of the city's homes be made the more secure by the habitual presence of policemen in sections where today they are unseen.

## Privacy in Funeral Services.

One of man's commonest traits is to make a public spectacle of his mourning when called upon to sustain the death of a relative or friend. Whether sincere or not, he displays emblems of sorrow, assumes distinctive badges of grief, and otherwise advertises to the world that he is or was interested in the departed, and keenly feels the loss. When one who has been prominent in affairs, whether of community or nation, goes to his long home, as in the days of Ecclesiasticus, "the mourners go about the streets."

Accustomed to the ostentation that follows the body of a prominent citizen to the tomb, the public is naturally astonished at the rigid privacy that marked the funeral of Boies Penrose. He was a big figure in the popular eye, a character of national importance, had done great public service, had many friends and possibly some enemies. That he should be buried under the reported conditions is in no sense a reflection on his memory or on the taste and judgment of his relatives. It is entirely within the bounds of reason and decency that the public be excluded from the sanctity of private grief.

However, Senator Penrose did not belong exclusively to his family, for the people of Pennsylvania had some claim on him, having honored him with their trust and commission on many occasions; the people of the United States also had an interest in him, and it would not have been a violation of the family's rights if some recognition had been made of the greater obligation, and the public have been afforded an opportunity to testify its sense of loss at it had been permitted to certify its appreciation of service while Boies Penrose lived.

Yet the dead statesman will rest as serenely and be remembered as long as the nation had marched behind the hearse in mourning cortège, but to the record of his public achievements will be appended the curious account of how he was laid away with such secrecy as will cause wonder for a time.

## Where Children Grow Best.

Other things than corn grow tall in Iowa. Children there exceed the average height for those of the same age in the country as a whole by one-fifth of an inch, an investigation by the children's bureau has shown. New York City children are half an inch below the average stature, while in California children averaged two-fifths of an inch above normal. The explanation is offered that the presence in New York of a large percentage of short races, such as the Italian and Jewish, is responsible for its standing, but the middle west, which considers itself ably represented by Iowa, still will feel that there is more opportunity to bring up strong, healthy children here than in the crowded metropolis. It is worth noting, however, that the proportion of children whose parents were born in the United States is 82.2 per cent in Iowa, 62.4 per cent in California and only 22.7 per cent in New York City.

The average boy in the United States, 71 months old, is found to be 43.87 inches tall and to weigh 41.60 pounds. The boys are a little taller and heavier than girls of the same age, these averaging 43.52 inches and 40.56 pounds. The examination of these groups in three separate parts of the United States, while it shows the advantages to be with the west, still has not shown any difference great enough to be disquieting. There is movement back and forth throughout America, a thorough mixing, and instead of anticipating increased differences between the residents of one end of the country and another, a gradual coming together may be expected. Iowa probably will continue to produce huskier children than the crowded cities of the east, but many of them, as many of those from California and all the rest of the west, will later go east, there to mix their sturdy qualities in the general average.

## Will H. Hays and the Movies.

The Bee wants to go record to the effect that if the moving picture magnates have succeeded in getting Postmaster General Hays to take the position of executive head of that industry, they have picked a mighty good man. Mr. Hays has made a record that is not likely to be surpassed very soon. He took over the affairs of the republican party in Indiana when the organization was pretty well shot to pieces, and put them in such fine working order that a great victory was gained. Then he did a similar job for the republican party on a national scale. Having thus proved his capacity, he was given the task of rebuilding the service of the Postoffice department, which Albert Sidney Burleson had completely demoralized and almost totally wrecked. Nine months of his presence there shows results in a restored morale, and extended service and renewed confidence in the department by public and employee alike. If Will H. Hays can do this, he surely is the man to get the movie business straightened out. Some comment might be indulged, though, on a state of affairs that will permit a group of business men to outbid the government for the services of a man of his capacity. However, there is no likelihood of the public ever paying a postmaster general \$150,000 a year, even if the business under his management does amount to half a billion dollars, and comes more closely home to the people who pay for it than any of the other departments of the federal government. They will pay it, however, if the movies get him.

A member of the city zoning commission in Baltimore suggests that the municipality buy tracts of land and develop home sites, collecting any increase in value of the land for the general good and the public treasury. This may be logical, but it is at least somewhat in advance of the times.

Returns are still coming in from the yuletide gayety, but the death roll up to date resembles that of the old-fashioned Fourth of July. A crusade for a safe and sane Christmas is next in order.

The farmer has no reason to complain of lack of advice or sympathy, if he can use either.

"Pill boxes" for the police will be all right if they live up to the name.

Uncle Sam seems determined to make some promoters come through.

East Omaha remains in Iowa, all right

THE BEE: OMAHA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1922.

## Challenge to France

Submarine Incident Direct

Invitation for Declaration.

(From the New York Times)

Lord Lee's suggestion that the French government disavow and repudiate Captain Castex's commendation and advocacy of the German method of using submarines to sink merchantmen, by instructing the French delegation at the conference to vote for Mr. Root's second resolution, was a challenge that can not be evaded by asserting that the French government accepts no responsibility for Captain Castex's article in the Revue Maritime. When it was published the First Lord of the Admiralty was chief of staff to the admiral of the Second division in the Mediterranean. More recently Captain Castex has just been appointed principal lecturer to the senior officers course.

In 1922, the French government as Admiral De Bon says, can give the statement on the title page of the Revue Maritime that the admiral and general staff disclaim responsibility for the views of contributors, but the Revue Maritime is a naval general staff publication; also it may be assumed that Captain Castex will feel himself at liberty to inculcate his theories of submarine warfare when he lectures to his class of senior officers.

In the remarks which Lord Lee made to the conference on Friday last he showed by extracts from Captain Castex's article that this French staff officer affirmed that the Germans were "absolutely justified" in resorting to the "new form of warfare."

Thanks to the submarine, after many centuries of effort, thanks to the ingenuity of man, the instrument, the system, the martingale is at hand which will overthrow by good

He was capable of prolonged, wearing effort, seemed to require comparatively little sleep. If he had emotions he never permitted himself to indulge in them. Legend had it he had no appetite, and no passion of any sort touched him.

He was given to such violent headaches and brain storms that many thought him an epileptic.

The only other physical ailment of the period was bladder trouble, a complaint that annoyed him greatly all his life, the basis for which no physician was able to find.

This Napoleon reached hisheyday about the time of the battles of Austria and Siena.

And this is how Dr. Louis Bertram interprets Napoleon from the standpoint of his ductless glands. All his life he was under the influence of a gland—the pituitary.

And this is why Dr. Bertram was in evidence at Moscow, and thereafter the change was progressive until death closed the scene at St. Helena. His judgment, towards the last, was poor. His character of mind underwent a remarkable change.

He ceased to manifest any sexual tendencies.

He died of cancer of the stomach. The autopsy showed a lot of fat in the abdominal wall and around the hips. He was stout and well belled.

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