

THE OMAHA BEE

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The Bee's Platform 1. New Union Passenger Station. 2. Continued improvement of the Nebraska Highways...

Medals and Soldiers and Bonuses.

One of the "super-heroes" of the recent war was searched out at West Hoboken, N. J., the other day and given one more medal to add to his already generous collection.

But his customary veil of modesty long enough to remark that he's glad to have a job "after fifteen months of pounding the pavements looking for one and never finding it."

In this one paragraph, telling of the experience of one individual, is explanation for other things of tremendous importance to the country. There is little doubt but that the insistent demand for a soldier bonus, which constitutes the nation's great political and economic problem today, results largely from just this thing—the failure of many soldiers to find means of livelihood once the war is over and they must make a living by arts of peace.

After all, man is a creature of emotion and of changing emotions at that. That explains much that is going on today. At the same time it is the hope of the future. As these inequalities and abuses are wiped out—as they must be—the ex-soldier may be expected to forget his grievances as he has today forgotten something of the glory of his service.

Yap and the World's Peace.

Notes taken in the senate on Tuesday indicate that the treaties that were formulated by the arms conference all will be ratified by the senate. Proceedings also indicate that the democrats and the irreconcilable senators propose to exhaust their privileges in offering reservations and making speeches denouncing the treaties.

Cruelty to Pocketbooks.

Simultaneously with the halting into court of a group of accused of get-rich-quick financing the Omaha Chamber of Commerce has formed a committee to protect the public from promotion swindlers. It is time legitimate business men set about protecting their customers from fake concerns.

Exposure has followed exposure—and yet how short is human memory, that after the hard experience of past speculations people should still be willing to seek a short cut to wealth. "There is a full right now in the stock selling line," says "Financial Facts," "but have no fear, your friend, the stock promoter will be back, bigger than

ever, and the public's money will flow his way again, the same as it has done, off and on, as far back as you can remember." This is far from flattering, and yet there is in it a pretty compliment—just this, business must be getting a lot better around the middle west now if it has to watch its pocketbook so no confidence man can get at its contents.

In Fairness to the Schools.

Employing the cost of the city schools as an argument to support a plea for lower taxes is scarcely fair, unless the elements of the problem are clearly set out. It is true that the expense of maintaining the Omaha schools has increased over the prewar cost, and that taxes collected for school purposes have mounted from \$1,393,753.31 in 1917 to \$2,272,309.87 for 1921, an increase of \$878,556.56, or a little more than 63 per cent.

This only tells part of the story. Everything that enters into the cost of carrying on the schools has equally advanced, the principal items being teachers' pay and the cost of maintenance. Not only that, but a large number of school rooms have been added, to care for the children coming in, and for whom provision must be made. This item will grow as long as Omaha grows, for each year brings on its new crop of babies who have come up to school age and are demanding accommodations.

Economy in public school operation may be achieved by reducing the pay of teachers, by lowering the cost of fuel, cutting janitors' wages, buying books and other needed supplies cheaper, reducing interest rates on borrowed money. Which of these expedients will be recommended to the school board? Omaha's schools have always been maintained at a high standard, and the citizens will not now cheerfully assent to their efficiency being lowered.

In passing, two other points should be noted. It is misleading to compare the present situation with that of 1914, because then South Omaha, Dundee, Benson and Florence were outside of Omaha proper. Each of these brought in its funded debt, as well as its physical property and its quota of children. Some of the taxes now collected go to take care of the interest on the bonds issued by the suburban school boards prior to annexation. Then, in 1916 the sum of \$326,000 was received from retail liquor licenses. Continue this to 1921, and we have \$1,630,000, compensated for by taxes raised in the five years since prohibition took effect, to replace the license money. Subtract \$114,669 paid for the part of the year of 1917, and the remainder, \$1,515,331, is less than enough to care for the accumulated deficit of \$1,802,825.25, which stood against the school district on July 1, 1921. So, with liquor licenses paid, the rate of taxation would have had to be the same, if the school district were kept on a cash basis.

School expenses have increased, because the schools have grown in number and size; because there are more children to teach, and because teachers are paid better wages, because janitors get more pay, because fuel is higher, and because the school district is compelled to pay 5 1/2 per cent on money it once collected at 4 1/2 per cent.

Between Sport and Hoodlumism.

Omaha has just had another manifestation of a law of biogenesis. The high school boys who staged a riotous demonstration on the streets Tuesday evening, fighting, throwing bricks and smashing shop windows, were repeating the life of, say, 500 centuries ago. However, for the good of their souls and the safety of others, they ought to be given a lesson in the discipline that has replaced the unrestrained exercise of the primitive emotions. First of all, they should be made to know that one of the dearest of human rights is the right to own property, and that the possessions of another are to be respected accordingly. After this is indelibly impressed on their minds, they should be given a lesson in sportsmanship. Games are played, not to win, but to develop qualities sadly lacking in the unruly youths who vented their chagrin at defeat in conduct that might be expected from savages, but which is unseemly in civilized communities. The man who can not sustain a reverse with strength and dignity does not deserve to win. This does not mean to be a "good loser," but it does mean that defeat is only disgraceful when accompanied by petulance and anger. School spirit is commendable, and deserves to be encouraged, but it should not be made a warrant for hoodlumism.

In New York City one out of every 19 physicians is a woman and there is a woman lawyer to every 44. There are 700,000 women gainfully employed there, and the only decrease from one census to the other was in the number of waitresses and household servants. Can it be with the improvement of mechanical appliances domestic work is being done with less outside aid?

The National Security league has erupted from the tomb long enough to urge that school children be made to study the federal constitution; the trouble with such a law as this is that it might make this national ark extremely unpopular with the boys and girls. After all, it is not so much a matter of what is in the constitution as the application of it that affects our lives.

Now Jeannette Rankin's brother has filed for the United States senate, and no doubt the former congresswoman will do as much to get him the republican nomination as her brother did to make her a national figure.

The supreme court has also put the "suffs" out in the clear, which will about establish the validity of the nineteenth amendment. It is the eighteenth, however, that is causing most complaint.

A third hat has appeared in the ring, denoting a desire on part of another republican to serve as governor. Evidently the new party has not frightened anybody.

It seems particularly fitting that the farmers around Friend, Neb., should be contributing corn to the Armenian relief.

A new head of the Postoffice department will soon be due, but that fact has not disturbed the mails.

Thirty tons of dynamite gave Chicago a jar, but not enough to set up reformation.

Omaha can spare a "Raffles" or two better than a politician.

Everything is set, March; turn your lion loose.

Europe's Debt to America

What Refunding Our Loans to Foreign Governments May Entail.

The problem of Europe's indebtedness to the United States will be a live issue for many years to come, the National Bank of Commerce in New York believes. Because of the present world-wide business depression, the confusion in international trade, and the financial difficulties of the nations of Europe, refunding legislation does not settle the large question of international obligations, the bank says in the March number of its magazine, Commerce Monthly.

"Foreign governments owe the United States approximately \$1,000,000,000, largely on the demand for it. On February 9 the president signed a bill creating a commission to arrange the refunding of these obligations. The commission is specially empowered within three years to refund and extend the time of payment of the principal or the interest of any obligation of any foreign government arising out of the World War."

It seems reasonable to predict that the commission will extend as lenient terms to our former allies in the matter of refunding these debts as are possible under the terms of the present legislation. In the country at large there are two well defined opinions as to the question of the cancellation of the debts.

"The case for cancellation was well stated in a recent address by Mr. Justice Clarke of the United States supreme court. The arguments run that for three years the allies fought the war that they might be able to meet their interest obligations, and one against the full cancellation of the debts.

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How to Keep Well

By DR. W. A. EVANS

Questions concerning hygiene, sanitation, diet, and other matters of interest to the public, will be answered personally and promptly by Dr. Evans, who is a member of the American Medical Association, and a specialist in the treatment of diseases. Address letters in care of The Bee. Copyright, 1922.

ROOTING OUT SKIN CANCER.

Between January and May there is a marked tendency for the skin of the middle aged people to become rough. Here and there scabs, brown spots, warts and horns appear. In sections of the country where the humidity of the air is in such places are prone to appear during the season of hot, dry weather.

In the main these rough patches are entirely harmless, and except for being unsightly, cause no harm. But every so often some such patch will become cancerous, form a bleeding, warty growth, or begin to ooze.

When this happens the probability is that if it is not already done so, it should be done so. Fortunately, these skin cancers are much more easily cured when they are taken early than when they are taken late. Even plasters will cure some of them, though they are so uncertain in their results, and the use of such unsightly scars that they are seldom used now.

Dr. Charles F. Bowen says in Ohio Health that a combination of electro-therapeutic treatment and treatment by X-ray or radium is the best method. A little novocaine and adrenaline is injected into the tumor. This acts as a local anesthetic and stops hemorrhage.

Next, some form of electricity is used to burn away so much of the growth as projects above the skin. This can be done with an ordinary electric cauterizer, or it can be done with the electro-therapeutic apparatus. The burned tissue is scraped away and the bottom of the pit is again burned. On the assumption that, however thorough removal might have been, some cancer tissue may have been left behind, the open ulcer is treated with X-rays or with radium.

Some cases can be cured by X-rays alone, others by radium alone, and others by electro-therapeutic treatment alone, but where any one method is used alone experience has taught that some cases are not benefited.

Dr. Bowen says that in his experience where electro-therapeutic treatment is followed by scraping away of the charred tissue and treatment by radium, it has been found that the patients are sent home with an open ulcer and are instructed to return for observation in one month.

When they get back in the great majority of cases it is found that the ulcer has healed over and the skin cancer has been eradicated until glands are involved and cure is more difficult.

It is generally necessary to treat the tumor with X-rays or with radium needles. Bright's Disease Likely. Michigan subscriber writes: "I recently decided to increase my life insurance and, of course, was required to submit to a physical examination. Upon examination the doctor found that my urine contained albumin."

"What causes albumin to appear in the urine more than one cause, please name the principal ones." "Is this considered serious, and is it liable to lead into some other sickness or disease which might be dangerous?" "Is there a cure, and what would you advise me to do?"

REPLY. 1. Among the more important causes are nephritis or inflammation of the kidney, pus in the urine, blood in the urine. 2. Yes—very. In most cases it means some form of Bright's disease. 3. Put yourself in the hands of a physician and follow directions.

Benefit Nerves Indeed! E. M. D. writes: "Will taking triple bromide tablets three or four times daily benefit the nerves, or will it form a drug habit—that is, is it a drug?"

REPLY. Bromide is a drug. Those who acquire the bromide habit do not know the same kind of craving that they have the same difficulty in leaving it off. Bromide is not a drug, it is not a disease in the same sense that morphine addiction is. There are people who take bromide somewhat habitually, and apparently are not particularly harmed thereby. I had a story last September about certain uses of bromide that produce harm. "Benefiting the nerves" is a very loose term. As a rule people with "nerves" need training and not drugs.

Let the Bells Ring Out. E. G. E. writes: "I am engaged to be married to a very fine young man who seems to be in fine health. He is 10 inches tall and weighs 160 pounds. When a boy of 14 he had three hemorrhages of the lungs, but has not had an attack since and has, apparently, been in good health. He is now 30 years old. "Do you believe it possible (with good care) for him never to have another attack?"

REPLY. I do. Don't Get Pill Habit. X. Y. Z. writes: "Will you please name a list of laxative foods? I have been bothered with constipation for the last year. I eat bran, fruit, figs, etc."

REPLY. Bran, whole grain breads, whole grain cereals, onions, prunes, figs, vegetables and fruits generally. Sour milks. Bunton Operations. Mrs. H. F. P. writes: "Can bunions be successfully operated on?"

REPLY. Yes. The simpler operations are better than the severe ones. CENTER SHOTS. Never let of till tomorrow, some one you can do today.—Syracuse Herald.

Many a man who races to the crossing to save time gets all eternity.—Greenville Piedmont. The date of the Genoa conference seems to be uncertain as to whether the Japanese withdrawal from Siberia.—Boston Transcript.

According to a German scholar in Pittsburgh, Shakespeare was a German and his name Jacob Speer. The war is over.—Chicago Daily News. Secretary Hughes is off for a vacation in Bermuda. We can understand why, for the sake of variety, he should choose an island not in the Pacific.—New York Post.

It has got so now that lots of college presidents are saying things about their students that are almost as unkind as the things students have always said about the presidents.—Oregon Journal.

The Bee's Letter Box

An Inspiration for the Blind.

Omaha, Feb. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: Many blind people of Nebraska mourned the death of Harry Jacobson, who was born in Omaha on November 8, 1882, and was buried this month at Springwell cemetery. He lost his sight at the age of 8 after an attack of diphtheria. He was educated at the state school for the blind at Nebraska City, and during the last 12 years lived in Columbus, Neb., where he was a member of the Commercial club. He became proficient as a piano tuner and always had the best interests of the blind at heart. Many recalled him unusually skilled as a tuner. Last September he was stricken with a malady which necessitated an operation. He recovered sufficiently to return to his work, but suffered a relapse in January, when he submitted to an operation which necessitated an operation. His life was a demonstration of the possibilities of the blind. E. B.

Brains to Rule. Council Bluffs, Feb. 25.—To the Editor of The Bee: Your customary excellent editorials were well exemplified in the editorial of even date under the caption "Training for the Law." The true facts are that the principles your editorial so soundly accepted to amount simply to this: It is an invidious and unpardonable effort to hold the poor fellow down where he is and thus leave a wider field of favor to some and disfavor to others. It is the democracy of aristocracy. In other words, it is the special privilege of those people of corporations organized as the political ideals of this great and splendid country as a ponderous wall, would become or add to the field of favored some and disfavor to others. It is an unpardonable effort to create a monopoly for the wealthy and that class of corporations organized as schools. It is a further effort in our straight-jacket trend. Brains rule and govern the world, I say, leave brains unshackled. I say, leave those entitled to the best who are correspondingly equipped regardless of whether, how or when or where the equipment was gained. Let us steer clear of government by cliques. Are our public servants doomed and certain to convince the slumbering intellect that the highest ideals of Americanism are sought to be relegated? MATTHEW LILLIG.

Veteran Replies to M. M. B. Kearney, Neb., Feb. 26.—To the Editor of The Bee: M. M. B. says that it is refreshing to see one not afraid to raise his voice in protest regarding the soldier bonus. M. M. B. can say that through The Bee's letter, but just let him get up before a congregation of Legionnaires, D. A. V.'s, or V. F. W. and express those opinions, even right here in his own town.

Was M. M. B. a war veteran? It's a safe bet that he wasn't. Very likely he hid behind a woman's skirt or an \$8 a day job. No wonder he is opposed to the bonus—he was making a stake while we were making it possible for him.

When the war was over I went back to my old job; a girl was doing the work I was doing when the war broke out. It is needless to say that there was no job there for me. I went home. The only work I could find was farm work and I was disdained to the extent that I could do no hard work. I was out of work about three-fourths of the time from the time I was discharged until I came home. I was in vocational training.

I put in about three years and four months in France, the biggest portion of which time I was in action. We were detailed for cannon fodder at a monthly wage of \$23, while M. M. B. and others like him sat back here and held the soft jobs and received from \$6 to \$8 per day, six days a week, and a day and a half of bullets. Is it not fair that we should receive some per cent of that easy money that we made possible? When I came home for a job after the war I discovered that, in order for me to be sure of getting that job it was best for me not to mention that I was an ex-soldier. In calling M. M. B. a liar I will state that not 5 per cent of the jobs were held for the men who left them and went to war. GEORGE P. AVERY. 2 eme Legion Extrangere and Company, First U. S. Engineers, First Division.

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Jews Set Churchmen an Example

From the Continent.

Very cordial respect is sure to go out to the orthodox rabbis of the Jewish faith who have just voted that unfermented grape juice is an entirely acceptable ceremonial drink with which to celebrate the sacramental feasts of their religion. They are much—though not entirely not conclusive—evidence for believing that the Jews anciently drank on their sacred occasions wines not fermented. But through medieval and modern times at least they have used alcoholic wines. And the decision of these American Jewish leaders is not made on historic grounds; it is an entirely contemporary action prompted by a desire to put themselves in line with their country's prohibition sentiment. They were moved, too, by the knowledge that in some cases the legal privilege granted rabbis to buy wine had been availed of by impostors personating rabbis to obtain liquor for beverage purposes. Not even thus remotely were these men willing to have their faith associated in the popular thought with bootlegging.

Confronted with this example, what are Catholic priests and Episcopalian rectors going to do? Will they continue to insist on the preposterous proposition that alcohol is required in the wine of the mass or eucharist to give the sacrament validity? Of course, as long as they do so insist, the law will protect them in their right to have alcoholic wine. American religious liberty will not fail. But how can the clergy of any church retain public respect while continuing to affirm that only in grape juice aged enough to be called wine is there any sacrament? Can there be found the sacredness which the God of heaven is willing to bless? Do they really mean to say that the liquid as he made it in the grape is not holy enough for God to accept in the service of his worship? There is no theological reason, even in the

most extreme Romanist theories, for insisting on an intoxicant liquor as the altar of God; nothing but precedent can be thought to require it. But no Christian precedent in that line is so strong as Jewish precedent. And the Jews have let their ancient habit go because they see it outworn in a new civilization. Are not Romanists and Episcopalian ready to be as good Americans?

Induced by Unindorsement. The Pan-Germans are ridiculing the Washington conference—new testimony to its success.—Syracuse Post-Standard.

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