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JOY M. HAC
Editor in Chief Business

JOY M. HACKIER, Business Manager MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RESPONSIBILITY THAT GOES WITH OFFICE. When the president of the United States takes

office he assents to this oath: "I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of the president of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United

That is the simplest form of obligation presented to the ruler of any great power. Its terms are clear, distinct, and with only a single meaning. The Constitution of the United States carefully outlines the powers, the duties and the responsibilities of the president of the United States, and also those of

congress and of the courts. For many years the country prospered under the reasonable application of the provisions of the Constitution. Men who were called to high office accepted the responsibility as well as the honors, and served their country "to the best of my ability." A line of presidents from George Washington down to Calvin Coolidge have assented to that oath of office, kissing the Bible in attestation of their sincerity, and under God have served the people well.

Now we are coming to a new day, and aspirants for the office of president of the United States would like to be relieved from the provisions of the Constitution. Senator La Follette is particularly anxious that the fundamental law of the land be so amended as to shear from the supreme court the power to finally determine the validity of any act passed by the legislative body. To similarly strip the executive of his powers will be an easy step, once the court is brought into subjection, and the government of "checks and balances" as it has existed for 135 years under the Constitution is de-

stroyed. John W. Davis comes forward with another pro posal, equally far-reaching in its immediate effects, and certain to have as deep and profound an influence of the course of our government. He would have the existing method of negotiating treaties modified, to the end that the house as well as the senate be consulted, and that a majority instead of a two-thirds vote be sufficient to ratify.

Both of these proposals are in line with the attitude of Victor L. Berger, who insists that the Constitution is a worn-out document, and so should no longer be amended, but should be discarded in toto and something entirely new be substituted. His argument is that the people should be permitted at any time to change their fundamental law, so that the government, instead of resting on established principles, will be the whim of whatever faction may at the moment be in power. And this means the logical end of socialism-anarchy.

In both the Davis and La Follette proposals the same thought is contained. A longing to escape responsibility. Our officers, from the highest to the lowest, are chosen to fill necessary places in the machinery of the government. Each assumes a definite duty, prescribed by law and sanctified by custom. In the case of the president, one of these duties is to negotiate treaties, by and with the advice and consent of the senate. Senators are selected as presidents are, and have similar responsibilities. One of these is to decide on treaties proposed by the president. For 135 years these duties have been carried out for the good of the republic. How will the public be served by increasing the number of those who are to debate the questions contained in a treaty? Or to lessen the proportion of votes needed for ratification of a treaty?

Yet the democratic candidate for president asks in advance that he be relieved as far as possible from the responsibility of making bargains with foreign powers. He does not want to accept a burden that was borne by every president of the United States. an authority that rightfully goes with the office. Why does he not do as did Mr. Bryan, in the matter of declaring war, propose that treaties be sent to a referendum of all the people?

Under God, the source of all power in the United States is the people. Through selected representatives the people undertake to express their desires. These are framed into laws, and these laws are administered by the men selected for the purpose by the people. If these men are to be permitted to shirk all the responsible functions of their offices, and return to the people for decision on every point that arises, we might as well abolish the offices, and settle everything by referendum.

The alternative to this is to put into office men who have the high moral courage to observe the requirements of their oath, and "to the best of my ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

WHAT'S WRONG WITH PERSIA.

A rather stern note has gone from Washington to the Persian government, regarding the Imbrie murder. Chiefly, the note holds the Persian authorities responsible for the preservation of peace and order in their own country. This includes proper police protection for foreigners. The Persian government should be impressed by the language of the note, but how far it can go in carrying out the terms prescribed is doubtful.

Persia's government has not been an especially

dependable unit in the general scheme of nations for many years. Long before the war an effort was made to put its affairs on a sound basis, but the American agent, who was making some headway, was ousted at the instance of the Russian government. Russia, Germany and England all played for Persia. The drive to the east was urgent with each of these great powers, and gave Persia a fictitious importance the shah and his court were quick to take advantage of.

When the World War ended, England was in possession of the land, but Lloyd-George met great opposition at home and abroad, his effort to tie the Persians to England by generous loans arousing much resentment. At about this time, the Russian penetration was resumed. All around northern Persia the soviets have set up a ring of republics, and the agitators have steadily pushed into the interior. Along with this comes renewal of the Japanese propaganda of Asia for the Asiatics. Tossed about on these varying currents, governmental authority in Persia has been much weakened, until it now exists more as a name than a fact.

If Imbrie was the victim of a mob, as he seems to have been, and that mob was inspired by a dislike for foreigners rather than by religious fanaticism, as also seems probable, the task of complying with the requirements of the United States will not be easy. Sometime a stable government may again prevail over the ancient empire, but at present it is clinging to a rather precarious hold.

HELPING OUT IN EUROPE.

When Hon. "Pat" Harrison was sky-rocketing Madison Square Garden last June, he emitted the following words, with reference to the attitude of the administration toward European affairs:

"Never before in all its history has America turned a deaf ear to the appeal of humanity, or the call of civilization. Foreign countries have sought our advice. They have pleaded for our counsel; but lo! their supplications have been ignored and their pleas rejected."

This was not true at the time, and "Pat" Harrison knew it, but it had a sonorous, resonant sound, so he let it ride along with a lot of other foolish rant. At the time that speech was delivered the public had been advised that the United States would have a part in the meeting now in progress in London. The purpose of that meeting was to discuss ways and means for putting into effect the report of the Dawes commission. Both of these proofs of the willingness and readiness to co-operate with Europeans in settling their affairs right were known to Senator Harrison, and to every delegate in the democratic national convention, yet they rapturously cheered him when he asserted to the contrary.

A newer proof of the influential presence of Americans at the conference is contained in the statements from London that Colonel Logan, unofficial observer, has intervened to avert a breach between England and France. Because of his compromise suggestion, the conference is able to proceed. More than that, the eventful successful adoption of the Dawes plan is made secure by this inter-

Yet "Pat" Harrison and those who follow him will insist that the administration has abandoned Europe, and as "Pat" so chastely puts it, "skulked and complacently looked on." The president and his helpers are doing all they can to aid Europe, and are doing it the more effectively, because they are aiding the Europeans to aid themselves. Peace and deep set facts.

Alterials do not hesiate to say wins. The common layman cannot she should have and what she should have granted a franchise for, and that only was a bus line in his helpers are doing all they can to aid Europe, and are doing it the more effectively, because they are aiding the Europeans to aid themselves. Peace and understanding will come to the people of the Old World, but not because of the bombastic utterance of a democratic keynoter. It will be through practical help and advice from men who are sincere the people of the street railway system, and if not, then she should resort to municipal ownership of the street railway lines and the base one to the secretary of the navy and one to the Army-Navy Journal, for, in my opinion, I do not believe would have protected the stockhold-would have protected the stockhold-would have protected the stockholdin their efforts and honest in their intentions. President Coolidge is doing his work well.

IT SIMPLY CAN NOT BE DONE.

Complaining about conditions is perfectly natural, but complaints not backed up by remedial suggestions are worthless. But change is not always remedial.

The most important nut on a machine is the loose nut. The most dangerous nut in government is the political "nut" who would substitute harebrained theory for demonstrated fact. No machine can perform its best work with loosened nuts; neither can government function properly when the attention of the voters is monopolized by the loose, "nuts" who denounce everything that is and would abandon the wisdom of the fathers to accept the dreams of the visionaries.

Progress can not be made, either by individuals governments, if every briar-sown bypath is explored and continued pause made to listen to the vociferations of wayside wanderers who condemn the wisdom of those who laid out the main road.

Laws can not compensate for lack of thrift and initiative. Neither can government do more for its people than they can do for themselves.

To expect government to do more than the people who form that government is to expect the impossible.

It simply can not be done.

Senator Capper has discovered that "the country needs a hard-boiled economizer like Coolidge." The senator's discovery was coincident with his other discovery that running for the senate in Kansas without standing up for Coolidge was very much like trying to bail out the ocean with a spoon,

A correspondent of the Chicago News asks the significance of the Y in Chicago's motto, "I Will," and the News replies that it represents the three branches of the Chicago river. The smell is left to the imagination.

Is there any significance in the fact that there are thirteen letters in the name f the democratic vice presidential candidate, Charles W. Bryan?

"Ol' Gimlet Eye" Butler appears to be an insufferable hore to the professional politicians of Philadelphia.

Speaking of "bobbed hair bandits," the barber bills may reveal some startling truths.

Homespun Verse -By Omaha's Own Poet-Robert Worthington Davie

LIVING.

When the day is o'er and we homeward trend We're glad and our hopes are high; Even though we fail as we journey ahead, It's fine to be willing to try.

When we're facing strife as we often do, And the sun in the fog reclines,-It's pleasant to know that it will push through,

And brighten our hearts when it shines. When our cares are many and hardships take Their toll as they often must,-

It's well that we may the grim forsake, And know what it means to trust. When the dark and the bright we incessantly meet,-We cannot but honestly know

That sharing the bitter is finding the sweet-As striving and trusting will show.

In Other Words



Letters From Our Readers

Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Please permit me to explicit on the Please permit me to explication of your article.

The ments, repairs, replacements and supplies. Then consider the amount of money your street car company has Intellectual Incertain press my appreciation of your article paid to the city, county, state and entitle, "Peace, Peace, and There Is the federal government in the way of No Peace," In your Sunday paper, taxes. Has the bus lines been and know what he is talking about he are they doing this with their supple ought to consult an allenist."

For clear, straight-shooting, honest truth, in my opinion, it certainly service at 10 cents per pastruth, in my opinion, it certainly senger? I think not.

"Alienisis do not hesitate to say a

ter handled.

Wants an 8-Cent Fare.

St. Louis, Mo .- To the Editor of allowed to charge 8 cents car fare. when a foreign corporation comes into your city, the bus, and, as I un-derstand, charges 10 cents fare with much inferior service. This is more astounding that such a privilege was granted by the municipality and probably by the state public utilities commission, when they know that the street railway has been for many years a principal mainstay and supplies the street railway has been for many years a principal mainstay and supplies district. The grain was been for many years in this district.

Abe Martin



Mr. and Mrs. Os Moss have gone housekeepin' so she'll have some place t' have things sent on approval. Remember when we used speak o' silk stockin' aristocracy? now nobuddy wears cotton stockin's 'cept a few people who've been rich a long time. Copyright, 1924.

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of money otherwise for improve flivver tank and hits 60 miles an

material could have been bethandled. E. S. HURLBUT. would have protected the stockholders of the street railway company, of whom there are many in the city of Omaha, the state of Nebraska, as well as nonresidents, against the rusion of nonresidents, stockholders and capital in competitive company very strange thing that the Omaha In the Omaha & Council Bluffs Street railway is not allowed to charge & control of the company of the Council Bluffs Street railway is not allowed to charge & control of the company of the Council Bluffs Street railway that is a 40-100 per cent stockholder, as our democratic friends have it now.

SPEEDY SALE.

years a principal mainstay and sup-port of your city, employing, as it does, several hundred motormen, con-ductors and other employes at a livng wage, and spending a great deal ing at 3:15 p. m., and placed on fast freight to Omaha, leaving the city at 450 p. m. It was delivered and sold before 11 o'clock Thursday. Me thi of the Blackhawk Grain com any was the buyer, and it was sold by Ed Hubbard at the Juniata eleva tor. The ordinary shipment is de-livered in about 78 hours, while this one was delivered in 18 hours.

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NET AVERAGE

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Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of July, 1924. W. H. QUIVEY,

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GOOD YEAR

ON THE DANCE FLOORS -.

That sunrise never failed us yet celia Tharter

THE RETURNING PRODIGALS.

They're coming back, they're coming back; from far Pacific They've heard Nebraska's harvest songs, their hearts are filled

For long they've fed upon the husks, their spirits all forlorn, And now they're coming back again to fields of waving corn. They hear afar the threshers' song, the sound of lowing kine, And so Nebraskaward they turn, their eyes with hope ashine.

And old Nebraska welcomes back these prodigals of yore—
They've learned their lesson, never fear; they'll never wander

They're coming back, they're coming back; from travels far

They've looked in vain while wand'ring far for states with And looked in vain, for nowhere else beneath the vaulted dome

Is one like old Nebraska—so that's why they're coming home.
They've had their fling; false proved their friends; their hopes have gone awry; So now they turn to home again beneath Nebraska's sky. And old Nebraska welcomes them, and gently smiles upon

These chastened prodigals of hers who never should have gone. It is the same old story. The prodigals are coming back. The highways are cluttered with their flivvers, and the tour-

ists' camps are alive with songs of joy that increase as Ne-braska draws nearer. Since time began the old story has been repeated over and over again. The fishing is always best on the other side of the creek, the grass is always longer and greener on the other side of the fence. But the fisherman who keeps his book baited and in the water catches more fish than the man who wanders along the water catches more him than the cow that attends to graz-banks. The most milk is from the cow that attends to graz-ing instead of looking all the time for a weak place in the fence. The men and women who had faith in Nebraska and

in ever increasing volume, and hope sits enthroned in the hearts of her sons and daughters who remained loyal and true. The thousands who listened to the lure of the far away, and followed the ignus fatuus of plenty without labor, are coming home, bowed by disappointment, but gaining new heart of hope as they draw nearer to the old home state that has never failed those who never failed her.

stuck to the old state through thick and thin, are now coming into their deserved reward. The song of prosperity is sounding

Of all things good Nebraska has the most; of those things evil Nebraska has the least. Like a lamp in the window, her light has been kept shining to guide the wanderers back home. Nebraska, like the wonderful mother she is, knew in her heart that sooner or later her prodigals would weary and yearn for the old rooftree. In times past her larder has been lean, but it has never been empty. Today it is filled with a bountiful store of all the good things of life.

Nebraska has the corn. That is why they must come to Nebraska. She has the wheat and the cattle and the hogs. She has the sugar and the fruits of vine and tree. As she pours forth the golden store of her garnered fields, she gathers in the golden flow of money that rewards the toiler, makes business better, builds homes and inspires to better citizenship.

Nebraska! She has no superior for fertility and pro-

An empire wrought by willing hands From wasted stretch of desert lands, She offers wealth to all who toil. To those who till her fertile fields The smile of God is on her soil— NEBRASKA!

Of course they are coming back. They realize now as never before what a mistake they made in the going.

WHLL M. MAUPIN.



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