

THE OMAHA BEE

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Omaha Where the West is at its Best

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 States."

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.

John W. Davis comes forward with another proposal, 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.

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.

Senator Capper has discovered that "the country needs a hard-boiled economist 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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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 at Madison Square Garden last June, he omitted 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 let 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.

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 eventual successful adoption of the Dawes plan is made secure by this intervention.

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 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 in their efforts and honest in their intentions.

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 hare-brained 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 or 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.

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

"O! Gimlet Eye" Butler appears to be an insufferable bore 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 fall as we journey ahead, It's fine to be willing to try.

In Other Words



Letters From Our Readers

All letters must be signed, but name will be withheld upon request. Communications of 200 words or less will be given preference.

Clear, Honest Truth. Omaha, Mo.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Please permit me to express my appreciation of your article entitled, "Peace, Peace, and There is No Peace," in your Sunday paper.

What Omaha should have and what she should have granted a franchise for, and that only was a bus line in addition and as a part of her street railway system, and if not, then she should resort to municipal ownership of the street railway lines and the buses as well.

Wants an 8-Cent Fare. St. Louis, Mo.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: It seems to me a very strange thing that the Omaha & Council Bluffs street railway is not allowed to charge 3 cents car fare, when a foreign corporation comes into your city, the bus, and, as I understand, charges 10 cents fare with much inferior service.

SPEDDY SALE. From the Hastings Tribune. The delivery of a carload of wheat at Omaha yesterday morning that was loaded at Juniata Wednesday afternoon is believed as one of the best records established in many years in this district.

Abbe Martin. Mr. and Mrs. Os Moss have gone to "housekeeping" so she'll have some place to have things sent on approval. Remember when we used to speak of silk stockin' aristocracy? An' now nobuddy wears cotton stockin' 'cept a few people who've been rich a long time.

When in Omaha Hotel Conant 250 Rooms—250 Baths—Rates \$2 to \$3

NET AVERAGE PAID CIRCULATION for June, 1924, of THE OMAHA BEE Daily 74,616 Sunday 76,224

6% NO COMMISSION 6% REAL ESTATE LOANS 6% INTEREST NO COMMISSION Easy Repayments The Conservative Savings & Loan Ass'n 1614 Harney Street

The Gas That Kills. "At least we've gotten rid of the rube who used to blow out the gas." "He's still with us," contradicted Uncle Bill Bottletop, "only he works different. He puts the gas in his flyover tank and hits 50 miles an hour."—Washington Star.

Intellectual Uncertainties. "When a man doesn't seem to know what he is talking about he ought to consult an alienist." "Why?" queried Miss Cayenne. "Alienists do not hesitate to say a little thing like that of one another."—Washington Star.

WANT to fix up for the longest run of low-tire-cost, low-truck-cost heavy-duty hauling your truck ever did? Put the new Goodyear Pneumatic Cushions on the front, the new Goodyear Heavy-Duty Cushions on the rear, and you're all set with the ideal truck tire combination.

Rusch Tire Service 2205 Farnam St. GOODYEAR

ON THE DANCE FLOORS—LET'S GET OUT! THIS WATER'S HOT ENOUGH FOR A SATURDAY NIGHT BATH! AT THE BEACHES—WONDER WHY SHERMAN WOULD SAY ABOUT THIS! BUT NOT AT THE RIALTO

SUNNY SIDE UP

Take Comfort, nor forget That sunrise never failed us yet Celia Thaxter

THE RETURNING PRODIGALS.

They're coming back, they're coming back; from far Pacific slopes. They've heard Nebraska's harvest songs, their hearts are filled with hope. For long they've fed upon the husks, their spirits all forlorn.

They're coming back, they're coming back; front travels far ahead. They've looked in vain while wand'ring far for states with better yield. And looked in vain, for nowhere else beneath the vaulted dome is one like old Nebraska—so that's why they're coming home.

It is the same old story. The prodigals are coming back. The highways are cluttered with their flivvers, and the tourists' camps are alive with songs of joy that increase as Nebraska draws nearer. Since time began the old story has been repeated over and over again.

But the fisherman who keeps his hook baited and in the water catches more fish than the man who wanders along the banks. The most milk is from the cow that attends to grazing instead of looking all the time for a weak place in the fence.

The thousands who listened to the lure of the far away, and followed the ignis 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.

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 wander and yearn for the old roof-tree. 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 productivity. An empire wrought by willing hands From a wasted stretch of desert lands, She offers wealth to all who toil. To those who till her fertile fields: Her richest need of treasure yields: 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. WILL M. MAUPIN.

Recreation in Endless Variety at any of MINNESOTA'S 10,000 LAKES The Land of the Sky Blue Water Here you have swimming—canoeing—fishing—hiking—riding—tennis—golf—dancing—every outdoor sport you can think of. Fashionable hotels, cottages and camps next door to the big pine woods and lakes. Bright, sunny days—delightful, cool nights. LOW SUMMER FARES Reach the 10,000 lakes via the Chicago Great Western. Fast time and good service. Send for free book, "The Land of the Sky Blue Water," telling where to go and what it costs.

There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight —By ICICI, JR. ON THE DANCE FLOORS—LET'S GET OUT! THIS WATER'S HOT ENOUGH FOR A SATURDAY NIGHT BATH! AT THE BEACHES—WONDER WHY SHERMAN WOULD SAY ABOUT THIS! BUT NOT AT THE RIALTO