

## Omaha-Where the West is at its Best

### POINT FOR FARMER TO WATCH.

La Folletteites pretend to appeal to farmers on purely economic grounds. Nothing of sentiment enters into it. Strictly business, from first to last. On the railroad question, the platform adopted, at Cleveland, and which represents the aspirations of the "Fighting Bob" group, is definite and explicit. It does not dally with any promises of reduced treight rates, better service, or anything of the kind. In plain, simple words, it says:

"Repeal of the Esch-Cummins act. Public ownership of railroads, with democratic operation and adequate safeguards against bureaucratic control."

That declaration is also implicit, but just what it implies can not be stated in a few words. If we accept the arguments of those who support the La Follette candidacy, the inefficiency of private management of transportation must have been amply proven in war times, when the government took over the railroads. But it isn't true. The "efficacy" of public management, in spite of all possible economies, produced a deficit in operating revenue amounting to exactly \$100,000,000 a month over a period of 27 months. The farmers of the United States are now paying their prorata share of the \$2,700,000,000 debt accumulated by the federal government during the time it was operating the railroads. Whether that was democratic management or bureaucratic control, it added an annual interest charge of \$114,750,000 to the burden of the taxpayer.

. . .

For the year 1923, railroad properties in Nebraska, except terminals, were valued for taxation at \$315,644,618. They paid taxes to the amount of \$681,289.23. If the government took over the ownership of the railroads, what would replace the hundreds of millions that would vanish from the tax roll? Who would pay the more than half a million dollars now collected by the state from the railroads? Would the farmer save enough in the difference in freight to compensate him for the addition that would be made in his tax bill? Where would the village of Mavelock get property to replace the \$2,324,110 of Burlington terminal property it now assesses? Or where would Sidney get something to take the place of the \$299,825 of Union Pacific terminals that appear on its tax list? Or where could Oshkosh make up for the \$27,235 of Union Pacific property listed there? And the other cities and towns throughout the state? Every town on a railroad would be affected.

tion have ever been encouraged. What better conditions can be offered than are contained in the Coolidge and Dawes declarations,

and the platform of their party? If Mr. Davis wants to find other issues, it will be his privilege, but the real battle will be on the platform pronouncements. Coolidge has chosen the ground and named the terms for this year's campaign. Davis can not escape it by talking loudly about other things.

### "SKOAL!"

Folks are apt to forget that Eric the Red did not put out from Norway because he hoped to find a new country. He was impelled to take a journey and take it suddenly because he had fallen into disfavor with the king. In those days kings were apt to be hasty. When one of them got angry at a subject for any reason the discretionary part for the subject was to get out of sight and stay there until things cleared up. So Eric the Red sought shelter at sea. He found shelter from the king but not from the elements. A storm overtook him. He was driven out into the ocean. Finally he saw land. It was such a surprise that he called it Greenland. A little fringe of verdure along the shore overbalanced in Eric's imaginative mind the 300foot wall of ice that overlaid the main part of the island, or whatever it is.

A little later a similar mischance sent Leif the Lucky down along the coast to Vinland. We have not yet settled just where this was. Neither Leif nor Eric was especially strong on geography, and the skald who immortalized their names was rather sketchy in his topographical descriptions. What we do know is that Leif and his company found plenty of wineberries, and rather liked the region for that. Also, timber was plentiful, and of this considerable was carried back to that dear old Greenland. Colonists stuck it out for a couple of years in Vinland, and then journeyed north. The climate was too oppressive. Ten months of winter and two months late in the fall was what they required.

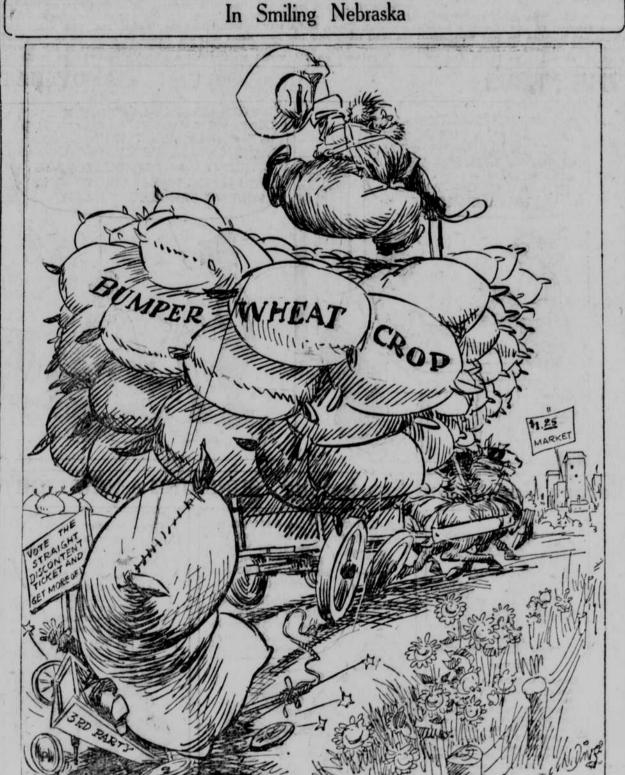
For the better part of 900 years the exploits of Eric and Leif were lost to the world. Now they are serving to support claims in opposition to those of Christobal Colombo. Just at the moment they are in the mind, because the American flyers have followed the track from Iceland to Greenland which must have been pursued by the vikings in that faroff time. What would Leif or Eric say if they could see one of those great airplanes hovering overhead, covering in a day more miles 'than they did in a fortnight

It is the same spirit, though. Eric set out on a venture and made land. Smith and the others were equally venturesome, and they, too, have made land. What an epic! What a story, waiting for someone to weave, the two ends together! To Eric, to Smith, to all those gallant adventurers: "Skoal!"

#### "MA" FERGUSON IN TRIUMPH.

Texas voters had the choice between a klan-backed candidate and a woman as the democratic nominee for governor. They chose the woman. If no sign fails, "Ma" Miriam Ferguson will be the next governor of Texas. A nomination by the democrats down there is equivalent to election.

The point that will get most attention is not that Mrs. Ferguson is the first woman to be nominated for the office of governor by a major party. Overshadowing this is the out and out defeat for the klan. All its strength was put behind the aspirations of Judge Felix D. Robertson. His defeat writes another chapter of deep interest in the hectic record of Texas. "Jim" Ferguson in 1917 resigned as governor to escape being impeached by the senate. He was serving his second term. His experience had been one of continual wrangling with an opposing faction that came into constrol of the legislature. Since then he has run for the office of United States senator and for governor, only to be defeated by klan influence. It was his intention to run for governor this year, but a supmeme court decision that he was ineligible led to his wife taking up the job. All the forces that set against "Jim" Ferguson were arrayed against "Ma" Ferguson. On the contrary, to her support rallied elements that might not have been so active had it been her huusband who was running. Yet she frankly declared that her candidacy was to vindicate her husband's name. And, she will be governor of Texas.



# Letters From Our Readers All letters must be signed, but name will be withheld upon request. Communi-Laurels for Schlaifer. Omaha—To the Editor of The Oma-Weights of the country lose to Morrie Net the leading welter-Net the street are worth investigation by the Net the street are worth investigat

Laurels for Schlaifer. Omaha—To the Editor of The Oma-ha Bee: I want to congratulate the Omaha Bee on having a sport writer who seemed to be able to see the box-ing bout of last evening through un-colored glasses. I fever a boxing bout was fairly and bitterly contested, that Wednes-Schlaifer, and Warnle Smith, was so conducted. I have never seen two boys in the

I have never seen two boys in the seen his opponents, one by one (ex-sisteret many children, girls and boys boying ring try so hard to score a decisive win as these two boys. Evidently some sport writers cannot practice what they preach, when often overlooked by the casual arai they lose a bet on a boxing bout and then try to intimate that there is Schlaifer deals out. It has been said that there is solicitation by these women. Young and old, black and white can be seen port and webster. I think that the mothers who are patronizing the that the seventh their.

W. J. B.

Omaha-To the Editor of The Oma

Repeats this couplet all the time: You'll get your's, Brother Charley

-M. K. S.

illy Bryan is acting strangely-

Just the same as I got mine.

to New York.

day don' pay no 'tention to de

ke Comfort, nor forget

When the Burlington was buying right-of-way between

Grand Island and Broken Bow, one of its purchasing agents conceived the idea of engaging in a little townsite speculation on the side. Not having any money of his own he interested

Senator Algernon S. Paddock, who furnished the money. The

townsite was purchased and properly platted, and the name Algernon was conferred upon it as an honor to Senator Pad-dock. Unfortunately for the promoters the purchasing agent did not know anything about spacing towns, and when the road was built the management refused to recognize Algernon and

Tan its trains through without stopping. The promoters appealed to the board of railway secre-taries, of which the late Oliver P. Mason was chairman.

ing that this town be recognized by you, as it was named

"Don't you know, Senator Paddock, that the real town was named after me, 'Mason?" The case is dismissed?"

Frank H. Spearman, whose railroad novels struck the pop-ular fancy a number of years ago, was formerly a resident of McCook, and it was here that he wrote his first stories. He

went to McCook to practice law, but clients were few and far between, and in his leisure moments he turned to writing. One of his best novels, "The Nerve of Foley," was written around incidents that occurred in McCook during the famous strike

of the Burlington engineers in 1888. Foley was a Knights of Labor engineer who had been displaced on the Reading road

by a B. L. E. man. When the Burlington engineers struck

Foley, a wiry, fighting Irishman, grabbed his chance, came to McCook and took an engine. If you haven't read "The Nerve

of Foley," and like red-blooded fiction, you will find it intensely interesting.

"damned aristocrat." Whereupon Spearman declared he

leave and go where an aristocrat was appreciated. He moved

Lounging back at ease in our private car, we sped through Minden last Sunday. Minden was one of our first stops in Nebraska in those early days when we were gathering material for a book as yet unpublished, "Nebraska Seen Through a Crack in a Box Car." It was at Minden that we once partici-nated in an event puplishable to investor the the two

pated in an event punishable by imprisonment in the peniten-tiary. Fortunately for us there were so many involved in the

offense that no jury could be obtained in Kearney county that would convict, so the culprits were never brought to justice.

During a coal shortage in the winter of 1886-7 Minden was in the throes of a coal famine, and the Burlington wouldn't stop

a coal train for us. One day a freight train containing several

cars of coal stopped for water, and a watchful committee sounded the alarm. In five minutes a hundred men were

swarming over those coal cars and tossing off great chunks. However helnous the offense may have been, it broke the coal famine in Minden.

When Cleveland was elected in 1892 Spearman applied for the position of register of the McCook land office. But his ap-pointment was blocked by Pat Walsh, who said Spearman was

and, in closing his plea, said:

Senator Paddock appeared as counsel for the new town,

Of course, your honors, I have a personal motive in ask-

That sunrise never failed us yet Coke Thattes

"Doesn't the colonel have any mos- Good Hardware.

Built Larger



EUROPE -and usually fine veather in late bec and

he St Las

Housewife (to peddler)-Get out, or

I'll whistle for my dog! Peddler-All right, ma'am; but first w me to sell you a good whistle.

WILL M. MAUPIN.

. . To buy the railroads would cost at least \$18,-000,000,000, and on this the interest charge at 4 per cent would be \$720,000,000 a year, or \$60,000,-000 a month-\$2,000,000 a day, or double what is being saved the taxpayers by the latest reduction made by the 1924 revenue law. No account is made here of a possible repetition of the deficit piled up when the government did handle the railroads. But the backers of the Plumb plan have that in mind, and figure on its being met from the general fund. Keep these things in mind when you hear a La Follette booster talking of government ownership.

### COOLIDGE PICKS THE GROUND.

Ordinarily, the challenged party in any contest has something to say about conditions of the match. John W. Davis appears to hold a different view. Challenging Calvin Coolidge as a candidate for president, Mr. Davis assumes to choose weapons, battle grounds, conditions, and what disposition is to be made of the corpse, if any. As to the latter, he ought to have something to say, for politically he is likely to be called upon to fill that unenviable role.

If he really wants to know where Mr. Coolidge stands on any matters that are really vital to the present and future of the American people, he may find out by reading the president's speech of acceptance. In that document, rather lengthy for Mr. Cooolidge, is contained the meat of his own and his party's creed.

The president first declares that the affairs of our country are our chief concern. Mr. Davis would seem to hold they come second, that the League of Nations is first. The president says the people want a government of common sense, and want to be told the truth. No response from the democrats on this score. The president points out the liberal provision made by the administration for the care of those disabled by service during the war. Mr. Davis says the democrats could do it better.

In the Coolidge speech, as well as the platform, is a frank declaration for the protective tariff. In the Davis speech and democratic platform is an equally frank proposal to repeal the republican tariff. The protective tariff has stimulated business, and with the immigration law averts an invasion of too many foreign people or too much foreign merchandise. This the democrats propose to so change that the foreigners will get the benefit of the American market to the detriment of the home producers.

Wages and working conditions in America are better than anywhere under the sun. The policy of the republican party has brought this about. It will maintain the standard of living established under its management of public affairs. Labor has never been deflated under a republican administra-

Whether this defeat will dispose of the klan as factor in politics is not so clear. Such institutions die, but they sometimes take a lot of killing.

Now comes the real test for the Dawes plan. Whatever else it may accomplish, it will not make 'he democratis feel any better, because it is the fruit of republican policies.

queer.

TRYTHE

SHORTCUT

TO HAPPINESS

BLASLEY'S BARBER

SHOP

S.M.S.

Th' Bentley divorce case has

been settled, an' th' husband gits

th' children an' th' wife gits th'

publicity. Th' big flurry's goin' t'

come when Henry Ford refuses t'

sell a car t' anybuddy what drinks.

NETAVERAGE

PAID CIRCULATION

for July, 1924, of

THE OMAHA BEE

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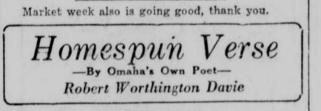
V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr.

The meeting between Coolidge and Dawes was extra effusive. "Hello," said the vice presidential candidate, and the president smiled.

Chicago has also discovered that conditions are getting better in Nebraska. Even the La Follette poosters know that.

Omaha has always had a fine name on account of ts wide streets, but auto drivers do not seem to have found out about them.

Kenesaw Mountain Landis flew to the Grand Island Legion meet. He has long been listed as a 'bird



### **RECOLLECTIONS.**

- Once said Isaac (And my mem'ry trembles like an apple
- tree Laden with delicious apples when the wind stirs ten-
- derly)-Once said Isaac, "Life shall give me a little opulence
- and praise But there will be joy and friendship scattered through my busy days."
- Once said Isaac. "I can never hope to gain my wishes all,
- But I won't accede to failure and let weakness make me fall,-
- will bear the burdens bravely and accept the best with cheers.
- And be fain to face the tumult of the variegated years."
- Once said Isaac, "If I offer to my treasured ones my best.-
- If I am forever honest and straightforward with the rest-
- believe I will not need to fear the sentence of regret. Nor be troubled with grim pictures that my heart would glad forget.'
- Oftentimes I think of Isaac, for each day that comes and goes .
- Brings me face to face with many noble Isaacs, Heaven Knows!
- And the world would rush to ruin and life's journey fruitless end.
- If it had no faithful Isaacs upon whom it, could depend.

Personally, I would not bet if I had "lucky round," because he wins so and also the groceries are entitled to to tell the public the story of a bout many bouts in this round. To me, it protection against and allowed my sentiment or isn't luck at all. After four or live condition.

and allowed my sentiment or isn't luck at all. After four or five condition. prejudice to creep into my articles. Morrie Schlaifer, without a doubt, ponents all seem to weaken and state and the same should fulfill its fine of the greatest boxers in the crumple up, ready for the finishing blows in the sixth or seventh round. If the city authorities are unable to enforce that law, then the should the same should take action if either refuse to act, then the bouts in which he has failed to iscore the inter refuse to act, then the knockouts, Schlaifer's opponents all seem to weaken and function. If the city authorities are unable to enforce that law, then the bouts in which he has failed to iscore the sheriff or the state should take action if either refuse to act, then the bouts in which he has failed to iscore the laws that are made a Everywhere but in Omaha, Schlaifer seemed to do much more poorly; after that are made force is halled as the outstanding conten- the fifth round. mockery at the present. JESSE MARTEL.

is halled as the outstanding conten-der for Walker's title. But, chiefly because of prejudice on the part of those persons who should be most impartial, he does not receive the support of Omaha sport-dom as he should. It is ridiculous to presume that Morrie Schlaifer could have gotten as far in his profession presume that Morrie Schalter could Chicago but didn't realize it and have gotten as far in his profession as he has unless he had the ability to win on his merits. It is ridiculous also to presume that men like Warnie Smith, Jimmy Jones, Paul Doyle, Panama Gans and its realized it and the source of the second second

others would sacrifice their own op-portunities in order to advance an Omaha boy. I bellev, a lot of Schlaifer. Yet some of the "wise Omaha boxing fans would do well to boys" try to intimate that every bout heed the words of the champion and in which Schlaifer participates is wake up to the fact that 'they have a



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