

THE OMAHA BEE

MORNING-EVENING-SUNDAY

THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., Publisher
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The Omaha Bee is a member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations, the recognized authority on circulation audits, and The Omaha Bee's circulation is regularly audited by their organizations.

Entered as second-class matter May 28, 1908, at Omaha postoffice under act of March 3, 1879.
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Omaha Where the West is at its Best

THE CASH REGISTER-IV.

Let us all for a moment keep our eyes on the cash register. Let us stand with President Coolidge in the presence of that great national cash register on which he fixes his eyes, and fortunately from which he does not let them stray very far.

Here is what we will see, as Coolidge sees it—and as he referred to it in his speech of acceptance: "When we come to realize that the yearly expense of all the governments in this country have reached the stupendous sum of about \$7,500,000,000 we get some idea of what this means. Of this amount about \$3,500,000,000 is needed by the national government, and the remainder by local governments. Such a sum is difficult to comprehend. It represents all the pay of 5,000,000 wage earners receiving \$5 a day, working 300 days in the year. If the government should add on \$100,000,000 of expense, it would represent four days more work of these wage earners. There are some of the reasons why I want to cut down public expense."

This is a stupendous record. And we may say to our democratic critics, can only be discovered by keeping our eyes on the cash register. No bill gazing will show it to us. The man who "lifts up his eyes unto the hills" misses the tremendous story of the cash register.

President Coolidge, after reading these figures on the cash register had this further to say about them:

"These results are not fanciful, they are not imaginary; they are grimly actual and real, reaching into every household in the land. They take from each home annually an average of over \$300. And taxes must be paid. They are not a voluntary contribution to be met out of surplus earnings. They are a stern necessity. They come first. It is only after that is left after they are paid that the necessities of food, clothing and shelter can be provided. The comforts of home secured, or the yearnings of the soul for a broader and more abundant life granted. When the government effects a new economy, it grants everybody a life pension with which to raise the standard of existence. It increases the value of everybody's property and raises the scale of everybody's wages. One of the greatest favors that can be bestowed upon the American people is economy in government."

Lift the burden of taxes is the great goal President Coolidge has set for himself. "When the government effects a new economy," he says, "it raises the standard of existence, it increases the value of prosperity, it raises the scale of wages."

To the man in the shop, in the store, in the factory, on the farm, all of whom know how closely they must watch their own cash registers, this analysis of government expenses is the most eloquent speech that will be delivered during the campaign.

They can understand, too, the hope for the future, expressed by the president who keeps his eyes upon the cash register.

"I want the people of America to be able to work less for the government," he says, "and more for themselves. I want them to have the rewards of their own industry. This is the chief meaning of freedom. Until we can re-establish a condition under which the earnings of the people can be kept by the people, we are bound to suffer a very distinct curtailment of our liberty."

"The chief meaning of freedom." Those democrats who prefer a president gazing at the hills may not understand the man who keeps his eyes upon the cash register, but those who pay the taxes understand him. They understand, too, that at this time the greatest demand is for that freedom of which Coolidge speaks.

OMAHA AND THE UNION PACIFIC.

We are often too close to the things around us to get a proper perspective of them—and therefore, often, we do not realize their importance.

Many of us are so close to the city of Omaha—we are so used to it and its institutions that we do not realize its importance in the family of cities. It is the duty of a newspaper to recall these things to mind. The newspaper occupies the position of a show window for the city in which it is published. Too often it shows the dark side of city life, and leaves the big things, the constructive things, the things that build, unexpressed.

We say this by way of introducing attention to one of the really big things of Omaha that is recognized outside the city, but to which our own attention is not often directed, because we are so close to it that we have grown accustomed to it. We refer to the Union Pacific railroad with its headquarters in Omaha. Roger Babson, business engineer, maker of business charts and analyst of business, says this in a recent bulletin:

"All in all, considering the record of earnings, able management, strategic position, excellent condition of roadbed and equipment, and especially the large revenues from huge investment which are a veritable treasure house, Union Pacific must be considered at the forefront of American railroads."

This is a splendid picture for the people of Omaha to hang on the walls of their memory. And while we look upon this picture of the institution that stands "at the forefront of American railroads," let us remember that it has been built largely by Omahans. When we meet the men who

manage and direct that great railroad, let's remember that what Babson has said of the railroad, he has also said of them.

WILL LABOR HEED THE MESSAGE?

"In order to give wage earners reasonable advantages, their right has been established to organize, to bargain collectively, and to negotiate through their own chosen agents. Compulsory arbitration has sometimes been proposed, but to my mind it can not be reconciled with the right of individual freedom. Along with the right to organize goes the right to strike."

Sounds like the utterance of a "labor skate," doesn't it? Well, it is not Samuel Gompers speaking, nor Robert Marion La Follette. It is Calvin Coolidge, president of the United States, laying down some of the views he holds with regard to labor. How much plainer could he make his attitude? What could be added to this utterance of the president and the declaration of the Cleveland platform, that would make the case stronger for labor?

The platform declares for the child labor amendment—for the relief of women employed in industry—for high standards of wages and conditions in all industry—for the short work-day—for the continuation of the rehabilitation of workers under the vocational training board—for the restriction of immigration—for free federal employment agencies, and for assistance to the casual or migratory laborers. On the railroad labor question, the platform says:

"The labor board provisions of the present law should be amended wherever it appears from experience that such action is necessary. Collective bargaining, mediation and voluntary arbitration are the most important steps in maintaining peaceful labor relations, and should be encouraged. We do not believe in compulsory arbitration at any time in the settlement of labor disputes."

Workingmen, organized or unorganized, should note that. The republican party does not believe in compulsory arbitration. The president says it can not be reconciled with the right of individual freedom.

The Barkley-Howell bill, on which such stress is laid by the railroad unions, did provide for compulsory arbitration. Moreover, it made the award of the arbitration board the order of the federal court in whose district the proceedings were had. All the power of the United States government was back of that award. Where is there any liberty or freedom of action in that? Arbitration supported by the bayonet is not what labor wants.

We believe the workers of the United States have intelligence sufficient to enable them to distinguish between promises that can not be fulfilled and the pledges of a responsible party that has a record of redeeming its pledges. The right to organize, to strike, to bargain collectively, to choose representatives, and to arbitrate voluntarily, all are guaranteed by the republican platform and the candidates stand on that. What does the worker, organized or unorganized, skilled or unskilled, ask more than an even break? The wonder-workers promise more, but can they deliver? Is it not best to play safe when fooling with your bread and butter?

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO "FIGHTING BOB."

"From him that hath shall be taken, and unto him that hath not shall be given." The ant shall toil all summer in order that the grasshopper may live in ease and idleness through the winter. The honey bee's accumulated store of wealth shall be divided with the potato bug, and the chipmunk and the red squirrel shall share with the weasel.

Thus will a balance be struck and everybody made happy. The idle, incompetent, the frivolous and the prodigal may go their ways. Content in the knowledge that they will be permitted to share the fruits of the efforts of the industrious, capable, frugal. Those who pursue pleasure may do so without worry as to the future, for those who are so stupid as to engage in production will be required to divide with those who produce nothing.

Nor will their efforts bring especial reward to those who devise improvements of any sort, or invent means for bettering the condition of man. All such achievements will be for the benefit of the whole of society, and consequently society will enjoy them. The inventor will be amply compensated by the reflection that his genius has made existence more pleasant for those who never think save for their own convenience. The sole incentive to effort will be the thought of doing something for another.

Plato's Republic, the ideal state of Pythagoras, More's Utopia, the dreams of H. G. Wells, the dogma of Karl Marx, and the aspirations of Nicolai Lenin, all are to be realized. If you doubt this read very carefully the addresses of the La Follette, father and son, made on Monday. They do not say so in that many words, but the inference is unavoidable. And as the sage long ago remarked of strong drink, "Whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

Floyd Bollen pleads pathetically with John M. Paul not to rock the boat. Floyd, you understand, is standing precariously on both the democratic and progressive state tickets.

Maybe the wets are glad to see the dregs going after the governor, but the governor certainly hopes to get the dry vote. He knows he will have the wets.

Wheat yields of 60 bushels to the acre give little encouragement to the party of discontent in Nebraska.

Will Omaha be there to give "Charlie" Dawes a welcome home? Watch the parade Friday night.

Judge Caverly is at least winning respect for the quality of patience he is showing.

King Corn does not mind a scorching that does not last too long.

Homespun Verse

—By Omaha's Own Poet— Robert Worthington Davis

YOUR MOTHER.
When you haven't a friend,
And with woe you contend,
And your thoughts seem to burden each other,—
Put sorrow away
As fasteth the day,
And go home for a visit with mother.
When dimension and strife
Make a quandary of life,
And you yearn to confide in another,—
Remember that you
Have a friend ever true
And fain to console you—your mother.
When you daintily roam
And are homesome for home,
And are tempted to falter, my brother,—
Think then, and abide
With the virtue supplied
In the beautiful teachings of mother.
For she is a friend
Who is true to the end,
And nothing her fervor can smother;
And love never dies
For a boy in the eyes
Or the heart of a wonderful mother.

Remember the Poor Dog That Tried Too Hard to Better Himself?



Letters From Our Readers

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

How Tall Was Buffalo Bill?

Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I have seen him probably 20 times—first in 1876 in Davenport, Ia., Scott county being his birthplace. On this occasion he was playing on the stage with Texas Jack who so favored him that they might have passed for twins. Cody a little taller. As dressed then and as I again saw him in Chicago in 1888 he looked over 6 feet. Later I saw him on the street in Burlington, Ia., when he looked less than 6 feet. He was introduced to him at the time he was given the rank of colonel. Being introduced as Captain Cody, he promptly said I will "go you one better" and produced his commission. At this time I do not remember having gained any lasting impression as to his height. I saw him in his show at Chicago the day of the "cold storage fire, he was on his horse, looking rather stocky; remember well his riding in front of the grandstand and saluting General Sherman. I have seen him several times in street parades. The last time I saw him was at the Albany hotel, Denver, in 1916, where I stood on a level with him and had an opportunity to estimate his height; I figured that his eyes were about on a level with mine, and I am just 5 feet, 10 1/2 inches; so I figure he was not less than 5 feet 10 inches nor more than 5 feet 11 inches. If it could be learned that he ever had life insurance, the insuring company would have a record of his measurements. J. P. DAILEY, 2020 North Thirty-first street.

Why Waste Your Vote?

Kansas City.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I have often wondered—why is a democrat? I no longer wonder in the fog of ignorance. A minister of the gospel has stated that the human being is sprung from the ass. Someone, probably a lifelong democrat, made the donkey the symbol of democracy. He knew what he was about. The donkey is noted for thickheadedness, dullness, chronic kicking and much noise with his mouth. As a symbol of the democratic party he is perfect. presidential election, when Mr. Cox was a candidate, he indulged in much vituperation and "mud-slinging," which helped a lot to roll up the immense vote for Harding. Mr. Davis is taking a much more polite method of slaming the republicans, but it will amount to the same thing.

Abe Martin



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Helping Bob.

Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I believe you are making a grave mistake by fighting La Follette. Out in the western part of the state 80 per cent of the people are for La Follette. Any tommyrot printed about La Follette just makes matters that much worse for La Follette. S. A. SEUK.

Saveidge at Central City.

Central City.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: This is just a note in appreciation of one of your citizens whose name is widely known, and whose activities have recently brought him into touch with this community. A short time ago Rev. Charles W. Saveidge conducted services in this city, and so stirring was his evangelism that he was asked to repeat the visit. Sunday morning, August 24, he filled the pulpit at the First Presbyterian church. This large edifice was filled to its seating capacity. Mr. Saveidge spoke on "Hypocrites," taking his text from Matthew 24:27. In the evening he addressed over 1,000 people at a union service of the Protestant churches of the city at the

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The Man on the Street.

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SUNNY SIDE UP

Take Comfort, nor forget That sunrise never failed us yet.
Forty years as an observer of men and events in Nebraska enables us to recall much of political history that is interesting, and some that is instructive. We have seen the greenback craze rise and fall. We were on deck when anti-monopoly was the gerdion and watched with interest the pass holders and corporation lawyers enlisting in the ranks. We managed to restrain our then youthful enthusiasm while the Farmers Alliance was causing the old line politicians sleepless nights, later to see that struggling for the light swallowed up by designing men who thought more highly of the loaves and fishes than they did of human rights.

We became part of the maelstrom that whirled and boiled when free silver was the shibboleth, and were a passive on-looker when imperialism reared its horrid front to frighten divers and sundry politicians into compliciton fits. The war cry of "Let the People Rule" aroused us to some degree, but as time went on it became increasingly difficult to arouse our enthusiasm.

We have seen so many yards and roots boiled up into nauseous concoctions and offered to the people as a sure cure for all their ills, that we have become suspicious of all political doctors offering cure-alls for what ails us. Political voodooism no longer appeals to us, though in times gone by we were con-jured more than once by the juba-makers. From the window which lets in the blessed September sunlight we look calmly out upon the political ghost dancers, and feel not the slightest urge to join therein.

We are now enjoying an employment that affords us ample time for ruminating and reminiscence, and we utilize it to bark back and take a calm and dispassionate review of four decades. And the more we ruminate and reminisce the more we are convinced that it is a waste of time to follow off after ghost dancers and inimical to mind and body to swallow the concoctions of the root and yard doctors of political economy.

Forty years of it, and we are reminded of the old colored woman who when her husband spent the holiday riding the merry-go-round, "You's done spint youah money an' you's been ridin' all day, but whar you bin?"

We've been going 'round and 'round in Nebraska for 40 years, but whar have we been? And whar are we now?

We have decided in our own mind, and offer you the decision for what it is worth, to decline further following of the political ghost dancers or more swallowing of the root and yard concoctions. We are firmly set against any more reforms until we have had time to catch up with some already forced upon us. We shall oppose further legislation to make us all rich and prosperous until legislation already enacted has been given a chance to show what it can do. And henceforth and forever the candidate who can arouse in us enough enthusiasm to cause hat waving and wild gyrations will have to reach further heights than any candidate of days past.

WILL M. MAUPIN.

North park. The subject of the evening's discourse was "The Veracity of God," and the text was Psalms 138:4. He speaks what is in his mind, and sets many to thinking and praying.

Sunday afternoon and Monday morning he visited many of the city's sick and elderly persons, talking and praying with these. Mr. Saveidge is a strong believer in the healing power of prayer and faith. Monday he was speaker at the weekly noonday lunch at the Lions' club at the Hays hotel. A READER.

No Self-Debasement. "Smuggling and bootlegging," said William J. Burns, the noted detective, "are crimes that lots of people

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V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of August, 1924.
W. H. QUIVEY,
Notary Public (Seal)

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Engineering for Service

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Today, 49 years later, a host of men, successors of Bell and his single assistant, are applying their trained abilities to the complex problems of meeting the nation's demand for telephone service. They explore the unknown and adapt the known in Science. They bring the thoroughness of specialists to the tasks of construction, operation, management. Their common objective is an improved service whereby man may substitute his voice for his physical presence in distant places.

Engineered and not haphazard effort has brought the triumphs that mark advances in the convenience of the telephone. Because of this effort there is a communion of communities without which America, as we know it, could not exist.

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Next t' cryin' o'er a bobbed head, th' most futle thing we know of is quarrellin' with your wife. Some stranger asked Constable Plum what had become o' th' ole Licklider family, an' he said, "It all died at once a few Sundays ago."