

THE OMAHA BEE

MORNING-EVENING-SUNDAY

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FAUL'S EPISTLE TO THE DEMOCRATS.

John M. Paul possesses a single-track mind. It runs straight to its objective. He is chairman of the state committee of the progressive party in Nebraska.

As such feels it his duty to conserve the interests of that party at all times. Many persons forget that even in Nebraska a party organization is a tangible thing. It is created under the law and has definite rights. Rights that are protected under the law.

Whoever sets out to steal a party organization in this state has embarked upon what is equivalent to larceny when applied to other property.

Mr. Paul has detected the democrats in an attempt to steal the progressive party organization, at least as far as the governorship is concerned. When Charles W. Bryan withdrew as democratic candidate for governor, he also withdrew from the progressive ticket. Acting on its authority under the law, the democratic state committee named J. N. Norton to succeed Bryan. The progressive committee, by the same authority, selected Dan B. Butler of Omaha as its candidate.

So far the record is straight. Charlie Pool, himself a candidate on both democrat and progressive tickets, denies a place to Butler. He questions the sufficiency of the committee meeting that decided on Butler's nomination. Here comes the split.

If Norton is to have any claim on the progressive party, by reason of his succeeding to the Bryan nomination, he also should have regard for the aims and purposes of the party. He has no right to ask its votes unless he is in sympathy with its objects.

One of the objects of the progressive party in Nebraska is to carry the state for La Follette and Wheeler. Leaders of the party are pledged to this. The members are devoted to it. On the other hand, the democrats are enlisted in the effort to swing the Nebraska vote behind the Davis and Bryan ticket.

How can Mr. Norton, as a democrat, give support to La Follette and Wheeler?

Or, how can Mr. Norton as a progressive assist in the election of Davis and Bryan?

Mr. Paul would like to have Mr. Norton answer these questions. So would the voters of Nebraska. It is not a party question. It is one of common honesty. Nothing has transpired that so beautifully illustrates the farce of so-called fusion. Bryan, Pool, Bollen and others found it possible to seek nominations on both tickets, and make a pretense of wallowing different principles for the sake of capturing a few votes. Even on the state ticket that's bad enough. Whatever it may look like in politics, it is neither morally nor ethically sound. If it were undertaken to be practiced in business it would be regarded as dishonest. If a lawyer was detected taking the fees from both sides for appearing in court, he would probably be disbarred.

If Norton supports La Follette and Wheeler, he is treacherous to the democrats. If he supports Davis and Bryan, he is equally untrue to the progressives. Yet he must do one thing or the other, for he can not do both. Either way, he is convicted as a political trimmer, a freebooter, seeking votes and not especially critical as to where he gets them.

MACDONALD AND DISARMAMENT.

Premiers MacDonald and Herriot gave the opening session of the League of Nations convention something to think about. It was expected that a definite plan for disarmament would be forthcoming, but this took the form of agreement that a conference should be held at some future time with an agenda to be determined by a committee not yet named. What the premiers were agreed upon was the principle of compulsory arbitration. On this basis the future of the League of Nations must rest.

Aside from the urgent request made for the admission of Germany to the League and to its council, Mr. MacDonald's really notable utterance had to do with an arms conference to be held somewhere in Europe, preferably in Geneva. He is aware of the intention of President Coolidge to invite delegates from the various powers to again assemble at Washington for consideration of further steps toward disarmament. His suggestion, amounting almost to a demand, that the conference be called in Europe might be considered churlish, were it not known that the premier is an ardent advocate of the conference, and probably is merely of the opinion that to hold it where its influence is most needed may have a more decisive effect.

Discussing disarmament in his recently published book, "The Revival of Europe," Horace G. Alexander says:

"What the world awaits is one nation which has the courage and common sense to take the lead."

"He sees a 'certain courage' in the Washington conference, and commends the action of the United States and England, but it did not go far enough. He insists that:

"The world still waits for the nation that will not be deterred from a disarmament policy by the lack of immediate response."

Mr. Alexander's idea does not seem to have penetrated the premier's consciousness. At any rate, he gives no evidence of thrusting the British empire to the fore as a leader in the disbanding of armies

and the dismantling of navies. That is why we await with interest what further disclosures he has to make to the League on the subject. He need have no dread of sending representatives to a conference at Washington, nor worry as to whether the United States will fail to be represented, even if the conference is called at Geneva.

CALLING THE TURN ON "FIGHTING BOB."

The editor of the Philadelphia Public Ledger concludes a careful analysis of the Labor Day speech of La Follette with these sentences:

"Facts would merely annoy La Follette. Where they do not fit into his campaign plans they are ignored. He will go on believing in economic demons and political devils. He will continue to peddle the same ancient hokum with which he has bedeviled Wisconsin for years. He places the common sense of the nation on a par with that of his own misled and credulous followers. He is gambling on the number of political morons in these United States."

Not all who follow in the lead of "Fighting Bob" deserve to be classified as "political morons." Some of the craftiest self-seekers this happy land has ever known are marshaled under his banners. So long as they can thrive by simply promising, they are in clover. What they truly dread is the possibility of being called upon to redeem their promises. They follow La Follette not because they expect him to be chosen president, but because through him they can work to their own ends.

Others lined up for La Follette, and these constitute the greater part of his supporters, are those who fondly worship the fetish of "be it enacted." If a law is passed, then evil will vanish. Or, this may be done by the repeal of a law.

Much can be done by the enactment and enforcement of wise legislation, in which the combined interests of 114,000,000 people are given full consideration. Danger lies in any attempt to legislate for the benefit of any group of the great body of citizenship. La Follette's only specific pledges are that he will destroy something that exists. Mainly he levels his attack at the supreme court of the United States. He will, if he has his way, pull the foundation from under our free institutions, and make judicial determination the matter of the whim of whatever group may temporarily be in the majority.

Every orator who discusses human liberties passes Runnymede somewhere in his flight. The principal item wrested by the barons from King John on that occasion was justice, "sold to none, denied to none, delayed to none." On this rests the structure of justice in our country. Robert Marion La Follette proposes to change all that. With the supreme court subjugated by congress, the next step will be to place the state courts under the legislature, and so on, until court decisions will be in the end a matter to be decided in the market place and on the streets, and not in the courthouse.

What will any law amount to then, when its enforcement depends upon the mood of the community? Any man who can muster a sufficient company may have the decisions he seeks, and the man who can not support his claim to justice by numbers will be without justice. Thus the great pledge that comes down from Runnymede will become meaningless. Justice will be sold to the suitor who can muster the votes, delayed to him who sees his cause postponed by a crafty politician, and denied to him who is unable to assemble a majority.

La Follette is not gambling altogether on the political morons. He is conniving with the desperate men who are bent on wrecking the greatest example of self-government the world has ever witnessed, that they may thrive on the wreckage.

ISN'T IT AWFUL, MABEL?

Isn't it just awful, Mabel, the plight this country of ours is in? Actually less unemployment in proportion to population than in any other country in the world. And the only country in the world where the worker is paid in money that is worth par.

It just seems that things are in a terrible shape, don't it?

The average wage paid in this country as compared with the wage paid in Great Britain is as 217 to 100, measured in foodstuffs the wage will buy.

Clearly Something Will Have to Be Done About It!

Perhaps Labor ought to cut away from the "two old parties" and get into a party of its own. That's the way it was done in Great Britain, and the success of the plan has been so wonderful that about half the working population of that country is out of employment, and thousands of competent workers are living on a pittance called a "dole."

Of course the American workman has had the benefit of free schools for a century and a half, which is not the case in Great Britain on any such plane as here.

Holland, Norway and Sweden are pretty intelligent countries; they are not paying for participation in a huge war, and they are comparatively prosperous, much more so than any other European countries. But the wage of the average American worker is double the wage of either of them, measured in foodstuffs his wage will buy.

That sort of thing is impossible, of course, and must be rectified. It is such an awful condition, Mabel, that it Must Have Attention from politicians who never employed anything but their mouths.

The very idea of American workmen owning their homes more generally than the workers of any other country! It is little short of an outrage, and an awful injustice; isn't it, Mabel?

The American worker, who is drawing twice as much as his British cousin must simply do as his British cousin is doing, and get into politics up to his neck. The British workers knocked the "two old parties" idea in the neck quite a while ago, and look how prosperous and happy they are.

It's worth thinking about, isn't it, Mabel?

And again, a skullcap may also conceal a bald interior as well as a bald exterior.

Homespun Verse

—By Omaha's Own Poet— Robert Worthington Davie

RESPONSIBILITY.

We can not ever have our choice, When duty calls we ought To answer gladly and rejoice, And see our tasks well wrought.

Nor can we ever do each deed As we would choose, perchance,— But we should hearken to the need, Forgetting circumstance.

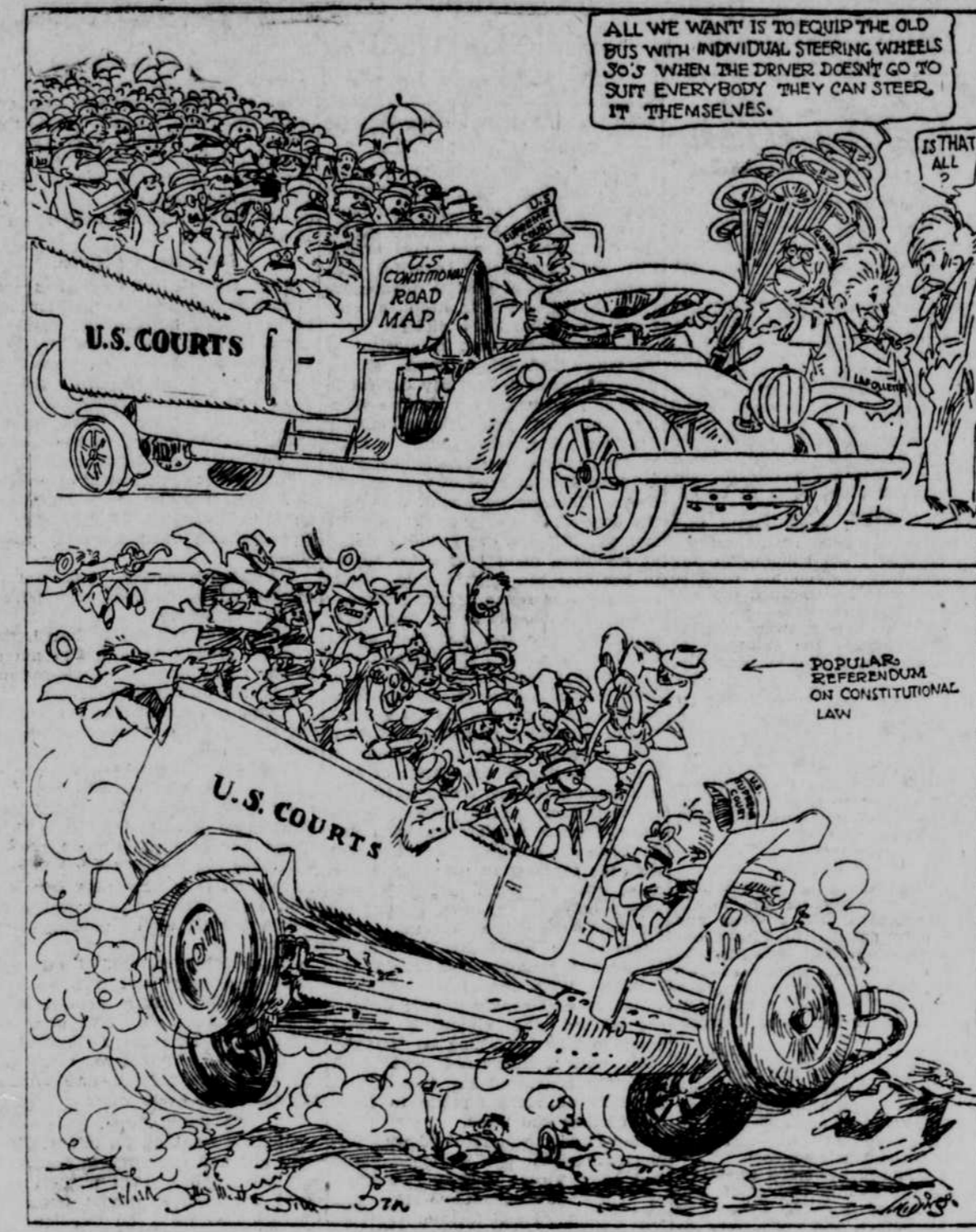
Achievement is a dreary thing When we requests berate; Success is often conquering The problems that we hate.

And toil made pleasureless in itself Our minds with hope and might, Until we find that smiling fits The darkest day with light.

"Money ain't what it's cracked up 't' be, for I was a heap happier when I didn't know where my next boss 'n' buggy was comin' from," sigher Plasterer Al Moots 't' day. Who recalls when 't' stores an' shows was closed on Sundays an' 't' homes was inhabited.

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Can't You Just See It in Operation?



Letters From Our Readers

All letters must be signed, but name will be withheld upon request. Communications of 250 words and less will be given preference.

Effect of Scorn Punishment.

Random, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Not having seen any letters in your valuable paper lately, where your readers expressed their opinion of what should be the fate of those Chicago criminals, Leopold and Loeb, who so very cruelly murdered little Robert Franks, I have been thinking that perhaps some of your readers might like to hear the sentiments of the people from this part of the country.

Well, they seem to be almost unanimous in thinking they should be hanged. However, I have met one person who is against capital punishment, but thinks that about 16 years in the penitentiary is enough for the vilest criminals. Now, if people who think this way would read the news papers, they would see that criminals are not much afraid of the penitentiary, as foolish governors often pardon them before their time expires. But they are deathly afraid of the gallows. Criminals, as well as our best people, are watching this murder trial in Chicago, and if Leopold and Loeb are made to give up their lives on the scaffold, their death would undoubtedly save the lives of many innocent people, who otherwise would share the fate of little Robert Franks. And if those men in Chicago who are so stridently working in defense of the enemies of society, would put forth the same effort against war, that has taken so many of our loved ones, they would be doing good instead of harm to humanity.

MRS. JAMES M'LEAN.

For the Common People.

Stanberry, Mo.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: It certainly is comical to hear the republicans and the democrats praise the platforms and tell the good qualities of both parties, and the common people do not vote for one or the other party that the country is going to the dogs, etc. It is very funny that whenever either party has their candidate elected for president and vice president that they quickly forget all promises, etc., for the common people until about a year before each presidential election, and then they get in an awful hurry to pass legislation for the benefit of the farmer and laboring man, which, by the way, is brought up in congress and talked, argued, amended and sent from one committee to the other until at the end it is never passed, but, of course, will be passed as soon after election as possible, and all that dope. After their man is elected, however, it is put off for all kinds of reasons, like the bonus, reduction of income tax bill and relief for the farmer bills, etc. It is sure some job for the common people to get legislation for

the benefit of the masses, but a cinch for some old company or big corporation, or wealthy monopolies to get all kinds of legislation passed for their interests. Both parties are worried because they know that the common people are tired of these promises without results. The common people are learning to vote for some men that do not affiliate with either party, but willing to vote for legislation for the interest of the coming that put them there, and the coming election will have both the democrats and republicans thinking that they need a house cleaning.

THOMAS C. MANHART.

The Salvation of Sinners.

Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: The salvation of sinners is God's watchword. It is the super-scription of all the acts of God. When God created man, He made him in His own image to live with Him in bliss forever. When man fell into sin and became subject to everlasting damnation, God promised him a savior, and when the fullness of time had come, God sent that savior, led him to the accursed tree on Calvary and sacrificed him, and all this for the salvation of sinners. And that sinners may learn to know that

savior, God appointed men, who under His guidance, preached and wrote concerning this sacrifice on Calvary that all who believe this message might have everlasting life. To this very day the spreading of this precious gospel message of Christ crucified is the greatest duty that God imposes upon His Christians. No greater service can you therefore, dear reader, render unto God than to do all you can to show sinners the way to heaven by means of the gospel.

E. M.

He Remembers Bob.

North Platte, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: After reading the tirade against organized government by Stewart at Hastings—but it was expected of any one who stands for La Follette. One thing Stewart forgot. The senate can pass a resolution to erase La Follette's treason-

able remarks and actions from the senate records, but they cannot erase them from the minds of men.

One who believes in the existing government, also Defense day test.

LEONARD ROBINSON, R. F. D. No. 1.

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SUNNY SIDE UP

Take Comfort, nor forget That sunrise never failed us yet. Caha Thadler

The issues having been joined and the candidates named for the present national campaign, we can but accept the situation in the best spirit possible. We desire to announce, however, that as soon as this campaign is over and a decision made by the voters, we shall begin a campaign of our own. We have in mind the kind of a candidate we want, although we expect to experience some difficulty in finding him.

We also have in mind just the kind of a platform we shall insist upon, although its exact wording we have not yet framed. For our candidate we are looking for a man who has never made an attempt to reform anybody but himself. He must admit that he has no panacea guaranteed to cure all the evils now afflicting the body politic. And he must voice his honest belief that legislative enactment is not the sole means of making men honest, or moral, or prosperous.

As for the platform, while not yet prepared to present it in its ultimate form and dictum, we shall insist that it specifically declare that the country take a rest from all this reform stuff until such time as a few reforms already enacted have had opportunity to catch up with us.

We entertain very little hope that our candidate will make much of a showing. There are so many who are intent upon reforming others, and so few devoting themselves to self-reformation, that our candidate will probably fail to come in either first, place or show. But there are a few of us who are willing to go along with a sure loser provided only we are permitted opportunity to register our real choice.

Nor do we hope to gain any considerable support for our platform. The business of proposing and advocating reforms has reached such proportions that it will be difficult, if not impossible, to divert public attention therefrom. But there will be a few of us to march behind the banner of our candidate and uphold the principle enunciated in the platform. Comparatively speaking, it may be a pitiful little handful, but the members thereof will be conscious of the righteousness of their cause and the sincerity of their candidate.

And that, after all, is something; to be conscious of the righteousness of one's cause and supremely confident of the sincerity of one's candidate. The least of our difficulties will be framing the platform, although that will be no easy task. To make it so concise that everybody will take time to read it, and at the same time so plain that it can have but one interpretation, will require the exercise of mental ingenuity demanding associated help. Finding a candidate who can prove that he has never undertaken to reform others while neglecting his own reformation, will require wide search. But we have our hopes.

Incidentally, we are opposed heart and soul to the proposition to abolish the party circle and the political designation of candidates upon the ticket. It is just such propositions that have inspired us to announce our plans for the next campaign.

WILL M. MAUPIN.

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