

THE OMAHA BEE

MORNING-EVENING-SUNDAY

THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., Publisher N. B. UPPKIE, President BALLARD DUNN, Editor in Chief JOY M. HACKLER, Business Manager

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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 organization.

Entered as second-class matter May 28, 1868, at Omaha postoffice under act of March 3, 1879.

BEE TELEPHONES Private Branch Exchange. Ask for the Department or Person Wanted. AT lantic 1000

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Subscriptions outside the Fourth postal zone, or 600 miles from Omaha: Daily and Sunday, \$1.00 per month; daily only, 75c per month; Sunday only, 60c per month.

CITY SUBSCRIPTION RATES Morning and Sunday, 1 month 85c, 1 week 20c Evening and Sunday, 1 month 65c, 1 week 15c Sunday Only, 1 month 20c, 1 week 4c

Omaha Where the West is at its Best

GOOD ROADS PLAN MUST BE A STATE-WIDE PLAN.

The building of hard-surfaced roads is not a matter of mere local convenience. The automobile and the auto-truck has made it a matter of economic necessity for the entire state.

The great bulk of automobiles in Nebraska are owned on the farms and in the small towns. The program for hard-surfaced roads must take this fact into account. It must not be, it can not be an Omaha program, nor a Lincoln program. The entire state must be linked up with hard roads, or hard roads can never become a reality in Nebraska.

The road building now under consideration must be planned on that basis. For that reason, not only the necessities of the state, but fairness to every section of the state demands the pushing of the plan for a constitutional amendment. In this way only can the hard road program be made a comprehensive program—a program worthy of Nebraska.

The so-called six-year program, using a small legislative appropriation, the revenue from a tax on gasoline and a part of the automobile license tax, would not only be inadequate to the needs of the state, but it would be in effect using income to pay for what rightfully should be a capital expenditure. The income—that is, the funds asked to meet the so-called six-year program, properly should be used to pay off this capital expenditure.

In this way, too, Nebraska would have the hard roads, would be using them while they were being paid for.

As a beginning, so that something will be under way, let the six-year program be pushed. But the real program, the comprehensive program, the state-wide program, should be pushed vigorously. Let us hear from you out in the state. Get together representatives from Kearney, Lexington, Ogallala, in the central tier of counties—from Fairmont, Hastings, Minden, Holdrege, McCook, from the southern tier—from O'Neill, Valentine, Chadron, Blair, Albion, Thedford and Alliance in the north.

Put the engineers to work. Map out the state-wide system, that will be a real Nebraska system. Then get to work with the whole state behind it, in a campaign for a constitutional amendment.

OMAHA'S PUBLIC SCHOOL PLANT.

Two facts are admitted by all who are acquainted with the public school situation in Omaha. One is, being a growing community, Omaha is obliged to continually increase its capital investment in public school buildings, equipment and grounds. The other is, the people of Omaha have always loyally supported the schools and followed the Board of Education on any well reasoned program.

Just now a difference of opinion exists between the Board of Education and the representatives of the Real Estate board and the Chamber of Commerce. The latter ask that the board omit from its building program items contemplated for junior high schools, alterations at the Central High school, and for a stadium. No contest is made as to the plans for additional grade schools and for the replacement of some that are antiquated and even unsafe. On these points all are agreed.

Whether junior high schools are a necessity is to be decided. If the patrons of the public schools, and these are the citizens of Omaha, believe that the proposed buildings are needed, the bonds will be voted. On this point may be urged the fact that the pressure on the high school plants has increased much more rapidly than on the grade schools. The demand for the latter has steadily mounted as the population of the city has increased. The high schools, however, have felt an additional pressure. More children, under present conditions, stay in school until they are through with the high school courses. This demand is mounting. It must be met.

Discussion of the problem should be approached from the angle of public service. No imprudent extravagance on the part of the school board should be approved. Nothing needed for the good of the public schools should be withheld. What may appear like frippery or folderol in educational methods, when compared with what went on a few years ago, really is approved by the best judgment of the most capable educators. We must not overlook the fact that however big the bill for education may seem, it is really small compared with other things that might better be done away with. We can never support a program to hamper the public schools by undue economy. The Real Estate Board and the Chamber of Commerce committees have given careful thought to their recommendations for a \$2,500,000 bond issue. Under the circumstances the School Board, which asks for \$4,000,000, has the burden of proof. Omaha must not be niggardly, neither must it be extravagant.

Omaha owes more to the children of the city's homes than to any other feature of our community life. Out of them will come the citizens of the future. The greatest obligation that can be laid upon the future by the present generation is to increase its chance for happiness by improving its chance through education.

LESSON OF DEFENSE DAY.

It is all over, save the necessary comparisons and analyses that will be made by the experts. It is for all of us now to determine just what actual knowledge is gained from the Defense Day demonstration. On the surface, the greatest outstanding fact in connection with the day is that it developed the true spirit of the United States.

Nobody in this country seeks war, least of all those who would be first called upon in case a war should come. Some reference has been made to a group of men who sit in a little obscure office in the nation's capital, figuring on what they feel is inevitable. That is one of the most unfair insinuations made in connection with the whole undertaking. That little group of men include the officers of the general staff on whom devolves the duty of preparing for the proper defense of the United States. They are professional soldiers, and have been carefully trained for the important positions they fill. It is they who will collect, arrange, and examine all the results of the Defense Day exhibition, because they must deal with facts. They may conjecture many things, but their judgment must rest on demonstrated information.

They do not consider another war at any time as inevitable, but it is human experience that war comes when least expected. It comes, too, over the most trivial of matters sometimes. So these men are preparing only data for use in case it becomes necessary to again defend the United States from aggression. The house may never take fire, but the money paid as premium on the insurance policy is nevertheless well spent. It brings a feeling of security.

Millions of American citizens showed the world that they are devoted to the United States. Not as militarists, seeking glory at the cannon's mouth. Not as swashbucklers, parading a sentiment they do not feel. Just citizens of a great country, members of a national family, willing to defend it should defense be needed. Patriotism is not dead. The ardor to serve and the willingness to sacrifice still animate the hearts of men and women of America.

And now, that it is over, the ordinary affairs of life will go none the less smoothly because of the momentary interruption for a sincere purpose. And we can all quote from Kipling's "Recessional":

"The tumults and the shouting cease, The captains and the kings depart. Still stands Thine ancient sacrifice— An humble and a contrite heart."

HOW THE FARMER WAS HELPED.

No man ever yet succeeded in getting out of debt by borrowing more money to increase his debt. But many a man has been saved from bankruptcy because he got a loan when he thought all doors were closed to him. The republican administration is accused of callously viewing the distress of the farmer, resulting from the enforced deflation that came as a result of the financial policy of the Wilson administration.

Do not forget that until March 4, 1921, Woodrow Wilson was president, the secretary of treasury was a democrat, and the Federal Reserve board was acting in close harmony with the administration. If any blame is to be laid at all, it must be against that board, whose policy was not declared by the republican plan adopted in June, 1920.

In order to assist the farmers in their predicament, the republican administration revived the War Finance corporation, and permitted it to loan money to save agriculture. What effect this act had can not be exactly told, but it did exert an influence for good that is not deniable. Loans on account of farmers were made to banks, to livestock loaning and to co-operative marketing organizations. The record for four contiguous agricultural states from August 24, 1921, to May 31, 1924, inclusive is:

Table with 3 columns: State, Approved, Repaid. Iowa: \$24,480,982, \$24,070,372, \$19,725,972. Nebraska: 12,634,932, 12,990,687, 11,739,142. Kansas: 7,617,705, 4,783,151, 3,898,725. South Dakota: 17,437,741, 16,112,829, 8,771,926.

In other words, more than \$62,000,000 was made available for the farmers in these four states just when they needed it most and could get it nowhere else. Of this more than \$56,000,000 actually was loaned to the farmers, of which more than \$44,000,000 has been repaid by the borrowers.

A total of \$295,844,065 was loaned to farmers and livestock raisers through the War Finance corporation, of which \$230,929,688 has been repaid. Is there in this anything to indicate that the republican administration was callously indifferent to the plight of agriculture as it languished under the effect of democratic mismanagement of the Treasury department?

No administration could have done more, the democratic administration could not have done as much. Other points, such as the effect of the tariff in maintaining the market, the extension of co-operative marketing associations under the law passed by a republican congress will be referred to at another time.

Lightning struck a Long Island golfer while he was boasting about a long shot. The trouble with lightning is that it never strikes twice in the same place.

The democratic press hails the Maine result as a Klan victory. Had it been otherwise it would have been a glorious victory for Jeffersonian democracy.

For a short time the political race will play second fiddle to the race between the corn crop and a killing frost.

Maine's motto is Dirigo—"I Direct." And, as usual, in the right direction politically.

La Follette is finding it increasingly hard to cash in on a vanishing discontent.

Speaking of Maine, it was a sad tale for the democratic managers.

Homespun Verse —By Omaha's Own Poet— Robert Worthington Davis

EXPECTANCY. When one delightful day has gone—one waited for with bliss, And when expectancy has brought its tidings glad and gay— We count not the forsaken things that make a world of this. We look forever forward to another coming day. Memorable occasions as the past has carried far. Assure us of the rapture and contentment yet to be. And with our dreams as beacons like the heavens' brightest star, We journey on enamored while we labor faithfully. While memory holds a myriad of pictures dear, and when Like delicate dead joys before our open eyes are spread— We'd like to share the faded things and live in the past again. But stronger is the lure of that which beckons us ahead.

Where Was Fighting Bob's Progressivism in 1912?



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.

Keeping History Straight.

Deadwood, S. D.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: In your paper of yesterday you have an editorial entitled "Only Six Years Ago," in which appears the following statement:

"A more flagrant instance is the airplane scandal. President Wilson named Charles Evans Hughes as head of an investigating commission. From this came a report in which a specific recommendation was contained. It was that Colonel Deeds be dismissed from the service, and prosecuted in the name of the government."

"What did John W. Davis do? Portions of the Hughes report were suppressed, and that portion concerning Colonel Deeds was ignored. Where was the conscience of John W. Davis then? He was solicitor general of the United States. He might have done something to check the orgy of waste that was in progress. But he did nothing."

A stunning indictment! But its pertinence is lost by the simple fact that Mr. Davis was not solicitor general at that time, but was in London as our ambassador at the court of St. James. I presume this misstatement was only a lapse of memory and that you will be fair enough to correct it. Honesty is a good policy—even in politics.

Not by Editor—Walter Hines Page, American ambassador to England, died on December 22, 1918. The armistice ending the war had been signed more than a month before. John W. Davis still was solicitor general of the United States when the war ended, his nomination to be ambassador to the court of St. James going to the senate on November 18, 1918, one week after the armistice was signed. The Hughes report on the aircraft scandal had been made months before the war ended.

Mr. De Larme Thinks They Should Hang.

Omaha—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: When the reporter of The Bee asked for my opinion of the sentence given the Chicago murderers, I replied that I did not then care to be reported. You quoted me as saying that "the judge had to use his own judgment and may have had things to think of which we know nothing about." I did not say that at all, and it is not my opinion. I believe that Loeb and Leopold should have been hanged, absolutely. It was a most brutal, cowardly atrocious murder with the most sordid and reprehensible motive that could be conceived. Capital punishment for capital offense is the requirement of the law.

Abe Martin



We all have t' smile a little when we hear of an officeholder takin' a vacation. At th' debate held at th' Apple Grove school-house last night it wuz resolved that Scotch whisky had done more t' cement th' friendship between our 'Great Britain than th' world war.

and armaments. Whenever the business of the world is carried on for the mutual benefit of all the people—when profits and interests are abolished—there will be no need of competition and therefore none, consequently no need of quarrelling over the distribution of products or the acquiring of new fields for exploitation such as there is now and will continue to be until there is no longer a profit to be made.

We may have a religious war or two, but I am inclined to believe that this can be averted by proper teaching and legislation. So when I hear the propaganda of certain persons and groups of individuals for armistice and disarmament, I wonder if these people really think along constructive lines, or are they really ignorant of the real reason why there can be no peace or disarmament.

Every one ought to know that we must protect ourselves against each other. Why don't we do away with policemen and detectives? Most anybody can answer that question. Even if we did join a world league and disarm, would we feel safe? Could we absolutely trust our neighbors, or would we set some one to watch each other to see that we did not arm secretly? Does anyone think for a minute that Russia will give up her dreams and join a league. If Germany does join, will she keep the peace? Would we here in America

be wise to take any such chances? We evidently are too wise to sign any such disarmament agreement before England and France does, and if we wait for them we will not be long to the disarmament club.

GEORGE ELKINS. Easily Distinguished. "Mrs. Blank calls her dog and her husband by the same pet name. Doesn't that cause frequent confusion?"

"Not at all. She always speaks gently to the dog."—Boston Transcript. No Laughing Matter. "Pa," said Clarence, "do you know

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HOTEL FONTENELLE ADVERTISEMENT.

Baby Tortured Day and Night by Eczema Resinol Stopped Itching and Healed Sick Skin

Brooklyn, N. Y., May 10:—"I thought it might interest you to know how much Resinol has done for my baby. Her face was covered with scabs and the itching was so severe I had to keep stockings on her hands to keep her from scratching. I had to be up at night as it bothered her so she could not sleep. Two doctors, one of them a skin specialist, told me she had eczema. I tried several remedies, but nothing helped, so when I read in the paper about Resinol, I thought I would give it a trial. I can't praise it enough, for it has done wonders for the baby's skin and she sleeps all through the night now. I would advise anyone with a similar case to try Resinol Ointment." (Signed) Mrs. Rose Goersdorf, 27 Furman Avenue. All druggists sell Resinol Soap and Ointment.

SUNNY SIDE UP Take Comfort, nor forget That sunrise never failed us yet Calva Theater

It really is no business of ours, but we can not refrain from adding the weight of our influence, however little it may be, to the plea the McCook Tribune makes for a new depot at that point. McCook deserves it for many reasons. And the genial Major MacLaren, Burlington superintendent at McCook, is deserving of more commodious and convenient quarters. Now if the Burlington will give McCook a depot in keeping with the new McCook hotel, the new bank building, the government postoffice building, the paved streets and the class of McCook citizenship, it will be an architectural beauty.

C. W. Purdum of Council Bluffs has placed us under lasting obligations. He harkened unto our wall about the old-fashioned stone burr mill and comes forward with the information that Bert Meachin operates just that kind at Donnegan, Mo. Our order has gone on for a couple of sacks of burr ground cornmeal, yellow preferred, and in the meanwhile we are living in gustatory anticipation.

Blood will tell. Comes now the word that Floyd Wright, graduate of the University of Nebraska, former track and gridiron star and coming lawyer, has been appointed city attorney of Scottsbluff. This does the son follow in the footsteps of the father. This explains why Fred Wright of Omaha, president of the Nebraska Bar association and charter member of our I Knew Him When Club, is looking and feeling a bit chummy these days.

There may be a few things wrong with the present day public school system, but they have something that the public schools of our youthful days lacked. In our boyhood days we never worried about being tardy, nor did we take especial pains to be present at roll call every morning and remaining through the day. Now the youngsters begin worrying as soon as they get up lest they be tardy, and to miss school for a day is a calamity.

By the way, does the September crispness remind any other native Missourians transplanted to Nebraska of darkening pawpaws, purple persimmons, red haws and fat 'possums? And black damson plums, and luscious hominy? We confess that it grows increasingly hard, as time speeds onward, for us to take time away from the contentment of such things for the purpose of studying politics.

It may be worthy of more than passing attention on the part of those who favor the state getting into competition with private industry—Nebraska has a system of state hail insurance. Farmers who carried state hail insurance policies and paid for them, and suffered hail loss, are now notified that they will be paid 55 per cent of their loss.

We wonder if it is with others as it is with us. We sit at our desk and pick the winners almost without fail. When we go to the track and try to pick them, backing our judgment in a practical way, we almost invariably fail. When we offer tangible evidence of our faith in a horse, that horse invariably is tardy at the wire.

About the only absolutely cinch bet we know of—the man who yells the loudest about the result of the election is the man who was too lazy, or too indifferent, or too good, to go to the polls to vote. WILL M. MATPIN.

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