

# 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 organization.

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

### "BENEFITS FORGOTTEN."

We have heard so many assertions that the present administration has been deaf to every appeal from agriculture or from labor we wonder if those who make the assertions ever looked up the record. It is true that the congress passed no law to dehorn the supreme court. That it did not enact legislation to revolutionize industry. But it did enact a large number of wholesome laws for the relief of agriculture and the benefit of labor, all of which were duly acknowledged by the American Federation of Labor. That was before the Cleveland convention declined to incorporate in its platform the planks prepared by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor.

Maybe it will serve to refresh the memories of some who are complaining if we look up the record of the administration since the 4th of March, 1921. The Sixty-seventh congress met under President Harding, with a fair working majority for the republicans in both houses. Responsibility for all legislation enacted rests upon the administration.

That congress passed 17 laws that received the approval of the American Federation of Labor, and which were so reported to the convention of that body held at Cincinnati in June, 1922. It passed more laws for the benefit of agriculture and the livestock interests than had ever been written on the statute books of the nation in any 25 years before in the history of the United States.

These laws were enacted at the request of the various groups and organizations representing the interests of agriculture and the rank and file of the farmers of the United States. It is a matter of record that not a request from any substantial group representing agriculture was denied by congress.

Some of the specific acts of congress in which farmers were more directly concerned than any other class of citizens were:

- Authorizing the War Finance corporation to make loans to agricultural and livestock interests, and providing a billion-dollar revolving fund for the purpose.
- Revised federal highway act, and appropriated \$75,000,000 for construction of highways.
- Law regulating trading in grain futures. First act was declared unconstitutional; second act immediately passed to cure the defects noted by the court.
- Seed loan act for aid of farmers in drought-stricken areas of northwest.
- Series of laws giving leeway on payments due from settlers on irrigated or reclamation projects, and from those using government land for grazing purposes.
- Increased available funds of Federal Farm Loan bank by \$25,000,000, and amended law to facilitate marketing of bonds of these banks.
- Packers and stockyards law, regulating the handling of livestock in interstate commerce.
- Legislated formation of cooperative marketing associations by agricultural producers. This act permits such associations to enter interstate commerce.
- Filled milk law.
- Rural or intermediate credits law.
- Created a dairy bureau in the Department of Agriculture.
- Emergency tariff law, for the relief of farmers.

In the Sixty-eighth congress an earnest effort was made by the administration to secure the passage of further legislation for the benefit of the farmer. Such measures as the Burness-Norbeck bill and the McNary-Haugen bill were ruthlessly slaughtered by a combination, whose representatives are now clamoring for farmer votes. President Coolidge asked to have the Elwood Mead plan to relieve settlers under reclamation projects adopted. Senator Key Pittman, democrat from Nevada, said nay at the last minutes, and the nays carried the day. No state in the union would have benefited more directly by this law than Nevada, but its democratic senator was not in the mood to let any such law go over.

We do not believe that the farmers are so stupid as to be entirely misled by the assertions that are being made by the wonder workers. The course of the republican administration since 1921 has not been an easy one. Yet great things have been done for the good of the country, and the work is still going on. Calvin Coolidge does not set up to be a wizard. He says the country needs a government of common sense, and that just about tells the story. Western farmers will understand what he means.

### OTHELLO KNEW BETTER THAN HIGHT.

Philosophers and poets alike stand aghast at the tale that comes from a little country community in Illinois. A man and woman felt mutually attracted, and in order that they might indulge their longings, one murdered a wife and the other a husband. All efforts to dissect or accurately define the tender passion of man for woman have fallen short. Poets have used up ream on ream of paper to express in rhapsody the emotion excited when "Love took up the harp of life." Tennyson goes on, saying the little god

"Smote on all its chords with might—  
Smote the chord of self, which, trembling,  
Passed in music out of sight."  
But Pastor Hight and Mrs. Sweetin thought of themselves alone. They thought with perversion of what should be a holy impulse. In cold blood they

killed the persons whose presence seemed a barrier to their unholy desires. The case is bound to attract attention, not because it is a rarity, but because it exhibits a twist of mind that interests the student.

Jealousy frequently leads to murder, but such an excuse is not at all sufficient in a case like this. The spouse of neither of the guilty pair seemed sufficient of an obstacle to prevent their liaison. Othello, one of the greatest lovers in literature, killed Desdemona out of jealousy. He knew better than Hight, however. It was not to clear the way to enjoyment of an illicit amour, but to gratify what he thought was an affront placed upon his honor by his wife. We can write of the Moor, in his own words, "as one who, being moved, was sore perplexed." Of the Illinois preacher it is possible only to express amazement that a man of any grade of intelligence should be guilty of so gross and brutal a crime, and seek to excuse by saying he was in love!

### NO, JIM, PUT 'EM IN JAIL.

No, Jim, we can not follow you. The speeder is a menace. It is no excuse that only a few of them are caught. It may be that the judge is a speeder, that the prosecutor is a speeder, that the policeman who made the arrest is a speeder. It may be we are all speeders. That doesn't excuse. It is no defense for one speeder, caught, to point to the other speeders who are not caught.

The campaign of education in safety will influence some automobile drivers and turn them from speeding to careful driving. It is hoped that it will influence most of them. The speeder, before safety education or after safety education, can only be curbed by a strong policy of dealing with them. If experience discloses that jail is the place to put them, then to jail with them. A convenient rock pile, as an adjunct of the jail would help.

It may be, as the mayor says, that in jail the speeders will find hardened criminals as his cell companions. Why not? If the speeder doesn't want to associate with hardened criminals let him stop speeding. It is very simple.

No Jim, throw them in. Throw in the judge, if he is a speeder. Throw in the prosecutor and the policeman who makes the arrest. Throw us all in. What is more, keep us there until we are cured.

Out on the farm when the old hen gets the setting fever, and the farmer doesn't want her to set—preferring that she lay eggs instead—he takes an old washtub and turns it upside down over her. After a few days the fever is gone. The hen goes back to laying eggs.

Turn the tub over the speeders, Mr. Mayor, by putting them in jail, even if it is necessary to put the whole town under the tub. We will get over the speeding fever in that way. But it will take a strong hand.

The new safety council in Omaha will teach the "jay-walkers" that such a practice is unsafe. Its work in the schools and homes will teach the lesson of safety to children who too often run out into the streets. Many things it can do. It is one of the best programs Omaha can get under way at this time. In time it will influence those speeders who have brains to realize the danger they are to life and limb, but there are some speeders without brains. These the safety council will never reach. Jail for them, Mr. Mayor, jail. Then again, jail.

### DAVIS IN THE MIDDLE.

Henry Allen, who runs the Beacon at Wichita, Kan., has traveled over the world enough and had experience enough in big things to be able to get a perspective of American politics. His comment on the position of the three candidates in the presidential contest is for that reason entitled to more than the casual attention given to such statements during a political campaign.

It is Allen's opinion that the strength of Coolidge as the conservatively progressive candidate, and La Follette as sucking strength from Davis from both sides. Davis has not been strong enough to overshadow Coolidge as the candidate of those who believe in making progress by starting from the foundation of that which has been tested and found to be true. He has been too conservative for those who have been itching for change of some sort.

The ideal situation in American politics is the middle ground. The truth is Davis has not sufficiently impressed himself as the leader of the middle ground forces to attract attention. He is a novice in politics. His career has been a steady, easy climb, backed by a fine intellect. He has not had to wrestle with the hard facts of life. His corners have not been knocked off. He is learning, however, and should be nominated again in 1928 he will make a much better candidate, a stronger candidate.

The childlike innocence with which he has taken the advice of local politicians, none of them his equal in intelligence or understanding, reveals the true condition of his campaign. His own strength has been sapped by these advisers. He has at no time been really himself.

For these reasons Henry Allen believes that Davis will not and can not make much headway.

An interesting feature of Allen's comment is what he describes as the position of the socialist party—laughing up their sleeves at the hoax they have put over on the American people. They are following the same tactics in politics that they followed so many years against Samuel Gompers and the American Federation of Labor. They are "bor-ing from within." Gompers kept them out of the A. F. of L. Now he is working with them. We see once again the truth of the old adage, "politics makes strange bedfellows." Gompers and Berger together carrying the banner of La Follette.

## Homespun Verse

—By Omaha's Own Poet—  
Robert Worthington Davis

WE WISH THAT THEY COULD LIVE AGAIN  
When we have struggled year by year and through the dark days passed,  
When time for rest and happiness has come to us at last—  
We often think of those who toiled and battled strife in vain,  
And wish that they could live again and share with us our gain;  
Those who were near and dear to us in childhood gay and free,  
Whose love and care have made us all that we have hoped to be,  
Those who thought not of sacrifice, but often braved the fray  
That we might meet with fewer knocks on life's uneven way.  
When we stand at glad Comfort's door, where Fate our steps has led,  
And think of those who lived for us and tried to get ahead—  
We wish they could arise again from that strange mystic Deep,  
And share with us the harvest which with zest and pride we reap.

## The Big Game Hunting Expedition



ABOUT ONLY PLACE HE CAN FIND TO ATTACK WITHOUT DANGER OF HITTING LOT OF DEMOCRATS

## 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.

**Mr. Crocker's Position.**  
Beatrice, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: May I explain my position in this campaign with reference to the republican nominee for United States senator for Nebraska. The Daily Sun of Beatrice, of September 23, 1924, in an editorial said in part, that "on account of their partnership, the organized men will support Norris despite his contempt for parties and organizations in politics."  
I have heretofore said that "to vote for a man, in the general election, and not for a political party was not the intention of those who made possible our present system of placing men at the head of our government."  
Such practice forms a coalition government where the whims of classes in power work detriment to the masses of the people, forming numerous blocs.  
Our country has been stable from the fact that we have political parties which send representatives to office pledged to principles of their respective platforms. This assures the people that for a certain definite time a particular set of principles will be carried into effect. To vote for a man to represent the people, who is not pledged to, and has no intention of abiding, for four years by the pledges of a platform prevents stable conditions, gives us a coalition government, and works detriment to all American trade as well as avoids the purpose of parties, both republican and democratic.

**Believes in Defense.**  
Wausa, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Why all this agitation about the National Defense day? Why so much pretended suspicion about our country wanting to start a war? That the United States do not want to start a war, nor ever have

tried to start one is perfectly well known to every American.  
The real object of our Defense day demonstrations, as I see it, was to see how our people stand on patriotism. The world war opened our eyes to the fact that a great number of our people were not only disloyal but outright enemies of our country and its institutions. And we have yet among us those to whom this country is not a home but a gambling den. And they are not confined to any one political party either. During the war it was difficult to tell who were really loyal and patriotic at heart, as so many displayed patriotism falsely on account of fear, or for selfish or treacherous purposes.  
But a peace-time demonstration involving all men and women standing ready to defend their country and its institutions against its enemies, to cater around the colors, will show pretty well the patriotic strength of the country.  
And furthermore, there is a real blessing in these gatherings around the flag in that it warms our hearts with more patriotism and a greater appreciation of our great country and its institutions and inspires us with more zeal to do our bit to promote its welfare.  
OLD-TIMER.

## SUNNY SIDE UP

Take Comfort, nor forget,  
That Sunrise never failed us yet.  
Celia Baxter

The Saint and Sinners—and we want the compositor to see it that the Saint is singular and Sinners plural—the Saint and Sinners' table over at the Athletic club is only such when we are invited over, we furnishing the singular part of the cognomen. It is the Sinners' table when lack of invitation precludes the possibility of our being present. To listen in on the conversation is to discover how much can be subtracted from the sum of human knowledge in one brief hour. It is around this table that the membership draws upon its imagination for its statistics, and individual opinion for its history. To coincide with the opinion of another is an admission of weakness, and to accept any statement without disputing it is sufficient grounds for expulsion.

It is when the conversation is general that the least is being said, and dead silence reigning is proof positive of a relapse into temporary sanity, apical and political. On divers and sundry occasions, the same not being as frequent as we would wish, we have discovered that it is a waste of time to try to convey information on topics which we are an authority upon, and to accept the information so freely tendered by others is to accumulate a varied and vast fund of misinformation.

We do not know just who is responsible for the bunch that daily foregathers around the table, but whoever it may be has much to answer for. We suspicion that it is Judge Ben Baker, although Fred Wright, Herman Aye and John Latenser may not be guiltless. But be all this as it may—and it really is—the fact remains that an hour around that particular table gives a new zest to life, makes the afternoon's labors a joy and affords ample proof that foregoing with a bunch of good fellows is very much worth while.

Isn't it funny how a paper cap, a bagful of confetti and a feather tickler will make a middle-aged man or woman act like a child when their father would have licked them for in their youthful days?

D. M. V.—Thanks, sincere thanks. Letters such as yours are like unto a drink of cold water to a traveler in the desert; like a gleam of sunshine through a rift in the clouds. We are frank to declare that we would prefer to have our flowers while we can inhale their odor.

There would be more respect for law in this country if there were not so many fool ones on the statute books.

Campaign contributions would be more liberal if the people had not served notice that they were going to watch appointees more closely than ever before.

In a few days we expect to be in Milwaukee, which, by the way, has at least one less attraction than the Milwaukee of other days. But being as how we will be attending the National Dairy Show we will be satisfied to look out across the lake and think of what may be had over on the other side. Milk isn't such a bad drink, after all. WILL M. MAUPIN.

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## Abe Martin



Th' loser of a mesh bag containin' a recipe fer elderberry wine, seven telephone numbers, a lip-stick, an' a pair o' horse clippers, kin have th' same by callin' on Lib Pash an' payin' fer havin' th' clipper sharpened.