

# THE OMAHA BEE

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## Omaha Where the West is at its Best

FACTS NEVER WORRY THEM.

"The war made 23,000 new millionaires," shouts a supporter of La Follette. He goes on to tell how this was done. Chiefly it came about because congress did not adopt "Battling Bob's" plan to pay for the war by taxation, and not by selling bonds.

If the war made 23,000 new millionaires, a lot of them have got away from the tax collector. Returns on income for 1921 show that 17,150 individuals reported income of \$40,000 or more during that year. Assuming that the income was accrued at the rate of 4 per cent, this would indicate that all are millionaires. As a matter of fact, this is not the case, for many men have incomes in the way of salary, personal earnings, and from other sources, amounting to \$40,000 a year, and yet are far from being millionaires. However, taking the whole figure, the total checks out 5,850 short of the assertion made by the wild-eyed supporter of the class-conscious candidate.

As to excess profits, the revenue law of 1917 did lay a heavy rate on excess profits, and that of 1918 carried the same. It was under these laws that the tax for 1921 was collected. So perhaps La Follette's efforts were not wholly in vain. At the beginning of the war a group of eminent authorities on taxation, among them Dr. Commons of the University of Wisconsin, agreed that the war could not be financed by taxation alone, but that borrowing must be resorted to. Everybody with any sense understood this.

What did we buy when we invested in Liberty bonds? We bought ourselves, our own faith, honor, credit. A Liberty bond would be worthless if it did not represent the American people, their hopes, their aspirations, all they are or expect to become. That is why Liberty bonds are selling above par.

Facts, however, mean very little to the loose-tongued shouters who see the revolution just back of La Follette. The senator himself may not mean it. Burton Kendall Wheeler, idol of the L. W. W. group, close friend and champion of "Big Bill" Dunn and W. Z. Foster, sees it. He was removed from office under Woodrow Wilson because he could see the revolution. Victor Berger was ejected from congress because of his stand, was indicted, tried and convicted in federal courts for his interference with Russia. Not openly for the Third Internationale. But through La Follette's cunning he sees the socialist group of which he is head, coming into power. Facts like this are what should be noted. It is not a war against the rich. It is a war against property in any form, that of the humblest as well as of the millionaires.

### GET IT OVER TO THE MEN, TOO.

Women are being urged to vote this year as never before. In 1920 the ballot was entirely new to the great majority of women, but they have had four years in which to contemplate its use. Now they are asked to get out on election day and show that they appreciate that for which they so long contended.

But it is not the women alone who need to be prodded on the matter of voting. Proportionately, men are as remiss as their mothers, wives and sisters. Indeed, the effort being put forth by the women should be a stimulant to the men. Meetings to instruct voters, and to impress on them the importance of voting are being held all over the state, and are having a good effect. These meetings are nonpartisan in their inception. It is the desire that everybody vote; how they vote is not the first consideration. After the laggard voter is awakened to his or her part in the general program, then the desire for information as to which party to affiliate with comes to the front.

Popular government will be a failure as long as a majority of the qualified electors refrain from taking part in selection of officers to make the laws and run the government under them. One who does not go to the polls on election day has no right to complain as to what occurs as a result of the election. All this is elemental, and axiomatic. The point is that workers are busy exciting among the women an interest in the ballot. Somebody should set about to stir the men up as well. If the ballot is to be the great force it should be in the affairs of man, its exercise should be regarded as the first duty of every one who enjoys the privilege of voting. And many men voluntarily disfranchise themselves.

### MAKE THE RIVER WORK.

Omaha's interest in water transportation has again been brought to the attention of our business men in a forcible fashion. Sydney J. Roy, field secretary of the National Rivers and Harbors congress, gave the Chamber of Commerce a message heard here before, but worthy of being repeated until it has sunk in deep enough to incite action. Here is the proposition in its simplest form:

"More and more the great manufacturing plants are being located in the west. Omaha will get her share, if the city can prove that the transportation facilities are of the best. A city which has both

rail and water transportation has a tremendous advantage over a community which depends altogether on the rail carriers."

A great river runs by Omaha's front door. It once was a carrier of commerce. It can again be made a carrier of commerce. Plenty of business can be had for the river and without hampering the railroads. Ordinarily in this part of the world the railroads are pressed to take care of the business offered them. If the region grows as it should, and be developed to anything like its possibilities, the demand on transportation will be enormously increased.

A market for the products of Nebraska's fields is opening to the south. This is not new, for it has been going for years. And the river will carry the grain, meats and other food products to the seaboard. On the Mississippi last year and this goods have been carried from Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa to Pacific coast consumers by water. South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas might share in this by putting the river to work.

### MACDONALD ACCEPTS CHALLENGE.

A double attack is leveled against the labor government of Great Britain. On the conservative side it takes the form of a motion for a vote of censure of the ministry. From the liberals it comes in the form of an amendment proposing an inquiry. Both grow out of charges of sedition leveled against the editor of a communist paper, and which were dismissed by the MacDonald ministry. It is expected that on one or the other of these motions the government will fall.

MacDonald, making the best of a bad situation, announces himself and his associates ready to go to the people on the issue raised. He is vehement in his denunciation of communism, but adheres with tenacity to the principles if not the program of the labor group. For some time a discontent has been developing amongst the laborites because MacDonald, Snowden and Webb have not moved sufficiently fast to realize the program of nationalization of industry along with the capital levy that was demanded in the original prospectus. Presumably, the issues will be again raised, and a vote of the people will determine.

MacDonald is in power by virtue of acquiescence of the liberals, who were willing to give him a shot at the problems that baffled Lloyd George, Bonar Law and Baldwin. Whatever of these are domestic stand about where they were when handed to the laborites. So little change has been made because so little time has been offered. It would have required a miracle worker to bring about all that has been demanded of MacDonald since he has been in office. He is just a hard-headed Scotchman, knowing these questions can not be disposed of by any magic of legislation. Especially when he knows he has no majority of any kind for the sort of proposal his supporters outside parliament think they want.

So it is no wonder that labor papers are referring to "Tory" MacDonald. Nor is it exactly cricket, as they would say, for the liberals to now withdraw their support from MacDonald, who has manfully striven and actually has done some things that may be helpful to England in the days to come. It is not likely that the British people ever will come again into the dominating position they occupied in 1914, but it is very certain that the first step in that direction will be the adoption of a policy that will secure tranquility at home and a revival of industry. This would be a better issue to face the voters on than any program of confiscation of property.

### WHO USES THE HIGHWAYS?

Once a stock argument against improvements of rural highways was that only city people use them. The fallacy of this was apparent to anyone who would think, but it got a lot of support. Experience is showing how far wrong such a statement is. Farmers, since they began to use automobiles, realize that good roads are as necessary for them as for anyone. To what extent the roads of the country are used locally is shown by a count recently made in Lincoln county. We find in the North Platte Tribune:

"Here are three numbers to remember—2,705, 2,005 and 1,693. They are not dates but automobiles. In the recent count of autos passing over the Lincoln highway between 6 in the morning and 9 in the evening during seven days it was found that the total was 6,203 cars. It has been figured that there were just 6,300 minutes in the time counted, which makes one car every minute. And that was right at the edge of North Platte, Neb. Now, 2,705 is the number of Lincoln county cars in that bunch, 2,005 is the number of Nebraska cars outside of Lincoln county, and 1,693 is the number of cars from outside of the state."

The Tribune goes on to discuss the cost of the roads, and asks who it is pays for them. That of course is important, and deserves consideration. Especially because it leads directly to the stand of The Omaha Bee that those who use the roads should contribute to their cost and upkeep. One of the approved methods for reaching this end is through a tax on gasoline. A better way may be devised, but until it is the levy of a tax on gasoline might well be applied. Farmers will pay their just share of this, but those who use the roads that are now paid for out of a tax on the farmer's land will aid in lessening that charge and in securing better roads as well.

Democrats are accusing the republicans of raising a sectional issue by referring to the south, the only reliable democratic region left.

The war may have made 23,000 new millionaires, but it certainly did make 13,000,000 new automobile owners.

Bre'er McAdoo certainly picked an awkward time to go to the hospital.

## Homespun Verse

—By Omaha's Own Poet—  
Robert Worthington Davie

LIGHT IS BRIGHTER THAN DARKNESS IS OBSCURE.

Each day the sunlight shines its last into the lives of some.  
 Each gloaming folks to slumber go and wake in King-dome.  
 Catastrophe incessant takes its toll of joy and lives.  
 And thives sometimes skip out to roam with other fellows' wives.  
 But even so, the solemn dark is not as murky quite,  
 Nor as excessive, as the light through all the world is bright.  
 And all that drifts to nothingness and potent virtue stains  
 Is like an atom by the side of that which still remains.  
 The seasons of productivity and fragrance swiftly go.  
 But when the Winter comes along Spring nearer draws, we know;  
 And in the constant whirl of things when leaves and flowers are dead,  
 We know that blooming time is not so many months ahead.  
 We spend our savings as we must to meet each pressing debt,  
 Relishing that in time relief and pleasure we will get—  
 And all the while we seem to hear the soft voice of the lark,  
 And ever brighter is the light than murky is the dark.

## If We Follow Bob's Directions



## 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.

### Told In Anagrams.

Omaha—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Many things are said and written about the different presidential candidates every day, and if I can read aright the vast majority of the voters are beginning to feel that Davis is a reactionary.

The vast majority of the voters are also beginning to feel that the thing we need in the White House is not reaction but action, or rather pep, and as the make-up of Coolidge and La Follette more nearly describes what the voters think pep is made up of, it is not surprising that we hear and read most about them.

Both of these men seem to understand what the people are demanding, but the great difference between the men is their ideas of what pep is made up of.

Let us analyze these two men and see what they really think. La Follette seems to think that pep is made up of Jazz, Vitaminums, Navigation (much of it in the air), Kicks, and Coolidge feels that pep is made up of Purpose, Energy and Perspiration.

Those are the things that truly spell pep. And I am not surprised to see him running away from the rest of the candidates in the straw vote that the Literary Digest is taking, for I still have faith in the American voter.

Gently Chides Editor Lochray. Omaha—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Under the caption, "Watch La Follette Win," J. A. Lochray's Mid-West News, issue of September 25, said editorially:

"Not since the days of Abraham Lincoln has a candidate for the presidency gripped the hearts of the plain people as has this shaggy-haired, strong-hearted son of the west. Like Lincoln he was born in a log house, reared in adversity, began his career as a poor country lawyer, and raised himself by the sheer force of character, ability and incomparable ideals to the leadership of the progressive and constructive forces of the nation. Forty years of devoted public service without the shadow of a stain upon his record. No wonder the people love him!"

Under the caption, "Why I Am for Coolidge," J. A. Lochray in a signed editorial in the Mid-West News, issue of October 3, expressed himself thus: "La Follette is an enemy of our existing order of things. He has accepted the unqualified endorsement of the socialists. There is no half-way ground between our institutions and those of socialism, the forerunner of communism, there lies an impossible chasm. We must choose one side or the other. La Follette accepts the support of the socialists who expect him to put their doctrines and theories into force, and he must by all thinking people be classed as a socialist even though he does not label himself as such."

"La Follette stands on the socialist side of the question. On the other side stands Calvin Coolidge, with a constructive program for the preservation and betterment of our institutions."

Surely a sudden and striking change—a wonderful revolution of thought to be accomplished in the

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V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr.  
 Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of October, 1924.

W. H. QUIVERY, Notary Public (Seal)

## SUNNY SIDE UP

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

York is famous for a number of things, one of them being the fact that we once lived there. Another is that the city never had a saloon, although our recollection is that it never suffered from a real drought, owing to the activities of bootleggers. Still another is that it has one of the best hotels in the midwest, built by local capital. And still another is that it is the home of Charley McCloud. Charley is entitled to membership in the We Knew Him When club. We first knew him when he was buying right-of-way for the Northwestern through York county. He didn't have any better start in life than 90 per cent of us. Today he is a wealthy man who knows how to use his money in a way to benefit his community as well as himself. That's why they named York's magnificent hotel "The McCloud."

Old-timers in York will recall that the biggest crowd ever entertained in their city was way back in 1890, when Bill McKelghan visited York to make a campaign speech. Bill was the Farmers' Alliance candidate for congress against N. V. Harlan, republican, of York. No one in York county entertained any idea that Bill could be elected. That is, until after that gathering. They came for miles around, horseback, in lumber wagons, buggies and buckboards. Bill spoke in the afternoon, and that night the betting odds were all in Bill's favor. That was the year of the big political upset in Nebraska, three republicans being defeated for congress and two Farmers' Alliance and one democrat being elected. The 1931 session of the legislature restricted the state, and thereafter Nebraska had six congressmen.

Just before reaching York from the east one passes through Utica. In the old days Utica was a favorite trading point for York people. Utica, 14 miles away, had saloons, while York did not. You may draw your own inference.

Without exception York is the most musical city in the United States, and has more musicians, and good ones, per 100 of population. The man who is most responsible for this is J. A. Parks, who conducts right here in York the largest music publishing house in the country. His publications are sold all over the world, and many of his compositions have been immensely popular as records. Parks is a fine sample of what one man full of enthusiasm can do for a community. York owes him more than it can ever repay.

We have a "mystery cow" on our train. Only one man knows what her milk production was during the last year. Miss Mystery is a Holstein. Just to learn what people know about cows a prize is offered in each town to the person guessing closest to her year's production. The guesses range from 5,000 to 32,000 pounds. The awards will be made after the trip is completed.

We have no desire to precipitate a controversy, but we risk it by stating that in our opinion York and Kearney are the two prettiest little cities between the Missouri river and the Rockies. Are we not very smart, but smart enough not to render a decision between the two.

At this juncture we desire to introduce an old friend. Comparatively few readers of The Omaha Bee know him, but it would be to their advantage they did. He never made a political speech, never asked anybody to pass a law in his behalf, and never sat around and whined because he had no chance. But he raised a fine family, sent three boys into his country's service, worked hard all his life, and still works although nearly 70 years old. He was the best and kindest neighbor we ever had. He is an exemplary citizen. Ladies and gentlemen, meet Mart Meyers of York. Men like him are worth knowing.

WILL M. MAUPIN.

Fixing the Blame. Betty—How long have you and daddy been married? Mother—Ten years, darling. "You two haven't very good lawyers, have you?"—Life.

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