

# THE OMAHA BEE

MORNING—EVENING—SUNDAY

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## Omaha Where the West is at its Best

### EXCESS OF REGULATION.

The passion for regulation that has been raging for the past quarter of a century seems to be slowing up. The demand for regulation of public service corporations grew out of well known abuses of public rights and public confidence. No one in these days, least of all the managers of the large public service corporations, would consent to a return to the old days when regulation was unknown.

But it is apparent to every one who has given the matter more than superficial thought that regulation often has been carried to such an extreme that it has defeated the ends sought. In many instances regulation has been carried to the point of strangulation. Multiplied commissions, with attendant cost of operation; excess of public officials to look after business operations with which they were wholly unfamiliar; often a too manifest disposition to render a verdict of guilty against business simply because it was big business, all combined to bring about a lack of business confidence. These things tended to increasing costs of public service, to the breaking down of initiative and the hampering of development. These have been reflected in greater costs to the general public in higher rates and in higher taxes.

The expense of this extreme regulation can not be borne by the corporations thus regulated. It must be passed on to the public. Rates charged by the public service corporations are, in nearly every instance, higher than they were before regulation became general. Part of this is due to increased wages, which were promoted by the regulatory bodies. Part is due to the increased cost of materials. And a goodly part is caused by the necessity of a return that will defray the expense of maintaining so many regulatory bodies.

The expense of regulatory laws is enormous. These laws are not confined to public service corporations. They operate in semi-public service corporations, in private corporations, and in many other ways. We have built up such an intricate system of regulating the nominating and electing of public officials that the tax burden necessary to enforce them is constantly on the increase. Regulatory laws are needed, to be sure. It is becoming plain to the public, however, that regulation often has been carried to excess. If not to excess, at least it has been planned and operated in a most bungling manner.

With these facts understood, it is now time to undertake the work of rectifying the mistakes made. Private initiative must be given greater recognition and scope of action. Whatever regulation is necessary should be framed by students of economics and not by self-seeking politicians. Once framed these regulatory laws should be enforced by fair-minded men of experience and ability, not by political favorites unfamiliar with the fundamentals of the business enterprises they may have under their direction.

### TAKING THE REST CURE.

What the country needs right now is a rest cure after too much lawmaking. The short session of congress will begin in a few days. It will have to break a number of precedents if it enacts any legislation of sorts before it expires on March 3.

President Coolidge is of the opinion that there is no need for an extraordinary session of congress, not until next summer at any rate. The people as a whole will concur in this opinion. General business will also concur. There may be a few who might suffer temporarily by reason of the president not calling an extra session. But a vastly greater number will be benefited by giving the people a rest from lawmaking, lawmakers' jangling and threats of legislation calculated to interrupt the onward march of prosperity.

The congress elected on November 4 will meet in December a year from now. Its members may profitably put in their time studying actual conditions and fitting themselves for intelligent action when they meet in regular session. The agricultural commission will have plenty of time for intelligent investigation, and the revenue law adopted at the last session will have had a fair trial.

The country made it plain at the last election that it wanted to be let alone for a little while.

### ARE THESE SEEKING TO BE "SLAVES"?

For years there has been a constant clamor from certain quarters about "wage slavery" in the United States. One heard it in increasing volume during the recent campaign, and we were promised a revolt that would land an apostle of discontent in the White House.

There is not another country in the world that does not contain hundreds of thousands of men and women who look with longing eyes for an opportunity to get into the United States to enjoy what these apostles of discontent call "wage slavery." In Russia, where capitalism has been dethroned and the proletariat enthroned, millions are looking longingly toward this country. They know that the so-called wage slavery of America is heaven compared with the freedom from oppression that has been handed to them.

There is no country on earth that equals the United States in working conditions, in wage rates, in living conditions and in opportunities for self-ad-

vancement. In no other country may the employe rise so quickly to the status of employe. In no other country is welfare work so well developed. In no other country are the workmen's compensation laws and pension systems as liberal as those of this republic. Those who complain the loudest about wage slavery in the United States would fight deportation to the limit. They know full well that what they call wage slavery here would be Utopia for the wage earners of every other nation. The workers of every other country envy the so-called wage slaves of America and long to enjoy the same sort of slavery.

That conditions are not what they should be, and might be, is admitted. But betterment will not be achieved by trying to tear things down. Betterment is to be achieved by organization and education; by intelligent participation in the affairs of government, by closing ears to the complaints of agitators, who too often have a personal end in view.

What the agitators call "the chains of wage slavery" would be ribbons of roses to the workers of other nations.

### CHIEF NEED OF BUSINESS.

The chief need of business is men—efficient, loyal men. It has them, but not in sufficient numbers. It has too many "good enough men," men who do just enough to get by on the job. Too many men who work by the clock, not by inspiration and sheer love of the job. Too many men who look upon the boss as an oppressor, not as a fellow worker. Too many men who take the money for working hours and then spend much of their leisure time denouncing the boss and his enterprises. Too many men who tear down, knowingly or unknowingly what their employers are trying to build up.

No honest employe seeks to coerce his employe. But he has a right to expect co-operation, not antagonism, from the men in his employe.

There are too many men working for, and not enough men working with their employes. The industrial world is sadly in need of men who will work with the men whose energy and brains and capital make employment possible.

The job that provides one with an opportunity to earn a living is a job worth boosting. The only way to make it a better job is to make it plain that it should be a better job by rendering that loyal and efficient service that demands recognition. The industrial world needs men who are working for the better job, not solely for the weekly pay check. The worker who renders just enough service to get by never covers any appreciable distance. The worker who consistently beats the clock to the wash basin may beat his employe a little, but he beats himself more.

No real man is ever satisfied with his job. He wants to make it better, and he must realize that the way to make it better is to better himself as a worker and thereby better his employe. The man who knocks on his employe and on his job ily deserves either employe or job.

Joy in one's work makes work a pleasure. The man who does not find joy in his work has tackled the wrong job. Labor is man's reward, not his punishment.

The business and industrial world is sadly in need of men who find joy in their work, and who look upon it as opportunity, not as punishment.

The barbers have agreed to boycott Valentino because he has set the habit of wearing whiskers. But isn't Val merely giving the men a chance to escape the tedium of waiting while the women, bless 'em, are getting their hair bobbed?

A statesman of Europe says he does not understand what the United States stands for. Well, hasn't it been made plain enough that the United States "has come to the point of refusing to stand and deliver?"

If you have been missed by a solicitor for the Community Chest it should make you angry enough to call up headquarters and protest. It just isn't right that anybody should be overlooked.

"Why Farm Boys Leave Home" is the title of a recent government publication. It remains unread upon the office desk, but the chances are boys leave because their best girls live elsewhere.

Bear in mind that the question is not what will become of the poor if you fail to do your part for the Community Chest, but what will become of you if you neglect to do your duty.

Brookhart's demand that the name of Dawes be removed from the ticket came within a gnat's eyebrow of removing Brookhart from the senate.

There are husbands who will call the attention of their wives to the fact that equality of suffrage brought with it equality of snow shoveling.

The unfortunate citizens of Los Angeles are hereby notified that in Omaha we have both water in abundance and climate in perfection.

Perhaps President Coolidge did not laugh aloud when he signed that Thanksgiving proclamation, but it is a cinch that he smiled audibly.

Somebody has written an article on how to take care of silk hose. People who can afford to wear silk hose don't have to care.

Chicago's chief of police has ordered the gunmen rounded up. What he really wants is to have them straightened out.

The democratic representative in congress from Hawaii has no vote. The party he affiliates with didn't have very many.

The consumption of near beer shows a decided falling off, due probably to the fact that its nearness was too distant.

Perhaps the democratic party will be able to develop some leaders just as soon as it can find a few more followers.

Putting the Community Chest over big is the best possible way to express thankfulness.

## Homespun Verse

—By Omaha's Own Poet—  
Robert Worthington Davis

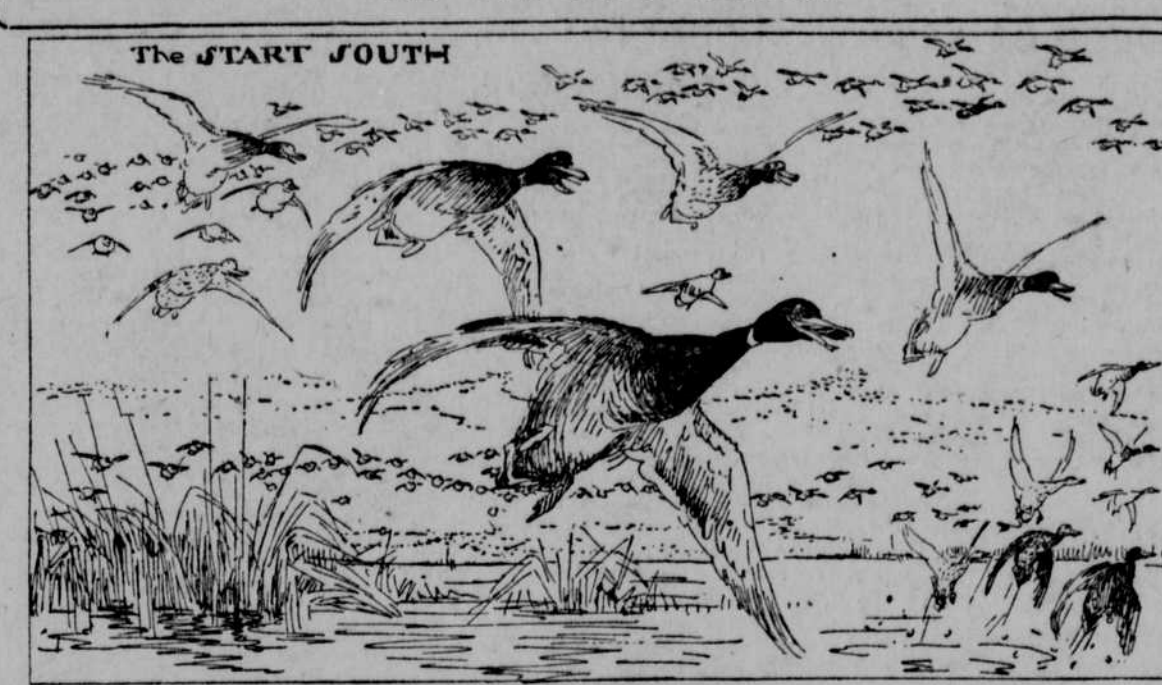
### VICISSITUDES.

Great things have taken place within this unsurpassed decade:  
The magic and the myths of old before us are displayed—  
There are but few surprises left to come in later on.  
And they'll be old and common are the present age has gone.

At home I sit and listen to the music far away,  
I hear the voice of some great man, I hear the parson pray.  
I hear the orchestra do lux broadcast its mute desires,  
I hear the finest of the few remaining old time choirs.

And all of these rare luxuries come to my modest cot,  
Where I recline and list to them and treasure them a lot.  
It is a wondrous world of dreams, and yet I often crave  
The things that are not mine to have—I make of me a slave.

## The Wild Ducks' Anabasis



## 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.

### "Renovation"

O'Neill, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Your editorial in today's Omaha Bee, "Familiar Election Features," is good food for thought. It reminds me that everywhere a special effort was made to get out the vote. All during the campaign I had stuck upon the windows of the coupe in which I travel these words: "Don't Be A Slacker Vote November Fourth." I would not dare say how many times some observers would say to me: "That's good advice, but why don't you tell us how to vote right." And they really meant it.

Here is one I have it stoned up. There are enough scandals with some color to cause otherwise sober-minded, calm-thinking men to doubt. Naturally all the professional agitators seized upon each choice bit of scandal and broadcast it far and wide. Thousands of voters listened, but were not wholly convinced. The story often sounded plausible, but the source was questionable. In too many cases it was the pot calling the kettle black. Honest men hate crime and graft and crooked public servants. But when demagogues go forth in too large flocks to condemn they sense something wrong. Thus it was that many voters, especially those who had not been long at the game, were more undecided and under a greater shadow of doubt upon election day than before the campaign was waged. Many stayed at home for this reason. It is up to a republican administration to restore confidence among the doubting ones. It is up to a republican administration to clean up where needed. We fellows who voted for Calvin Coolidge, and were not prompted by partisanship and party prejudice, hope we shall not regret it. We don't want any more Falls or Daughertys or any men in high places who have perverted the old motto to read: "A public office is a public graft," rather than "a public trust," as it once read.

While, as your paragrapher said this morning, that the democratic party needed resurrection and not reorganization, may I suggest that "renovation" should be the watchword of the republican party for the next four years. Substantial political fences cannot be built out of rotten rails.

G. H. NICHOLS.

### Upholds Prohibition.

Nelson, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I noticed in Tuesday's Omaha Bee an article headed "Prohibition Argument," which was quite extended and signed by Frank Martin.

The argument was based on "What punishment will fit the crime of selling heroin to school children?" Mr. Martin used this as a test to deliver an argument in favor of doing away

### Abe Martin



Mother used t' kiss th' children good night, but these times th' kids kiss mom good night. T' day's bashful girl is one that's more concerned about her real complexion 'ot showin' than she is her knees.

### WILD LIFE

Wild life isn't really disappearing. It is just moving to the cities.—Detroit Free Press.

Who brings more criticism upon our laws and causes more critical reflection upon us as a people than just such articles and people who flout at our laws and make light of them or cause they do not meet with his or her individual tastes and ideas, no matter how selfish these may be?—T. W. COLE.

### CENTER SHOTS.

The invention of the harp was due to an accident, we read. On the other hand the inventor of the baptisms was a Highland cottager who got the idea through stepping on a cat.—Punch.

An elephant's trunk contains 40,000 muscles. It must have been packed by a woman.—Detroit News.

The arrival of the ZR-3 seems to be a case of Haps across the sea.—New York Herald-Tribune.

Wild life isn't really disappearing. It is just moving to the cities.—Detroit Free Press.

The latest thing for women is ermine fur wigs. It has gone to their heads.—Detroit News.

The holier-than-thou attitude may be caused by virtue, but usually it is caused by a poor memory.—Austin American.

Who remembers what the party platforms said?—Detroit News.

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Does not include returns, left-overs, samples or papers spoiled in printing and includes no special sales or free circulation of any kind. V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of October, 1924. W. H. QUIVEY, Notary Public

## SUNNY SIDE UP

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

### BEFORE AND AFTER.

Sometimes I'd like to seize my pen And roundly roast some fellow: then And baste and turn, and turn and baste. And baste and turn, and turn and baste. I feel that if I don't turn loose And fairly cook some fellow's goose I'm not performing well my work. But rather am inclined to shrink.

But just when I am feeling mean And start to thump the old machine, Some friend comes strolling in my den And lights it with a smile, and then He says "Hello," and "Howdy-do!" How's this old world using you?" And then my grouch is gone from sight And I am feeling right, all right.

Sometimes I feel that I am slack If I don't rip things up the back: That I should paw the air and rant, And race and rave until I pant. In mighty effort to command A remedy for wrongs at hand. It seems to me I have a chance To make all evildoers dance.

But just about that time I see A laughing grandson on my knee, I feel his tiny hand's caress, The touch of dimpled cheeks that bless— And then it's "Mr. Grouch, goodby!" For in another minute I Am quite content and smile And leave the roasts for afterwhile.

A welcome mislaid from Charley Sloan of Geneva. It is purely personal. What it contains it nobody's business but ours and Charley's. Suffice it to say that the cranberry sauce is all we are worrying about now.

Cheerfully admitting our limitations as a speaker at Father and Son banquets, we still insist that we are entitled to credit for one thing. In none of our addresses have we undertaken to give advice on the subject of rearing children. Having a double quartet of our own we long since learned that we know nothing about that subject. When we want information thereon we instinctively turn to the numerous maiden ladies and single gentlemen who have made a profession of giving advice to parents. They can make it very plain. In fact they can make it plainer than it is. Our system may have its faults, but we point with pride to the fact that we have the children while the maiden ladies and single gentlemen have the advice.

How many people quote "Spare the rod and spoil the child" and credit to Solomon? Solomon never said it. The nearest he came to it was "He that spareth the rod hateth his son." Solomon, who is said to have been the wisest man, but who did more foolish things than almost any other man that ever lived, never said anything quite so foolish as that. The quotation is from Butler's "Hudibras."

"Love is a boy by poets styl'd: Then spare the rod and spoil the child."

"What becomes of all the hairpins?" queries a contemporary. Probably worried about the bobbed hair style. No need. Hairpins will be in demand as shoe buttons, glove buttons, button openers, lockpicks, suspender buttons and other things as long as time lasts. WILL M. MAUPIN.

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At request she will assist in any shopping the family may need to do—give her assistance in arranging flowers at the home or in our chapel. Skilled in funeral etiquette, she is willing to give her assistance in any way it may be needed.

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