# THE OMAHA BEE

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BALLARD DUNN, Editor in Chief MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
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# Omaha-Where the West is at its Best

ONLY FIFTY YEARS AGO.

Just fifty years ago the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad management announced that it would carry free all seed grain shipped to Nebraska farmers. The offer was made because just the year before Nebraska was visited by the grasshoppers." There are many alive today who went through that awful period of suffering and privation. Spring in Nebraska just fifty years ago opened upon a scene of desolation. No crops had been raised the year before. The homesteaders were destitute. They had no money to buy seed, no money to pay freight, no money to buy anything. And then the great heart of America was opened and the seed poured in. A corporation, commonly credited with not possessing a soul, agreed to carry it free to the homesteaders. Then it was that hope revived, courage was regained and Nebraska well started along the road to her present wonderful development.

Fifty years ago broke, without hope and seemingly facing utter failure. Now look at Nebraska! Per capita and per acre the greatest producer of agricultural crops in all the states. A state without a dollar of bonded state indebtedness, and with more than \$12,000,000 in her permanent school fund. A state that is building an \$8,000,000 capitol without a bond issue and paying cash for it as it goes. A state with a university accommodating 10,000 student. A state with the lowest percentage of illiteracy and a high percentage of home owners. The third largest corn producer, the third largest wheat producer, the fifth largest sugar producer, the second largest alfalfa producer, an annual egg production worth more than all the gold mined in the United States and possessions, and a total agricultural and livestock production exceeding \$500,000,000 in

Nebraska has come a long way during the fifty years since the Burlington announced that it would homesteaders. The development of Nebraska during that half century has never been equalled in the history of the world.

# BETWEEN THE TWO.

Just now California and Florida are engaged in a neck-and-neck race. Each claims superiority of climate and opportunity. Both are resorting to all kinds of publicity and propaganda.

Between the two we prefer Nebraska. It is not written that man may not live by climate alone, but such is the fact. One may not clothe one's self in climate, nor can the stomach be satisfied with scenery. Nebraska has enough of climate for variety. enough of scenery for lovers of the beautiful, and then has fertile soil that produces abundant crops of all kinds. Nebraska's production is not limited to fruit alone. Nebraska's corn crop is worth more than California's fruit crop, and Nebraska wheat is worth more than Florida's output of pineapples, oranges and grape fruit.

California boasts of her prunes, but who would want to eat them without the sugar Nebraska produces to put on them? California's wheat crop wouldn't seed the wheat fields of Nebraska, and Florida's orange crop wouldn't buy enough seed corn to plant one-half of Nebraska's corn fields.

Nebraska has just enough of bad weather-and no more-to make us appreciate the glorious springs, the golden summers and the magnificent autumns. Here we till the soil instead of tilling the tourists, with the result that Nebraska annually adds millions to the wealth of the world.

Let Florida and California fight it out between themselves. It being a question of dog eat dog. Nebraskans are thinking of home.

# PAYING THE FIDDLER.

"I've danced; now I must pay the fiddler," Lieut. Osborne C. Wood is quoted as saying.

It is the same old story-dancing without thought of remunerating the musicians until the dance is over and the cold gray dawn has arrived. That is the history of all ages. It will be the history of the

But the fiddler eventually must be paid. Paid. too often, in blood and in tears,; in broken homes and broken hearts; in ruined lives and shattered ambi-

Lieutenant Wood is not the first young man to awaken too late to a full realization of what he has done. The pity of it all is that his example will not deter other young men from joining the dance with. out thought of the morrow.

# THE RATIO INCREASES.

It is not true that a sucker is born every minute. The sucker birth rate is higher than that, and getting higher. Comes now President E. M. Simmons of the New York Stock Exchange with the announcement that bucket shop operators and vendors of fake securities are robbing the American people of more than a billion dollars a year.

Blue sky laws have been tried and found wanting. To date no way has been found of preventing fools from being separated from their money. The siren song of the fake stock salesman lures more and more people on the rocks every year. The man with a get-rich-quick proposition never lacks for an audience, and his only trouble is to keep the line formed on the right to prevent crowding. During

the past decade enough Nebraska money has been invested in fake schemes to gridiron the state with hard-surfaced roads. The lure of the glass casket, the bait of the rubber plantation in Dahomey, the yearning to sit in the shade of the eucalyptus tree and watch the dividends come rolling in, the ambition to pose as a magnate of the meat packing industry-anything but safety, industry and economy. The high-pressure stock salesman is a student of psychology. He can play upon the cupidity of mankind as a harpist plays upon the strings.

All the law can do is to throw a thin protection around the foolish. We can not legislate brains into the vacuum tanks at the upper end of their spinal

Despite repeated warnings, and despite repeated examples, the army of suckers increases in numbers. The sucker ratio seems to be growing with every passing day.

### HER FIRST VETO.

Governor "Ma" Ferguson of Texas has exercised her first veto. The legislature enacted a law making legal the issuance of railroad passes to members of the legislature and other state officials. Governor Ferguson vetoed it as soon as she could dip her pen in the ink. With the possible exception of a majority of the legislature and some of the Texas state officials, the veto will be commended by the public

A railroad pass may or may not be a bribe. It all depends. But public officials are unwise if they make themselves objects of suspicion. Least of all should legislators charged with the making of laws regulating the railroads lay themselves under sus-

Commenting upon Governor Ferguson's veto, the Houston Chronicle says:

"The whole principle is at variance with good conscience and invites a distinct step backward into the shadow, a jarring of faith in the high purpose of those who represent the people.

"If members of the legislature are by the broadest stretch of imagination entitled to the privilege of holding up the railroads, depriving them of needed revenue which must be made up by the general public, why not let the good work go on and assess the oil companies the charge of providing gasoline for the cars of these same statesmen?

"Why make one industry fish while another is metamorphosed into flesh? Texas resents and will continue to resent such

action, as the legislature found in the attempted restoration of the free pass evil. 'In the meantime we rest secure in the belief that the veto of Mrs. Miriam Ferguson, our first woman governor, will be sustained by a nearly

unanimous vote of the legislature on its reconsider-The sentiments expressed by the Chronicle are the sentiments of all who have given the matter careful thought. A recent loosening of the Nebraska law aroused general resentment. This state, like Texas and many other states, has too vivid a recollection

of the evils that existed in the old days to be willing

partment save time because it made the amounts come out even at the end of the year. When con- miliarity. gress is faced with a task worth while it can get into high and hit on all eight before a jackrabbit can

Of course it has been fooling along with the than a practical fact. Our whole civil sort. postal bill, and the aircraft problem, Muscle Shoals and criminal code needs to be remodeland a few other little things like that, but as they say we have too many laws. Others were really of no importance there was no need to speed up. But when something really important showed up in the offing, congress was off at the crack of the pistol and breasting the tape before the country could take a long breath.

# KNOW OMAHA WEEK.

"Know Omaha" week, which begins Sunday, March 1, should be observed by many citizens. It would not be out of place to combine with it "Appreciate Omaha" week. It may be remarked that to know Omaha is to appreciate Omaha, but the kind of appreciation needed is the kind that will impel to county, or state, or city prosecut constant work for Omaha's growth and betterment. There is so much to be said favorable to Omaha that the little that merits unfavorable comment is hardly worth considering. The unfavorable things are easily cured if Omahans will but get together to administer the cure.

During "Know Omaha" week the students in the public and parochial schools should be informed about Omaha's progress. But more than that, they should be taught Omaha's opportunities to the end that our young people may be induced to remain and further develop the metropolis in which their fathers and mothers have labored and sacrificed. It is not enough that Mayor Dahlman proclaim a "Know Omaha" week. Every loyal citizen must come to the front and assist in making it a week of search for knowledge about our city.

It is easy to believe the charge that Chicago is wasting water. Why conserve water when other beverages are so easily obtainable?

### Homespun Verse By Omaha's Own Poet-Robert Worthington Davie

# DOWNCAST LOVERS IN FEBRUARY.

Beneath the maples of old Adair Stands the lonesome swain, Looking aloft with dark despair, Sighing for spring again. Tis dusk; the dim moon's beams Through leafless branches glow, Lighting the barren path of dreams Under the trees below.

Beneath a roof the maid reclines, Watching the old moon rise,-Watching it sadly as it shines High in the distant skies;-Thinking is she of lane and trees, Gowned in summer's best. Snatching their million ecstasies Out of the new night's west.

Wait and hope, ye downcast ones!-Spring is coming soon:-How swift the year from winter runs On to the joys of June. List! Oh, list! to one who hears Prophets the signs foretell

By dreaming across the faded years

That he remembers well.

Looking for Grandma's Spectacles



# Letters From Our Readers

OUR FAST-WORKING CONGRESS.

Congress has been working on the proposal to increase the pay of postal employes for fourteen months. But do not let that deceive you into the notion that congress is slow. In just five days congress raised the pay of its members from \$7,500 a year. When congress takes a notion it can go fast enough to make Nurmi'at his top speed look as though he is standing still.

Speedy? We'll tell the world. Just the other day it passed a bill increasing the pay of capitol charwomen \$2.81 a year, and accomplished the remarkable job in the short time of four days. There is an old say, increase wasn't much, but it helped the clerical department save time because it made the amounts.

Dixon's Remedy.

Omaha.—To the Editor of The Congress has been working on the proposal to increase the pay of postal employes for fourteen months. But do not let that deceive you into the notion that congress is slow. In just five days congress raised the pay of its members from \$7,500 a year. When congress takes a notion to tolerate their violation by an early members from \$7,500 a year. When congress takes a notion tolerate their violation by an early members from \$7,500 a year. When congress takes a notion tolerate their violation by an early members from \$7,500 a year. When congress takes a notion tolerate their violation by an early members from \$7,500 a year. When congress takes a notion tolerate their violation by a possible to the capacity of the image providing he is lated to the country, and once the country, and once the country, and once the country, and once the pay of its members from \$7,500 a year. The pay of the pay of its members from \$7,500 a year. When congress takes a notion tolerate their violation by a late of the pay of the pay of the masses a bill investigate providing he is lated the pay of the first pay of the pay of th racy is just another name for fa-miliarity. We need to learn the true meaning of republicanism and what is lacks in morals and character ar Omaha.-To the Editor of The build it up. We live in a republic and "democracy," as we are told it, Omaha Bee: In our daily papers w seems to be mostly an ideal rather

lasting juggling and shifting of of ficials that cause the weakness morals. An official with a life jo and adequate pay is apt to do a is of thinking before succumbing t temptation; whereas, if he has bu one or two terms he is a good pro-pect for the tempters. I would al abolish the jury system and the procuting attorney, as a prosecuting torney. I would make him a st or county defense attorney. Not o can give out real justice. He is sup posed to defend society agains riminals or enemies of said societ but what he really does-in the grea majority of cases-is to persecute th offender instead of defending society All his powers should consist of is use every endeavor within his lega and justiciable rights to marshal al evidence to be had for the defense society, just as the other side does for the offender against society, and the summing up of the evidence and the ultimate verdict should be in the hands of the judge and none other. An offender of the law is supposed to have a jury of 12 good men and true, a jury of his peers. I have sat on a number of juries in criminal cases and I have yet to see a jury of the "peers" of the average criminal. 5 per cent of the rank and file of the people called on for jury duty are fully capable of doing justice as jurynen. A juryman should be absolutely impartial, unprejudiced and machin like in his own personal feelings. But

# Abe Martin

only years of experience on the benc



It's jest got about so if it hain' omethin' we kin be arrested fer ther hain't no fun in it. Speakin' of economy, President Coolidge would make a dandy name for a

(Copyright, 1925.)

obedience until repealed by the voice of the people. It was Lincoln who said: "Let can institutions, free from political ideals will be safe; if not, it is up to every American, every lover of lib-

erty, every well-wisher to his poster-ity, swear by the blood of the revolu-

JAMES WELCH.

low Observance.

Will some of our personal li

STOP YOUR COUGH NOW It May Be Dangerous

Lee's Acts Quickly and Surely

Rheumatism

All the old aches

given quick, genuine relief

Pat a little Sloan's lightly over the aching place. Instantly it sends freshly-purified blood tin-gling through the infected joints and muscles. You feel a gentle, glowing warmth, then—almost suddenly—release from pain. All druggists—35c.

Sloan's Liniment

-kills pain!

Keep "FLU" away with

COUGH DROPS

and religious despotism. I would ad-vise every voter to notify their rep-be fooled by that bogey man-per-

Jake Comfort nor forget, That Sunrise never failed us yet

"Revival meetings are obsolete, and new methods are

needed to draw converts to the church," said Rev. J. E. Wagner of St. Paul Methodist church, Omaha, to a gathering at

St. Paul, Neb. Far be it from us to engage in argument with so distinguished a divine as Dr. Wagner, but he is wrong, just the same. The church does not need new methods. What it needs is a speedy return to the old methods; preaching Christ

and Him crucified instead of rushing to the legislature or dis-cussing abtruse scientific subjects from the pulpit. What the

church needs is not new methods, but a return to the missionary spirit of Paul; a return to the method of making appeal

to the minds and hearts of men. If it is true that revival meetings are obsolete, then so much the worse for the church.

Men cannot be turned to righteousness by "biffing them on the nose," but they can be turned to righteousness by consecrated effort in the spirit of the Master. New methods needed? Not

on your life, Dr. Wagner. A return to old methods, if you please.

Nebraska Limerick.

Who learned to make love from a book. When he knelt at the feet

Modern Definitions.

Flapper-What a spinster of 45 sees in a miss of 16.

Last Words.

Were: "Watch me beat the engine to it."

swallow to where the world is waiting for the sunrise all alone,

If you wonder what has become of Sally, just follow the

Now that their anniversaries are over, we insist that

Ad Sell speakers are slowly undermining our plan to reform

George Washington and Abraham Lincoln are unworthy of a

place in school books. George distilled whisky and Abe sold it

over the counter. Surely such abandoned characters should

the world by Passing a Law. One by one those speakers are holding forth the idea that the world is not to be uplifted by

legislative enactment. We protest, and vigorously. We have

a number of pet reforms in mind, and they can only be ac-

complished by legal enactment. Here we are, right on the eve of completing and polishing off a bill for a law that will solve the whole problem of Moral Uplift all at once, and men who are

paid a high fee come along to throw dynamite bombs into all our plans for the salvation of the world. It is too much-too

darned much. It simply mullifies the efforts of a lifetime

Optimist-A man who believes he is really buying prime

There was a young man in McCook

Of the maid fair and sweet She froze him with one haughty look

Pessimist-Man who buys it anyhow. Blush-Unavoidably coloring. Obs.

Stranger, pause and shed a tear Upon the grave of William Pruitt.

His last words on this mortal sphere

not be held up as models before the rising generation.

Moron-(See Sheik.)

and there laugh it off.

For JANUARY, 1925 THE OMAHA BEE Daily ...........74.002 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 2d day of February, 1925. W. H. QUIVEY, (Seal) Notary Public

# RADIANT COAL

Smokeless Semi-Anthracite LUMP \$13.50 MINE RUN \$11.50 SLACK \$8.50 Phone WA Inut 0300

COAL CO. See Samples of This Coal at Hayden's Grocery Dept.

# Fulfilling An Ideal

To serve the greatest number at the least possible expense is one of our ideals that we are achieving. As before stated, we were able to reduce our prices 10 per cent in 1924, and to make another reduction of 10 per cent the first of the year. Only the increased number of calls received by us made possible these reductions.

We trust this point will ever be kept in mind: The measure of service we give has never been affected by the prices we have asked.

To serve humanity greatest need.

It is service of the highest type, the highest refinement and the greatest comfort that is the foundation of our success. The refinement, convenience, thoroughness and thoughtfulness of Hoffmann-Crosby service is acknowledged to be the very highest. That standard never will be lowered.

But lowered prices are possible with increased business, because a greater number of calls permits us to operate at a less overhead expense per

This working of the economic law we shall discuss more in detail next week.

# Hoffmann-Crosby Funeral Home

Twenty-fourth at Dodge St.

Omaha, Neb.

Telephone

This is the fifth of a series of advertisements discussing the business economics of funeral directing. Constructive criticism is invited from the public, Copyright, 1928, Hoffmann-Crosby Funeral Home.