

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR. The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietor. BEE BUILDING, FARNAM AND SEVENTEENTH. Entered at Omaha postoffice as second-class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily and Sunday. By carrier. By mail. Single copy without Sunday. 5c. Evening without Sunday. 5c. Sunday only. 5c. Send notice of change of address or complaints of irregularity in delivery to Omaha Bee, Circulation Department.

REMITTANCE. Remit by draft, express or postal order. Only two-cent stamps received in payment of small accounts. Personal checks, except on Omaha and eastern exchange, not accepted.

OFFICES. Omaha-The Bee Building. South Omaha-318 N. Street. Council Bluffs-14 North Main street. Lincoln-3 Little Building. Chicago-901 Hearst Building. New York-Room 1109, 285 Fifth Avenue. St. Louis-303 West Broadway. Washington-715 Fourteenth St., N. W.

CORRESPONDENCE. Address communications relating to news and editorial matter to Omaha Bee, Editorial Department. JANUARY CIRCULATION, 53,714

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss. Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the average circulation for the month of January, 1915, was 53,714. DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me, this 12th day of February 1915. ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested.

February 12 Thought for the Day Selected by Delmore Cheney The soul which within us is a sentiment, outside of us is a law.—Emerson.

The talkfest at Washington is not over.

The verdict rendered by the Kansas City jury is likely to cause some uneasiness in Omaha.

Coal dealers announce a reduction in the price of fuel, which is very comforting at this season of the year, when the householder can also get his ice for nothing.

South Omaha stock pens are daily filled with hogs in splendid condition for packing, but as yet we have not noticed any lowering in price of the product.

The suggestion of a state tax on foreign mail order houses doing business in Nebraska would be more interesting if accompanied by a plan guaranteed to collect the money.

Fragrant breaths of spring softens the frost in the ground. In the same way the gentle zephyrs bring out political buds and jolts them into shape for the inevitable frost.

Missouri has taken the packers into camp and levied a tribute of \$125,000 for price fixing. There is no joy in the incident for the ultimate consumer. He pays the freight either way.

The expected happens to the heralded plan of taking the State Normal School board out of politics. In times of stress politicians dislike to shoot up the trenches of professional brethren.

The house and senate at Lincoln will have full permission to pursue their feud to the end. If they only will agree not to let their private differences interfere with the transaction of public business.

Nebraska's junior senator is getting a good deal of spotlight just at present, and most of his constituents will agree with him in his estimate of the majority proceedings at Washington during the last few days.

Lincoln bakers have refused to increase the price of bread, and are hesitating about reducing the size of the loaf. These gentlemen are either philanthropists, or they do not understand the situation as presented by their Omaha brethren.

It should be borne in mind all the time that the city of Omaha has now, and has had for many years, full power to vote bonds for the purchase or erection of a municipal lighting plant, and that further legislation along these lines is but carrying coals to Newcastle.

"Local pride" is a very valuable asset when only local interests are concerned, but the great state schools of Nebraska should not be dominated by any consideration of local interest. They are maintained by the people of the state, and for the people of the state, and not for the benefit of any particular community.



The Press club hall at Masonic hall is pronounced suitably as the greatest and crowning event of the social season. Would that the imagination and descriptive powers of the society reporter were adequate to describe the scene in all its reverberating forgotten brilliancy. The program of twenty-four numbers held the dancers until a late hour.

The annual subscription ball of the Concordia society in German hall was largely attended. Among the costumes noted are the following: Miss Emma Fendt, paper one; Miss Redder, Spanish lady; Miss Corla Langer, business; Miss Tina Meix, "For Goodness Sake Don't Forget I Sold You"; Miss Beckman, lady of honor; Mrs. Stahel, "Daughter of the Regiment"; Charles and Fred Metz, school boys; Paul Wehmann, sailor.

Mrs. George H. Gilbert entertained a party of friends at progressive euchre at her home last evening. Dr. E. W. Edinger is rejoicing over the arrival of a young lady at his house.

George H. Daniels, Colorado pool commissioner, stopped over in Omaha on his way to Denver.

Ray's distillery is now feeding from 1,800 to 2,000 head of cattle belonging to the Ray State Cattle company.

Miss Minnie Woodward was the recipient of a surprise party at her residence, Sixth and Walnut.

Abraham Lincoln, Unique American. On this, the one hundred and sixth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, that great man will be referred to many times as "the typical American." Nothing could be much further from the truth. Abraham Lincoln may have been the ideal American, but he was far from being a typical American. On this point a writer in the Republic says:

In point of fact Mr. Lincoln was superficially a man of the people, and fundamentally a unique, distinguished and wholly exceptional individual. In certain salient respects he was the least typical of Americans. Americans, particularly those of Lincoln's own generation and neighborhood, were essentially active, aggressive and objective men, whose lives were given over to practical external affairs, who subordinated everything else to the demands of practical achievement, and whose individuality consisted in living ordinary lives in an extraordinarily energetic manner. They were superficial, discursive, easygoing, quarrelsome, and wholly incapable of preparing in advance for any task or responsibility. In all these respects Lincoln differed from his fellow countrymen, and upon these differences his eminence depends.

As a great American, singular in his aspect and alone in his sphere, Abraham Lincoln stands secure in history. He has always been dearer to his countrymen because he did come up from the very depths of society. He started from the absolute bottom, and with no spur but his own conscience, with no prospect but toil and poverty, with no destiny apparent beyond the obscurity of frontier fame, he made his way by his own efforts, until he fills a place in history along with the greatest, and a share in the popular veneration of Americans and the world that exceeds that of any, unless it be Washington himself.

Lincoln was not particularly ambitious. Those who knew him best, and who have given testimony on this point, have never told of his aims and desires as being beyond his modest estimation of his own abilities. His experience served to temper his metal, and he had been tried in the fire long before he was called to the supreme test that found him ready and not wanting. The victory that came to him then came because he had tempered his reason, and his spirit, and was complete master of himself. And herein, as in all other essential attributes of his manhood, Lincoln was unique among Americans.

Speakers may delight to flatter their audiences by telling them Abraham Lincoln was a typical American, but the student, who analyzes character by test of achievements, will recognize him as a great American, whose most desirable qualifications were those his countrymen mostly lack—poise, self-control, and courage to keep silent as well as to speak out.

Why Build Up Another Machine?

The Howell bill to grant the Metropolitan Water district the power to erect and operate an electric lighting plant for the purpose of providing service for the several municipalities comprised in that district, is being strongly urged as a legislative necessity. As a matter of fact, it is not—at least, so far as the city of Omaha is concerned. The bill does not grant to the city of Omaha any power, privilege or right that is not now fully possessed by the city. It does grant to the Metropolitan Water district a power and privilege that the district does not now possess and which is entirely outside of the purview and foreign to the purpose for which the Metropolitan Water district was erected.

If the bill as presented should be enacted by the legislature, the city of Omaha will be confronted with the possibility of three agencies seeking to supply electric current for public and private uses. Further than this, it will have the effect of concentrating control of public utilities in the hands of a single organization. If an attempt were made by the privately-owned companies to consolidate their activities under one management, it is certain that a vigorous protest would be aroused. It is doubtful if such consolidation could be consummated, or, if it were, whether the varying nature of the services involved would permit of the proper administration under a consolidated single management.

The proponents of the pending bill talk incessantly about giving the city control of the lighting plant. There can be no objection to this. The city will sooner or later, in the very nature of things, have to take over control of the lighting services, but the pending bill does not provide for this; it merely gives "control" of the lighting for the city of Omaha to the Metropolitan Water district, which is not the city.

"Buy-It-Now" and the Railroads.

The railroads of the middle west are just now giving a most effective illustration of their appreciation of the advantage of the "buy-it-now" campaign. Extensive orders for steel rails and building material, for locomotives and other rolling stock equipment and for various materials that are necessary to the maintenance and operation of the railroads, have recently been placed with the factories. This course insures the speeding up of the great manufacturing plants that have been idle, or partially idle, for months. With this speeding up comes the employment of additional workmen and consequent expansion of payrolls, which in turn find the way to stimulation of the retail business of the country because of the increased consumptive demand.

The example of the railroads in this regard can well be followed by others. The "buy-it-now" movement is not restricted to any section of the country or any division of industry. It applies to all alike, to the farms as well as the railroads, and its benefits will be shared in by all alike. Prospective purchasers can give no greater help to reviving business than by the impetus that will come by immediate placing of orders for supplies that are certain to be needed during the coming months. "Buy it now" and help the forward movement in business.

The murder of another Omaha policeman by a criminal he was seeking to arrest serves to call attention again to the perpetual risk incurred by our guardians of law and order. The police of Omaha have often been subjected to severe criticism, frequently unmerited, but they have never yet fallen when put to the test. The addition of the name of Detective Thomas Ring to the list of dead who have died while in the performance of their duty, will be made with sorrow by those who knew him well. His devotion to duty will be an inspiration to others who are engaged in the same work.

Early political robins must needs be coached against piping the unsuited melody: "Hail, hail, the gang's all here."

Von Hindenburg

Norman Draper in Colliers

BEFORE Germany went to war, I was standing on a street in Berlin when an open automobile drew up to the curb and stopped. From the tonneau descended a man of massive frame, dressed in the uniform of an army officer. His face was warty; his features rugged. He was square of jaw, and wore a sweeping mustache, somewhat less aggressive in curve than the Kaiser's, but equally as characteristic. On a gaiter foot he heeled into a cafe.

"That," volunteered a well-informed friend who made his home in the capital, "is old Von Hindenburg, the only man who ever told the Kaiser he had made a mistake at military maneuvers. They say he is afraid of nothing on the face of the earth. His principal hobby is demonstrating on paper and at maneuvers how he can make the Kaiser walk like a man on his head should he attempt to invade German territory."

That was four years ago. Today Von Hindenburg, or, to give him his full name and title, Paul von Beneckendorff and von Hindenburg, generaloberst, commander-in-chief of the German forces in East Prussia, is one of the most popular military leaders the nation has ever known. He is the idol of all Germany. And, indeed, why should he not be?

Figuratively, he has not only forced the Russian head to stand upon his head, but he has slapped the brain of the most obstinate of his "big" backs. "I fearfully," he has succeeded not only in the stupendous undertaking of stemming the tide of the gigantic armies of the east, which threatened to sweep through Prussia and on to Berlin, when younger and more active men utterly failed, but he has rolled up a signal victory for the Prussian army.

Von Hindenburg's success has gained for him among army men the world over the reputation of being the foremost military strategist in Germany. He should be, for practically his entire life (he is 65 years old) has been dedicated to the cause of militarism. He himself has declared many times that he would rather work out a problem in military strategy than do anything else he knew of.

Consider his record. Upon being graduated from the military academy at the age of 18, he was assigned to the infantry as second lieutenant. Then came the war with Austria, and Von Hindenburg secured his first practical experience in the science of making war.

At the battle of Koniggratz he and fifty infantrymen under his command suddenly came under the heaviest fire of the enemy's guns, which were placed upon a slight rise of ground. Von Hindenburg promptly ordered his men to charge the guns. About the same time a bullet grazed his skull and he went down. For three minutes he remained stunned.

By the time he gained strength enough to lift himself upon his elbow and look around his men were about to capture two of the guns. Three others, however, were being dragged rapidly away by the Austrian gunners who had been attending them. The young lieutenant gained his feet and, with a trail of red streaming from his forehead, started after those fleeing Austrians and their guns. With sixteen of his men, summoned by shout and a flourish of his sword from the struggle around the two guns, he followed the Austrians for more than a mile and attacked the force, which, although three times as large as his own, soon surrendered. For his bravery, he was decorated with the Red Eagle Order.

Then came the Franco-Prussian war, and by that time Von Hindenburg had been promoted to be a first lieutenant. He took part in the battles of Gravelotte and Sedan, as well as the siege of Paris and the heroic storming of Le Bourget. It was during this last named action that he won the Iron Cross. Eight years later peace was declared and he was further recognized and promoted, at the age of 31, to be a captain on the general staff.

From then on his rise in the army was rapid. He was made a major after two years as a member of the general staff, and by 1890 he was a department chief at the existing infantry department. In 1895 he was chief of staff of the Eighth Army corps. In 1901 he was promoted to be a general in the Fourth Army corps, and from 1904 to 1911 he was a general in the infantry. It was in 1911 that he resigned on account. It was officially stated, of his advanced age.

In the two years that preceded the war Von Hindenburg's sole activity consisted in working on the program for the defense of the border at the Masurian lakes.

In recent years Von Hindenburg never appeared in the war office without a portfolio full of maps of the lake region under his arm. Every time he met the Kaiser or any of the officers of the army he would talk lakes. Finally it got so that when Von Hindenburg would go in any place, the army men who knew him would promptly go out. In the evening one day he proposed that the lakes be filled up and the reclaimed ground be given over to farming. Von Hindenburg heard of the proposition and, being out of the capital, he caught the first train he could for Berlin. He talked lakes strategy and defense for a solid half hour. Then the Kaiser stopped him. "For heaven's sake, keep your lakes!" said he to Von Hindenburg. "I promise you they shall not be filled in."

When Germany went to war, Von Hindenburg was at his home near Posen. He immediately offered his services to the Kaiser and requested that he be sent with the force operating against the Russians. But the Kaiser had generals with the army in East Prussia whom he believed to be the most competent in all Germany. For instance, there was General von Pritvitz. Just what errors he committed I am not in a position to state. It is common knowledge, however, that the Kaiser's army was in a fair way to be defeated. Two million Russians were awaiting an opportunity to get started on their way to Berlin.

Then the Kaiser telegraphed to Von Hindenburg, offering him complete command of the forces in East Prussia. It took the general less than five minutes to accept the offer.

Three hours later a special train was waiting to take him to the capital. When the general reached the railroad station and looked over his train and corps of officers, aides, and orderlies standing at attention beside it, he smiled. "Well, well. That is pretty good for an old pensioner, I guess!"

The following night a high-powered automobile driven by a young captain of artillery sped out of Berlin. In the seat beside him sat General von Hindenburg. All night long the machine raced over the roads. It tore through villages after villages.

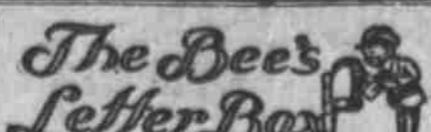
Shortly after daybreak the machine came to a stop. From an automobile three officers alighted. One of them had a roll of maps under his arm. There was a moment of suspense, and shortly after the second automobile turned around and started after that in which the one-time joke of the German army was again speeding toward the front.

All the way to his headquarters Von Hindenburg studied those maps. By the time he reached his destination he knew the position of every regiment under his command. He knew just where each trench was and the location of every battery. They all he studied the maps for. He had been over practically every foot of the ground a score of times. For twenty years or more he had known just where every hill and depression in the earth was located. He was familiar with the roads and swamps, and when peace returned he had carefully studied the Russian territory across the border. That was what Von Hindenburg was more than acquainted with the country in which he and his men were to battle with the vast hordes from the north.

Simultaneously with his arrival the Russians began to be rolled back. Frightful bloodletting ensued and a victory was drawn in place of a defeat from the battle of Tannenberg.

People and Events

Reports indicate that the Nevada legislature is rushing through a bill restoring the former "free and easy" divorce system which scandalized the nation two years back. But Nevada needs the business as well as the money, and the moral law can go to the devil. Some safety prevails the gloom in Indiana. G. W. Clugston, a jeweler of Greensburg, having been asked by his pastor, Rev. J. H. Dodridge, to pray at a service, sent the pastor a bill for \$5 for the job. The pastor came back with a bill for \$10 for benefits conferred by his sermon. At last accounts the pastor had not received his balance of \$5.



Way to "Get" the Hineys. OMAHA, Feb. 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: Speaking of "Hineys" and the possible effect they may have on the income of the Omaha Street Railway company, I suggest that the street car company call its employees together, give them a nice heart-to-heart talk, and attempt to impress upon them that one of the reasons why people are knocking the street cars is because of the overbearing manner of many conductors and motormen, and that the practice of just a little courtesy might picture the aspirations of the "Hiney" promoters quicker than anything else that could happen to them. Means less motormen and conductors. Humanity seems to see its shortcomings quicker when presented through the medium of the pocketbook. I. J. C.

Thoughts on Big Business. WAHOO, Neb., Feb. 10.—To the Editor of The Bee: "Nobody is going to be suspicious of or afraid of any business merely because it is big. If my judgment is correct nobody had been suspicious of any business merely because it was big, but they have been suspicious whenever they thought that the bigness was being used to take an unfair advantage."—President Wilson to the Electric Railway commission.

As a matter of fact the real cause of suspicion against business of any kind, large or small, is the politician. The politician out of office is often found to be laboring in season and out of season to acquire one. Under favorable legislation extending from the adoption of the Morrill tariff law of 1862 until the present time, except the period embraced in the last term of President Cleveland, our business, large and small, had forged ahead by leaps and bounds, until some of them had become marvelous monuments to the sagacity and the capacity of the men who managed and controlled them.

It is fair to presume that under the rules that obtain under the law of universal competition that some companies or corporations will survive and others fail. The history of the past proves it. For years the war was waged between rival concerns demoralized business and drove the owners of many costly and otherwise valuable plants into bankruptcy. In the fullness of time these rival concerns awoke to the folly of playing the game and took steps to pool their interests and this is where the modern political began to get in his work. He was out of a job and in the language of George William Curtis, "he was hungry, and as you may well believe, he was very dry," so he began sowing and the seeds of political discontent among the people, hoping thereby to secure a soft snap for himself. The conditions complained of were said to be the result of a certain line of legislation and the party responsible for the legislation was held up for public execration. Another political party composed largely of politicians opposed to this line of legislation was constantly dinging into the ears of the people that the principles of "protection" is an abomination and the tariff is a tax and a robbery against the many for the benefit of the few. As a matter of fact undesirable results will sometimes appear under any kind of legislation and with any political party in power, and no one knows it better than the politician who devotes his time and energies to creating discontent among the people.

The president takes cognizance of the differences in the mental and intellectual equipment of men to manage business when he says "Some men get beaten because they have not the brains that other men have." The wise politician never uses the statement because it does not accord with his purpose. But on the other hand he is always asserting that the "dear people's" rights and liberties are being outraged, and they proceed to tell where and why. The politician approximated closely to the politician or demagogue when he said some men are fitted only for the plow, and that they have heads, but they are not particularly furnished. Mr. Taft was criticized when he was president for saying that "A lot of people in this country are not fitted for self-government," but he evidently told the truth just the same. This is the class of people whom the professional reformer takes into his confidence.

Mr. Wilson in the early days of his administration shed many crocodile tears over the existence of the powerful and wicked trusts, but he seems to possess within himself a monopoly of optimism, and assures us that the country is about to enter on an era of prosperity and ascribes it to the work of congress. Optimism is one of the grandest and most useful of human qualities and is to be commended whenever circumstances justify it. Ordinarily business does not need to be told just when the sun is shining and it will probably require more than the president's word to convince it that a free trade policy is what they need to become prosperous.

Under the time-tried policy of "protection" it was not necessary to be meeting out to business the measure of political or economic optimism. It was not necessary for the president to degenerate to the level of a stump speaker in order to convince the wage worker that he was more prosperous than the wage worker of any other country. His head may not be particularly furnished, but as he marches along the streets and thoroughly fares of his native or adopted country in unscrupulous pliancy he can probably guess pretty close as to whether it is winter without touching his tongue to the steel. C. H. GILLILAN.

Nebraska Editors

The Wahoo Wasp was printed for the first time last week on its new standard Babcock press.

Wert L. Kirk, who formerly owned an interest in the Creighton News, has purchased the Spencer Advocate.

C. A. Mitchell, proprietor of the Brunswick Independent, has bought the Hathaway building. He moved his plant into it last Friday.

George Klein, who brought suit against Adam Buede, proprietor of the Hastings Tribune for \$2,000 for libel, was given a judgment for \$5.

The Northrup Press suggests for the coming editorial meeting a debate, "The Newspaper against The Journal. Which An Editorial Policy?" It says: "We'd like to line up such men as Messrs. Purcell, Backhaus, Smith, Richmond, Green, Post, Kelly, Quinby and Van Deusen." The building and plant of the Pender Times, owned by Mark W. Murray, were burned last week. The blaze started from a blaze under the press that was being used to thaw the ink. Mr. Murray has arranged to have his paper printed in Sioux City until he can arrange for a new plant and new quarters. The loss is covered by insurance.

Editorial Shrapnel

Pittsburgh Dispatch: The senate killed the bill to make the capital dry. Perhaps because it would have been a cruel and unusual self-punishment.

Pittsburgh Dispatch: Electric voting machines will have congress thirty-five minutes on roll calls. What will congress do with those thirty-five minutes? Waste them in words?

Washington Post: Dr. Anna Howard Shaw complains that men are illogical with women, but you can hardly blame 'em for trying to arrive at a mutual understanding somehow.

New York World: With his gifts to benevolence of \$24,073.90, no matter how he got the money, Andrew Carnegie sizes up pretty well with various noisy gentlemen who never earned more than \$10 a week in their lives and never gave away a dollar.

Brooklyn Eagle: Well-bred women are common enough. Good-bred women are scarcer than conscientious wheat speculators or hen's teeth. The roasting of the baker is premature till the yeast of education has made the housewives rise to an emergency.

Springfield Republican: A Nebraska woman suffering from a nervous breakdown has found relief in New York, where she attended the theater and opera thirty-two times in thirty days, not counting concerts, and the hotel doctor whom she consulted comments that "what is one man's meat is another man's poison." But what the patient really wanted and got, very likely, was change of scene, freedom from laborious and irritating routine, and relief from responsibility. The New York occupation may well have been just the right medicine.

LAUGHING GAS.

"I say, Hodge, why do you always put 'dictated' on your letter? You don't keep a stenographer?" "No; but to tell the truth, old chap, my spelling's rocky."—Boston Transcript.

"I see a conspiracy is suspected in flour."

"Yes; I suppose the conspirators see a chance of getting all the dough."—Baltimore American.

Nodd—"You don't mean to say you keep a diary?" Todd—"Not quite so low as that. I'm just looking up to see the day I was married. This year I propose to pass a safe and sane wedding anniversary.—Life.

She—Hubby dear, what is the difference between you and me?" He—"I give it up." She—"Oh, you fear! And I thought I would have awful trouble getting the money for my new hat."—Philadelphia Ledger.

ALONG THE LONG WAY.

(To the Tune of "Tipperary.") Oh the long way was slipperier, When the rain froze on the snow; When his feet from the path let go; No bones were broken, Though he came down with vim. But a tree, was smelted pretty hard, And that's what hurt him.

'Twas a cold morn in February That the rain froze on the snow; When his eyes met those of pretty Mary And his feet from the path let go; His body got no bruises (He stoutly did assert), But that week, was smelted from pretty Mary That sturdy did hurt.

Along the long way comes spinstery Mary, From the long, long ago; Forty years she has earned her bread, and butter. And how her lonely row; And she gives to all young and hopeful maidens This wisest of all tips: If you ever, ever want to marry, Don't smile when the man slips. Omaha. —BAYOLL NE TRELE.

Cadillac Standard of the World EIGHT The eight cylinder Cadillac will do more of the things which a motorist wants his car to do than any other car in the world. To locate the Cadillac at the Show just look for the busiest exhibit. Cadillac Co. of Omaha Omaha, Neb.

Busy Bee Boys and Girls

We have a grand surprise for you. We will give a Bicycle next. You can have your choice of either a Boy's or Girl's wheel. It is a famous

WORLD MOTOR BIKE

It has a 20-inch Frame with Coaster Brake. Motor Bike Handle Bars, Eagle Diamond Saddle, Motor Bike Pedals, Motor Bike Grip, Luggage Carrier Holder, Folding Stand, Front and Rear Wheel Guards, Truss Frame and Front Fork.

This picture of the bicycle will be in The Bee every day. Cut them all out and ask your friends to save the pictures in their paper for you, too. See how many pictures you can get and bring them to The Bee office, Saturday, March 6th.

The bicycle will be given Free to the boy or girl that send us the most pictures before 4 p. m. Saturday, March 6th.

Subscribers can help the children in the contest by asking for picture certificates when they pay their subscription. We give a certificate good for 100 pictures for every dollar paid. Payments should be made to our authorized carrier or agent, or sent direct to us by mail.

Is there any little boy or girl that really needs a NEW BICYCLE? Write and tell us about it. Maybe somebody will help you try to win it.