

**Comment--and
Discomment**

Something similar to a hornet's nest has been stirred up in Lincoln during the past few days over rates charged by a theater for a performance of "Tiger, Tiger." It appears that the rate was 50 cents higher than was charged in Omaha for the same thing. Somebody discovered the discrepancy, and immediately there went up a loud howl from the theatergoing populace in which, among other mutterings, cries of "Stung!" and "Profiteers!" could be distinctly heard above the din.

Those who cried "Stung!" were not referring to the kind of a play they saw for their money. Indeed, Frances Starr in the leading role was declared to be well-nigh perfect, and some there were who were more extravagant in their praise. One of the critics went so far as to say there is nothing now playing in New York city that excels the performance. The main idea is that Lincoln people

object to paying higher prices than those charged Omaha people.

With the possible exception of the "Passion Play" of Oberammergau, there probably isn't a single theatrical company on earth that isn't organized to make money. It is more expensive to produce plays than it used to be. Actors and actresses are no longer satisfied with press agent notices of high salaries—they insist on getting a fair share of what they earn. Heaven knows that competition in the movies is keen enough to make the salaries real, and the legitimate theater must make the salaries large enough to keep the stars out of the movies.

All of us can remember, a few years ago, when moving pictures were comparatively new, how a lot of the theatrical headliners sniffed when anyone mentioned the movies in their presence. "No room for real art save on the stage," they said, but one by one the silver screen or the silver money won them over. Some of those who said they would never consider leaving legitimate performance to act before the camera have changed their minds; some divide their time; some have found, to their sorrow, that they couldn't get a job if they wanted to.

It's made a serious difference in the kind of plays served up, not only to the Lincoln public, but to cities in Alliance's class. A few years ago there were two or three good attractions a month; then the number diminished steadily until now a really first class production is the event of a season.

The manager of Lincoln's leading playhouse, the only one which makes a pretense of booking anything save fillums and vaudeville, has submitted some interesting figures on the season's records. Out of twenty-three of the better grade productions, but six have "sold out." Two others had good houses. The remainder played to "half a house" or but little better. Now, Lincoln is a city in a class by itself. There are more so-called "cultured" people in one block of Lincoln than in ten blocks of Omaha. The state university does it. But despite the presence of a state university and oodles of people who are supposed to recognize and want the best, the management of this theater has found that good attractions don't pay.

By "good attractions," we do not mean that the offerings consisted of Shakespearean performances or a bunch of highbrow stuff. The list of plays drawing "half a house" includes such titles as "Tiger, Tiger," "Listen Lester," "The Boomerang," "Mitzl Hajos in 'Head Over Heels,'" "Tea for Three," "Parlor, Bedroom and Bath," "Turn to the Right," "Robin Hood," "Flo-Flo," and the Fanchon-Marco Revue. They are performances that have made good in places that are large enough to accord them paying patronage.

Now that "Robin Hood" has come and gone, two choruses may be expected. There will be one class of patrons, enthusiastic over a real musical event, who will plead with Manager DuBuque to bring other attractions of the same kind to Alliance. They will point to the well filled house on Sunday and the fair-sized audience on Monday as indubitable evidence that there are theatergoers here who appreciate seeing and hearing something out of the ordinary and are willing to pay for the privilege.

These people, unfortunately, have little idea of the money that it costs to bring "Robin Hood" to this city for a two-night stand. They look at the price of admission, they see a well filled house, and then wonder why it is that Alliance patrons don't have the same theatrical menu set before them as patrons in slightly larger cities. It will come as a matter of surprise to these people that nearly every performance of this kind has been a disappointment to the box office, no matter how much pleasure it gave the patrons.

Whatever profit there was in "Robin Hood" probably went to others than the local management. The company's agent was more or less disappointed in the patronage, although he conceded that it was as good as the average under similar circumstances. The real "profiteers" in this instance were the people of Alliance and vicinity who had the opportunity for three hours to enjoy one of the best pieces of comic opera ever staged, played and sung by a cast of marked ability, at a price that was remarkably low, under the circumstances. Theatergoers will cheerfully dig up carfare to see performances not a whit better.

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW?
(If you can answer correctly all of the questions given below, then without doubt you are an average American.)

What is the name of that man who, during the present generation, has had the most pernicious influence upon American journalism?

What large city on the North American continent is it whose inhabitants generally are ashamed of their mayor?

During what administration was it that a certain admiral reproved a certain secretary of the navy and was backed up by public opinion?

Give the name of a certain famous poet who, on a visit to this country, was the victim of so much vulgar toadyism as to disgust decent Americans?

The inhabitants of a certain country are in the habit of killing and imprisoning with impunity citizens of the United States. Give the name of this country, and state how many decades it will be, in your opinion, before anything is done about it.

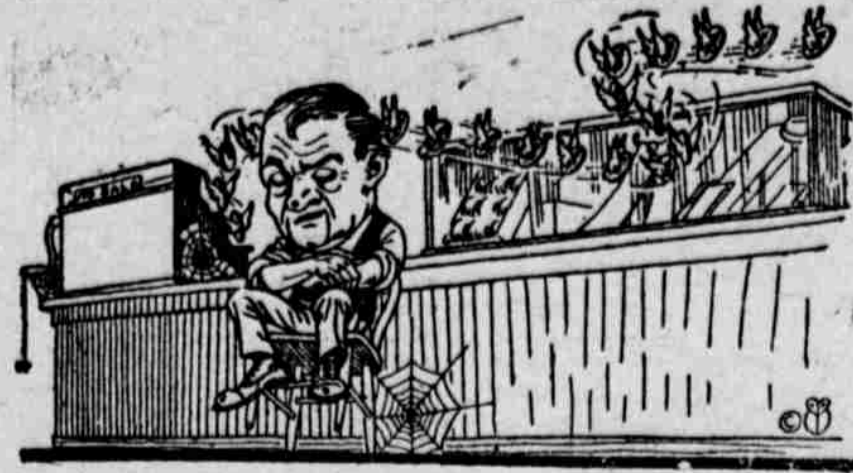
What is the name of that invisible thing, generally represented by a piece of oblong green paper, that cannot be eaten and has no value in itself, yet has lost nearly two-thirds of its value in the last five years?

What is that which is not art, which is not drama and which is not humor, and yet which ten million people in the United States go to see every evening?

Give in their proper order the names of those cities in the United States that are noted for: Fleas? Disloyal policemen? Hotel robberies? Congressional bolshevists? Baby carriages? Soot? Boulevards? Flivvers?

Who tampered with the mails?
What animal is it that wears fur in summer, silk stockings in winter, goes without clothes half the time, and costs more money than any other in the world?—Life.

**See The Dollars
Fly Away**



ARE YOU SLEEPING ON THE JOB?

In these days when money comes easy it likewise goes easy. The cost of nearly everything is much higher than a few years ago. Wages are generally higher, and consequently it is the easiest thing imaginable to "hurry through" your week's salary with the result that pay day often finds you with a few dollars owing here and here. The result is you "are living from pay day to pay day."

WHY NOT TURN THE TABLES?

Would it not be much better to have money left when pay day rolls around? It takes no great effort—just a small effort all the time. Begin a savings account and put away a definite sum every pay day. It will be hard sledding for the first few times but it can be done on almost any salary. Determination is the biggest element involved.

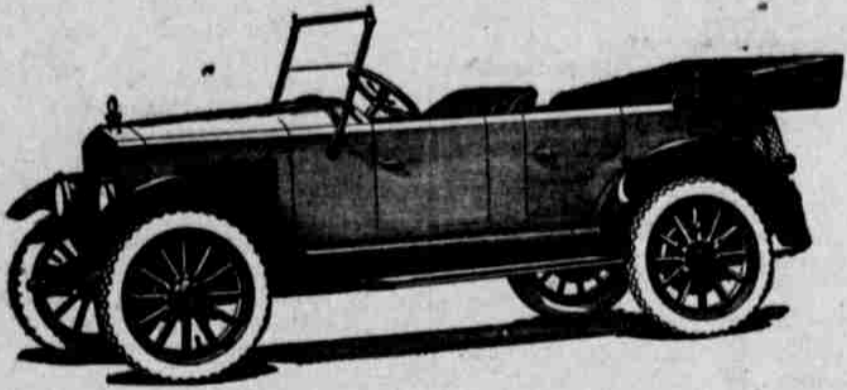
WE WILL HELP YOU

It is our business to help people who want to make their salary go farther. In order to make it easier for you to begin and keep at it we have secured some handsome steel savings banks to keep in the home. You may not always have time to come to the bank and again you may have some odd change that would be spent otherwise. This is how the steel banks will help you. You can get yours today—If you have a Savings Account or if you start one.

You Know a Savings Account Is Good—What Will It Take to Make You Begin and Stick to It?

First State Bank

ONLY BANK IN ALLIANCE THAT OFFERS ITS DEPOSITORS PROTECTION



Essex a Real Economy Car

Essex has all of the light car's advantages of moderate price and saving of gasoline, oil and tires. But it is also a reliable car. Built by the makers of the world's record endurance car, the Hudson Super-Six, Essex staunchness reduces to a minimum the time lost in making adjustments and the cost of repairs.

Essex adjustable radiator shutters assure maximum motor efficiency and saving of gasoline in winter or summer. Danger of overheating is thus obviated and full motor service is obtained in even the coldest weather.

Essex is built to last. Therefore it has a high sale value after long, hard service.

Learn what true car economy means. See the Essex today.

F. W. LOTSPEICH
CORNER SECOND AND LARAMIE



Sellers Hardware

**A Kitchen Cabinet Lightens
the Burden of
House Work**

It saves hundreds of steps every day. It keeps everything in place and it's easy to clean up after the day's cooking is completed.

If you want to put a real help in your home—ease the really hard and tiresome toil of kitchen work, by all means get on of these SELLERS Cabinets.

We have them in oak or white finished interior or in plain wood. Bring friend wife in and pick out one that will fit your purpose—they are in several sizes and you'll find the prices very attractive.

Newberry's Hardware Co.

**Everything
Points That
Way**

All signs indicate that this season will see more building activity than has ever before been experienced in Alliance and Box Butte County. Why?

Progress Has Been Retarded Long Enough

People feel that they can no longer profitably delay building improvements. The necessity is that we keep abreast of progress.

We can help you with plans and bills of material for almost any improvement you want to build. Let us have the opportunity.

Forest Lumber Company
W. M. BEVINGTON, Mgr.