

---As Good As the Best and Better than the Rest--- Telephone 133 **KEEP - U - NEAT** We Call and Deliver

INVESTMENTS IN WILDCAT STOCK HIT BANKROLLS

MUCH GOOD ADVICE FELL ON BARREN SOIL

Glittering Promises Held Out by Sales- men Caused Many to Part With Liberty Bonds

During the period of the war when a new "millionaire" was being made every day, attention was often called to the flood of questionable stock securities that were being thrown on the market. This was especially true with reference to the constant solicitation of farmers by agents of various promotion schemes who declared that they had the backing of the state securities board and offered to take in payment for their stock what liberty bonds the farmer might possess. The banks also ran advertisements warning the people not to part with their securities for others of questionable value. According to a recent report however, most of this good advice apparently fell on barren ground, as would be indicated by the following interesting data from the Nebraska State Journal:

The receivers of failed Nebraska corporations are getting an insight into the methods employed by the stock sellers during the period of blue sky floatation which the state has just passed through. They received letters and visits from the buyers of these worthless stocks, and some of the confidences entrusted to them are heart breaking. The sum of the wisdom acquired by the receivers appears to be that the stock salesmen were able to reap their tremendous harvest because they offered to trade liberty bonds at par. They told their victims that they could double returns by turning in 4 per cent liberties for stock that would yield about twice as much, and with equal security. "Is our stock good?" they would repeat with astonishment. "Why, we have the state of Nebraska behind us. Here is the guarantee of the state bureau of securities." Then they would show a permit to do business, and the rest was easy.

People who had no bonds were subjected to a different kind of approach. They were told of the huge profits made by the packing companies, the insurance concerns and the big hotels. See the number of men in big cities who do not work but ride in automobiles and live well and sit in mahogany chairs in front of fine desks. "You can do the same thing if you have the sense to put your savings in these profitable stocks, instead of being satisfied with 5 and 6 per cent." The

siren song had dozens of variations but every one appealed to the cupidity of the victim.

The success of some of the promoters in getting names on the dotted line was astonishing. In a few years, when all of the broken companies have passed through the courts, it will be possible to make a list of the victims. It will be amazing, both in its length and in the amounts some of the farmers in eastern Nebraska and Iowa have contributed. There is a farmer in Nebraska who now owns between \$250,000 and \$300,000 in stock for which he will not receive more than \$50,000 in the opinion of receivers who have looked over his holdings. Any number can be found who have put in all the way from \$10,000 to \$50,000.

The man who dropped about a quarter of a million dollars worth of good Nebraska land into this rat hole was asked by one of the receivers why he had made all of these purchases. His answer was that he could not withstand the smooth talk of the salesman. They overbore him with argument. When he was unable to answer an appeal or an argument he felt under obligation to accept the man's proposition. The curious thing about this case was that the farmer knew he was on dangerous ground, but did not have the moral courage to take a pitchfork and chase the agents off the premises.

NEBRASKA WOMAN FASTED FOR DAYS

Went Without Food Rather Than Undergo Pangs of Indigestion, Says Mrs. Hill.

"I have a good reason for praising Tanlac, for I think it's enough to make anyone rejoice to be in such splendid health as I am since taking it," declared Mrs. Virginia Hill, of 504 South Eighteenth St., Omaha, Neb.

"I suffered for many years from stomach trouble and asthma so bad that I had to give up doing my housework and became so weak and badly run down I could hardly get around. My appetite was extremely poor and many a day I went without eating rather than suffer the awful pains in my stomach. I would bloat up dreadfully sometimes, and at night felt so choked up that I was almost afraid to lie down. I was also troubled with frequent spells of dizziness and headaches.

"One day I saw in the papers where Tanlac had helped a woman from Kansas City who was suffering like I was and decided to try it myself. And now Tanlac has restored my health, my appetite is splendid and my food digests properly. I am free from those headaches and dizzy spells and am not troubled with shortness of breath like I was before. I sleep soundly and feel so fine I recommend this medicine with all my heart."

Statistics show that an average of about one in every 100,000,000 Americans pays a tax on an income more than \$5,000,000 a year.

When your watch is out or order bring it to Thiele's. 41

If love scenes are barred from high school plays, think what a nestimable loss the American stage will suffer.

NOTICE

Regular teachers' examination will be held at the court house April 23, 1921.

OPAL RUSSELL,
County Supt.
39-42

France, in perfecting a gun that shoots 200 miles, is trying to offset the long bow Germany draws in her poverty stories.

COMMENT & DISCOMMENT

Once a month we clear the editorial desk, whether it needs it or not. Ordinarily it does need a clean-up campaign. We came upon a communication, unsigned, from a Herald subscriber which had been put aside for future consideration whenever there was time to do it properly. This letter was written up about the time we published a stirring editorial to the effect that the imposition of heavy penalties was a pretty fair sort of a crime deterrent.

Our correspondent seems to have a grudge against F. A. High of the anti-saloon league. Now, we do not consider Mr. High the highest type of citizen, mentally or otherwise, but we do not feel like declaring an open season on the gentleman and letting any man take a poke at him whenever he likes on general principles, especially if he doesn't sign his name. The idea is that the editor of a newspaper is responsible for any unsigned communications appearing therein, and the libel law in this state is fairly strict.

Despite the fact that Mr. High's name is taken in vain entirely too often in this letter, it is interesting, and parts of it are worth reprinting. It has been so long since we were privileged to read one of those articles that give all the old arguments of the Personal Liberty league, with several new twists, such as might be expected in the days of the Volstead act and rampant bootleggers. Frinstance:

"There is an awful big expense in keeping up a city of four or five thousand, therefore fines should be two or three times the amount they were thirty years ago. Until five years ago, the saloons did a big portion toward keeping up the city, whereas it is up to the single victim, or bootlegger, to foot the bills now. Let us reason: What has prohibition accomplished in the U. S. A.? Has it made less criminals? Has it done away with the penitentiary, or has it stopped women from shooting men, or men from shooting women, or murdering one another? I have followed up this prohibition for years and have come to the conclusion that prohibition has made more criminals and more lives are lost than in the day of the saloon.

"We have men just as smart as F. A. High, or Judge Munger, or Judge Landis, who look at prohibition from a different point of view. The mayor of Charleston, S. C., announced that his state has been dry for the last thirty years, but moonshining has always been in bloom. Those who formerly drank beer and wine, now when favorable drink poor whiskey; if unfavorable, they drink wood alcohol mixed with variations of bitters, shoe polish, hair tonic or shellac. Prohibition is a failure and cannot be put through because it is against people's nature.

"Here we call ourselves free—a free nation. I say we are the worst bound nation—bound hand and foot—on the globe of the earth. Oh, what a free nation we are! We have given so much away, and the reformers have taken the rest, so that there is very little left but law. I can see the time coming when myself and wife will be tottering along the road to church—the law will be prohibiting me from hitching up Old Dobbin.

"The Lord, at the wedding at Cana, changed water into wine. Man has taken the liberty to change wine into water. I say, whatsoever God has given us in this world is there for the benefit of the people, no matter what it may be."

There is more of it, and all along the same line, which shows that our letter writer feels deeply upon the subject of prohibition. There are undoubtedly a number of others who feel the same way—or worse. For our anonymous writer is not as one entirely without hope. There is a ray of sunshine in his life that the most of us do not have. Read his closing sentence: "As I am getting miserably dry—and thank God, am able to quench my thirst—I will close."

This letter, then, is written in a spirit of true altruism. Our reader is able to quench his own thirst, and prohibition holds no real terror for him, so long as the supply in the cellar holds out. On second thought, we will not compare him with the Personal Liberty league crowd, for they were fighting for themselves. Their finances came from the brewers and distillers, who hated to give up a profitable game—their membership came from those who wanted liberty to drink booze for themselves. Our anonymous writer has a supply of his own—all he wants is that others may have the same if they desire.

Here we see another evil of the anonymous letter. If this man had signed his name, what would be more natural when we were assailed by the pangs of a thirst that water only aggravates, than that we should seek out the writer and grow friendly with him. If his supply is as good as the quality of his letter would seem to indicate, we believe we could be friendly with him upon short notice. It might be that we would be willing to adopt him into the family, temporarily. As it is, he is safe, safe as a church, and we face the prospect of dry and sandy air for the balance of our natural life. Oh well, we always did say that the newspaper game was filled with more disappointments than any other.

The publication of his letter is, of course, nothing more or less than a sort of reminiscence. Prohibition, whether our friend likes it or not, is with us, and there is little doubt that it will stay. There will be some home brewing, a little moonshining, or a lot of it, depending on the vigilance of the law enforcement officers. There will

be some drunkenness. There will be far too much expense for law enforcement, and perhaps less than one offender out of a dozen will be punished.

It is hard on the man who has been used to having his morning's morning and his nightcap with regularity. Worse still, it's going to be harder, as stocks are depleted and as the fines for bootleggers increase in size. The next three or four years will be nasty ones, and it may be that the reformers will wish their various causes so hard that they will bring about a change in public sentiment that will overthrow prohibition. It is to be hoped that this will not happen—that they will be content to make haste in remaking mankind slowly, as it should be done.

If everything goes as it should, some

of these days there will be no whisky problem. The appetite for hooch is an acquired one, just as the appetite for olives, and while it will be hard on the drinkers of this generation to accustom themselves to doing without their booze, some day, in God's good time, there will grow a race of clean, manly young men who do not know the taste of whisky and will not have a craving for it. Even those who drink the stuff will not conscientiously urge a young man to begin the practice. Mighty few drinkers want their sons to start the one surely losing game. And somehow, we fancy that it will be worth the effort on the part of those who have to do without now. Some day, if enough sleuths are put on the trail, bootlegging and hooch making will be so precarious a means of making a living that those claiming to be men will not follow them, and

decent men will not protect them in law breaking. This is a pretty picture—we hope it turns out that way.

Diana beads are the latest at Thiele's. 41

That wave of crime which is inundating the world is probably nothing but the recession of the tidal wave of war.

The bolshevik movement has about exhausted its intellectual ammunition. It has been reduced to a collection of exploded theories.

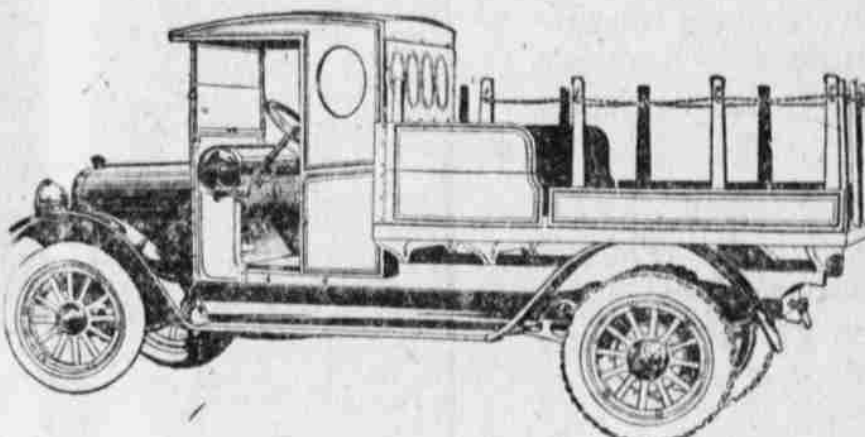
Many are in the hope that the bread line that has been formed by unemployed sailors is not what is meant by normalcy.



The Reo Speedwagon now rated at a ton and a quarter capacity at factory, will amply handle the average loads the average man will want to haul at any time, and will do it so quickly and so efficiently that this one truck fills the needs of 90% of all truck hauling.

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VITAGRAPH

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- Read them as a matter of education.
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- Read them—regularly!

The Alliance Herald



Be Generous With Yourself

You have been "good" to your friends for a long time. You have been a spender. No one ever called you penurious, or close, or tight. But what have you to show in return?

Why not be a "good fellow" to yourself, open an account with this bank and turn your generosity to your own account and credit? The results will show up in a short time, and of a most satisfactory nature at that.

Be Good to Yourself. Begin Today.

First National Bank