

THE MORNING BEE

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COAL MINING TO BE RESUMED.
"I invite you to return to your mine properties, and to resume operations."

With that sentence the president dismissed the soft coal mine operators who had called to inform him that they, like the men, had found it not to their liking to accept his proposal for arbitrating the differences that led to the strike.

Whether other interpretation may be placed on the remark, it has one unmistakable meaning. President Harding is more mindful of the welfare of the 109,400,000 people of the United States who are not involved in the production of coal than he is in the disputes which have kept most of the mines idle since April 1.

Word from different sections of the country yesterday indicates that the operators are moving to accept the president's invitation. Some time must pass before the mines, so long shut down, are ready to produce at anything like capacity, but while the organization of the plants is in progress some other features of the problem may be worked out.

Generally the president's invitation is accepted as meaning that ample protection will be afforded to all who seek to work in the mines. Where local or state authority is insufficient to afford the protection, federal power will be interposed that the work may go on.

If the president's invitation to the owners to operate their mines is a mandate to start work, it may equally be taken as notice to the miners that they are also expected to get busy. How they will take the "invitation" is not signified, but the probabilities are that work will be resumed.

Three- and one-half months is long enough for the contemplation of the futility of voluntary idleness by both operators and men, and with the strong support of the federal government back of them, most will be glad to hear the call of the whistle in the morning. It is merely a generous recognition of a patriotic duty. The call is from the government of a free people to a group of its citizens for service, and the chances are that it will generally be heeded.

BALANCING FARM AND CITY.
With less than three-tenths of the population living on the farm, it is apparent that America no longer can be called predominantly agricultural.

For the first time the federal census has listed farm dwellers separately, and the announcement is made that there are 31,614,269 of them. This amounts to almost five persons to each farm. It is difficult to compare this number with those depending on manufacturing for their subsistence.

The previous census merely bulked all persons living in communities of less than 2,500 population under the classification of "rural." Until 1900 every person living in towns of less than 8,000 was so classified, and then the limit was cut to 4,000. No reliable estimate therefore can be made of the rural exodus, although a basis has been established for future census comparisons.

Jeremiahs have not shown that there is anything alarming in the drift from the farm. As a matter of fact there are more people on the farms of America today than the census of 1880 showed for the whole nation, city and country. The development of rural schools and social life is removing one cause of the drift to the cities. The time when any one could consider life on the farm degrading has long passed, and only economic forces henceforth will count for much in the ups and downs of rural population figures.

CONTRAST BETWEEN TWO BOYS.
Two boys were brought sharply to public attention in the Monday issue of The Omaha Bee. One of these because of his quick-witted action by which he saved the life of his brother. One was in danger of electrocution, being caught in a swing and a live wire combined at a swimming pool.

What strange quirk is it that turns the capabilities of these two boys into such widely different channels? Each is bright, intelligent, prompt, and in appearance a boy any father would be proud of. Yet the one stands out as a modest hero, the other as a rather cheap but in his own estimation a daring crook.

Society must find out what that quirk is, if ever it is to be safe. The boy who thinks it is smart to steal or to do other mischief must be in some manner reached, and a balance established in his moral ledger.

ceptions. No one need fear for the lad who saved his brother's life. He may rise to fame, or tread life's path in the shadow of obscurity, but he is of the stuff that dependable men are made of, and whatever his future may hold, he will be trustworthy. The boy thief will not; it will be a long time before he recovers from the effect of what he engaged in when he set out on his career of crime.

WHERE WILL CONTROL END?
In order to head off and discomfit "predatory wealth," Senator LaFollette now suggests that the United States take over control of all "sources of wealth."

For many years the coal miners have favored "nationalization" of the fuel industry; for at least five years the railroad brotherhoods and unions have demanded the federal ownership of the transport industry, at least so far as they are concerned.

The question always has been, Where to end the process of nationalization? Miners are willing to stop with the mines, and oil wells; Plumb planners will be satisfied with the railroad and steamboat lines. But why not go on, and include the farms, the printing offices, the cotton mills, and all the rest?

Plumb plan advocates looked to the federal treasury to supply any deficit in operating expenses, ignoring the fact that under the law that would be an additional burden on the taxpayer, and that if the government owned the railroads it would not only have to pay the bills so incurred, but would also have taken from the tax roll some eighteen billions of taxable property. In Nebraska, for example, where would the state, county, city, township and school district turn for the tax now collected from the railroads?

"Predatory wealth is pretty well hedged about by restrictive laws in the United States; predatory individual selfishness, covetousness and envy, which breed most of the discord in our country, are not confined. Improvidence still attacks thrift, indolence assails industry, and incompetence rails at the capable. Well directed work is the way to success, and the only sure path. Socialization of all sources of wealth will lead any nation just where Russia landed.

HOME BAKING.
Home made bread has recently been the subject of learned experiment by the United States Department of Agriculture. Tests in an experimental kitchen show that the quality of flour, the kind and price of fuel, the sort of oven used, and the number of loaves made at one time are important factors in the final cost.

Five loaves were made of materials bought in small quantities and baked in an ordinary gas oven, with gas at the rate of \$1.20 a thousand cubic feet. Each of these loaves cost 7-1-3 cents.

Another batch of eight loaves, made by a more economical formula, figured out at 4-1-5 cents a pound loaf. Materials were purchased at better advantage, dried yeast instead of the compressed variety was used, shortening was omitted, and the baking was done in a kerosene range. Strong flour, which gives a high bread yield, was selected, and it was bought by the barrel, as the farm wife would be most apt to do. In neither this nor the other experiment was milk used.

Home baking has gone pretty much out of fashion. It is hardly to be expected that these figures will encourage its revival. No account is taken in these estimates of the value of the housewife's time or labor. Of all labor saving devices, bakers' bread ranks among the highest. Home baked bread has its charms, especially when served hot from the oven fragrant and tasty, but its production is now almost a lost art. Even farm families buy their bread in town now, and frequently it is shipped from some great central bakery in Omaha.

COMPETITION TO THE RESCUE.
One of the effects of the coal strike that is likely to be of a permanent nature is the encouragement given the production of electricity by water power. Forty-two per cent of the electrical output of the United States is now secured from waterpower. This is a gain of 8 per cent since last March, when the prospect of a coal shortage first appeared.

Fuel consumption by public utility power plants in the same length of time has decreased more than 7,000 tons a day according to the geological survey. These signs of competition between white coal and black suggest the inability of the coal industry to stabilize itself is leading to a new adjustment.

The same economic laws will function in the case of the railroads. Once the public is forced to depend on motor transport, it would be difficult to win back all the lost traffic to the rail lines. What the public desires is certainty of service, and if the old methods do not guarantee this, new ways are bound to be sought.

Symptomatic of the healthy condition of Nebraska is the large special edition of the Cozad Local. This was devoted largely to discussion and advertisement of the pure bred live stock industry in Dawson county.

All industrial activity is not demoralized by strikes. Boston builders have just concluded a contract with the unions, the first in over a year.

The male voter who has preserved his distinctive registration as "bull moose" certainly has no right to pretend to be progressive.

A father who puts his son in chains to "keep him out of trouble" seems to be in need of some intensive instruction himself.

Our election machinery may be a little cumbersome, but when it gets under way it delivers the goods.

Wonder if the grocers and butchers will maintain their reputations as rainmakers?

Eugene V. Debs apparently does not feel comfortable when not in jail.

Calling names and saying "You're another!" never settled a dispute.

Dog days now impend, but the approach this year carries little of terror.

How many winners did you pick yesterday?
On Second Thought
By H. M. STANFORD

OPINION—What Editors Elsewhere Are Saying

The Premier.
From the Spectator, London.
Even in the days when "the dukes were scolding like omnibus drivers and the lords swearing like stable boys," Mr. Lloyd George could hardly find tranquility and happy escape in Wales.

What Really Counts.
From the Grand Island Independent.
One does not wish to belittle the invention of the radio. But we need to be on our guard against the prevailing attitude of prostrate and awe-struck adoration of the mere machinery of existence. It is not the size of the megaphone that counts. It is what is uttered through it.

NEBRASKA.
Nebraska, Weeping Water, Moosah, Wahoo, Hiawatha—Okalaia, Winston.
Nemaha, Red Cloud, Wauwata, Lodgepole, Coon, Dakota, Grand, Fairview, Broken Bow, Omaha, Atchafalpa.

Baby Shortage.
From the Cleveland News.
France is worried by its diminishing birth rate. France has been expressing uneasiness over that feature of the French life which ever since most of us began reading newspapers, yet France had no trouble in mustering millions of its sons to fight heroically at Verdun, the Marne, the Aisne, Verdun and elsewhere through more than four years of desperate war.

Woman Mayors.
From the Indiana Advertiser.
Mildred Adams writes in the American City of 15 women mayors in the United States. The towns over which they preside range in size from a village of 100 to a population of 145, to St. Peter, Minn., where the population is 4,335. The 15 woman mayors are distributed over the country. Some of these women were elected because they voluntarily went into politics and tried for office. Others were elected by the people.

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The Bee's LETTER BOX

(This department is designed as a broadcasting station through which readers of The Omaha Bee may speak to an audience numbering well above 250,000 on subjects of public interest. Letters should be short—not more than 300 words. Each letter must be accompanied by the name of the writer, even though he requests that it not be published.)

Farmer and the Farm Bloc.
Newcastle, Neb., July 15.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: There has been a wonderful awakening all along the line regarding the needs of farmers of the agricultural belt. The tragedy of 1920-21, whereby the farmers were literally held up and forced to pay the bulk of the enormous after-the-war deflation has been impressed upon the entire nation, and has demonstrated the imperative necessity of placing farming upon a sure and solid footing.

About Touring Camps.
Omaha, July 17.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: After reading Charles B. Ayres' letter regarding a party of tourists who were driving a high-priced car inquiring for a tourist camp, one would think that the old adage of "clothes do not make the man" has been replaced by "judge a man by the car he drives."

Parole Board.
Omaha, July 17.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Clarence Davis, Governor McKelvie and Secretary of State Amesbury, constituting the board of pardons and paroles, have once more overridden the sentence of the courts of the state and have once more turned a criminal out from the penitentiary to prey upon the public in the way of the release of Mrs. DeHart, or, if not yet released, by the contemplated release, as indicated by the newspapers.

But, see romance wildly trotter—Hokins, Palsville, Wata, Potter: Let our ears attune to the siller, Bukke, Korthy, Filger, Diller: Height of the sublime one minute, Then the depths—a plunger right in it. Thus Nebraska! This and that: L'au-qui-court and then North Tribune! —Maurice Morris, in Hastings Tri-une

WILLIAM SMITH.

drivers of the larger cars. I have driven both kinds of cars on tours and have found the lowly flyover to be better suited to that class of traveling, whether the route take one through the mud of Iowa and Nebraska, the sands of the desert country or over mountain trails and passes.

Both of the DeHarts were represented by able counsel of St. Louis, Neb., and both pleaded guilty, getting recommendations of leniency from a compromise from the county attorney. Now, those are the facts and no doubt they can all be verified by the board of it should care to consult the DeHarts' attorneys, the sheriff or the county attorney.

Under that statement of facts, what excuse is there for the release of either Mr. or Mrs. DeHart?

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