

THE MORNING BEE

MORNING-EVENING-SUNDAY

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R. BREWER, General Manager
KELMER S. ROOD, Circulation Manager

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22 day of Sept., 1922.
(Seal) W. H. QUIVEY, Notary Public

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The net average daily circulation of The Omaha Bee for July, 1922, was 71,525, a gain of 11,712 over July of 1921. The net average Sunday circulation of The Omaha Bee for July, 1922, was 76,232, a gain of 19,650 over July of 1921. This is a larger gain than that made by any other daily or Sunday Omaha newspaper.

HOWELL'S BUSINESSLIKE PROPOSAL

The manner in which the last democratic national administration loaned \$10,000,000,000 to European nations, as mentioned in the speech delivered at Kearney by R. B. Howell, republican candidate for United States senator, was in keeping with the reckless manner in which that same administration squandered money appropriated right here at home. When a government, even though at war, turns over to borrowers \$10,000,000,000 without demanding some material evidence of the debt owed in the shape of bonds or otherwise, the innumerable scandals in war contracts here at home are even less surprising. No extremities of war could justify either the one or the other.

In pointing out the seemingly insane manner in which loans were made to European nations, Mr. Howell does not assume merely the role of the critic. The mistake has been committed, and he now suggests that the mistake be rectified to whatever extent possible at the earliest possible moment. When it is realized that the interest on the loans to European nations equals what it formerly cost to meet the entire expenses of this government for a year, the magnitude and importance of the matter is made clear to the voter and the taxpayer.

In the republican platform adopted at the state convention at Lincoln, this plank is found:

"The present refunding of all debts of European nations due the United States government, as provided by law, the ultimate collection of the principal, and the collection of all interest thereon as the same accrues."

The platform is specific as to the foreign debt, and Mr. Howell by his clear explanation and sound reasoning brings forcibly to attention not only that the debt must be placed on a business footing, but also that the platform proposal is in reality a tax reducing plan to relieve the burden on each and every taxpayer and citizen in Nebraska and the United States.

Mr. Howell in his speech is not chanting a hymn of criticism. He is outlining a constructive program which he will carry forward if elected a member of the United States senate. He has made good on his promises in the past. He has never permitted obstacles to deter him from fulfilling his pledges.

The democratic platform in Nebraska does not have one word to say about refunding the European debt. It is absolutely silent on this matter of outstanding importance. The reason is apparent. To have adopted a plank pledging to deal with this subject on a businesslike basis would have been a plank directly condemning Hitchcock. When it was proposed to appoint a committee to negotiate for the funding of the foreign debt owed this country Hitchcock was present in the senate but did not vote. His record on this question has been made.

The foreign debt should and must be paid. The interest on that debt should and must be met. If the voters and taxpayers of Nebraska desire to send that message to Washington, it can only be done by electing R. B. Howell as the next senator from Nebraska.

VERDICT ACCORDING TO MAINE

Maine voted on Monday, and as usual elected the republican ticket. This much of the result might have been anticipated, for a democratic nomination in Maine is about equivalent to a republican nomination in Texas. However, the democratic south-sayers will in vain undertake to extract some consolation from the total vote, which shows a considerable falling off in totals. According to the press dispatches, the democratic vote shows an increase of 5,000 and the republican a decrease of 22,000 from two years ago. This would rather indicate that a considerable number of republicans failed to vote, than that the democrats have made any impressive gain, or that the voters of the state are inclined to rebuke the administration. In 1920 the state gave Harding 136,355 votes and Cox got but 88,961; a showing as abnormal for Maine as was the result in 1916, when Wilson received 64,118 votes and Hughes got 69,506. These comparisons are not safe guides, for the women in Maine are voting now and four years ago they were not.

A safer basis is to compare the figures of the Monday vote with the vote for president of two years ago. This is already made, and it contains no evidence of Maine's swerving from its republican moorings. While the old adage, "As goes Maine, so goes the union," has lost some of its significance during these latter days, whatever remains of its prophetic quality must encourage supporters of the president. First voters to actually express themselves by electing senators and representatives return republicans.

LET THE STATE REWARD BARROWS

For the sake of the good name of Nebraska the next legislature should recompense Lieutenant Governor Barrows. The situation that has grown up around the meager pay of this office has given the name a good deal of undesirable advertising. Mr. Barrows has not been responsible for this, any more than has Governor McKelvie.

The salary of the office of lieutenant governor should be increased. Seven hundred and fifty dollars a year is not enough to pay a state official who is expected to occupy the office of the chief executive during the absence of the governor from the state. In view of the fact that it is necessary for the governor to leave the borders of Nebraska to attend public conferences in Washington and elsewhere, it can hardly be held that he should be called on to forfeit

his salary on such occasions. It is even doubtful if the governor has any more legal right to pay his lieutenant than to subsidize a legislator.

The state of Nebraska and the officials concerned should be spared the humiliation that results from the inadequate pay of the lieutenant governor. Such incidents as this are not only utterly unnecessary, but possess the further undesirable tendency of discouraging men who value their peace of mind and reputation from venturing into public life. There is everywhere in America so much uncalculated criticism of public officials, often based on nothing more than bitter partisanship, that respect for government is wearing thin.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON TARIFF

Unless the schedule is interrupted by something not now foreseen, the senate and house conferees on the Fordney-McCumber tariff bill will report to the bodies today, with agreement reached on all the points of difference between them. This does not mean that the bill will soon become a law, for there is the possibility of debate and perhaps disagreement by one or the other to the report, and consequently the need of further conference. It is not likely that the agricultural schedule will be modified, for it is fairly satisfactory to the farm bloc and so well stand. Nebraska is particularly interested in this feature of the tariff law. The republican state platform declares in favor of

"The enactment of a rational protective tariff to the end of maintaining our high standard of living, and to conserve our resources for ourselves and our children, all schedules to be framed so as to destroy and not foster monopoly."

Under the Fordney-McCumber bill the farmers are given the advantage of protection on wheat, corn, potatoes, sugar, cattle, hogs, and other produce. The measure is designed to avoid as far as possible the sectional qualities that made the Underwood act passed by the democrats, so objectionable, and will afford the degree of protection that is needed to maintain the American standard of living and conserve our national resources.

A few days ago, addressing the live stock men at Denver, John B. Kendrick, democratic senator from Wyoming, emphasized the need for high duty on cattle, that the industry may recover from the effects of the post-war slump. The sugar beet growers of western Nebraska also need the benefit of duties high enough to give them a chance to compete with the Cuban planters. Likewise, the wheat growers need to be made secure from the menace of Argentinian competition, which was steadily growing more and more each year, until the Fordney emergency tariff was enacted.

All these things are provided for in the law that is now in the process of enactment. It probably is not perfect, but it contains a provision that permits the president to correct schedules that are out of line, and so prevent the growth of oppressive monopolies.

SURVEY THE SCHOOL SITUATION

At the end of the first week of the new school year conditions as to the accommodations afforded the children of the community were such as to emphasize the problem of management. Congestion in certain of the grade schools is accompanied by empty rooms at others. More or less of confusion results from this.

In some degree the situation is the result of elements that are not easy to determine, if they are not altogether beyond control. When school houses are located a certain amount of risk is run, in spite of calculations or estimates as to future growth. Experience has shown that some congested districts have actually increased in density of population while others have not advanced in numbers as fast as had been expected. A result of this is that schools that normally would have cared for all are overcrowded, while others are not employed to the limit of their capacity.

Such a condition is not beyond remedy. A careful survey of the schools should be made, to the end that the pupils be distributed to the best possible advantage for the utilization of all existing facilities. This may result in transfer of children from one district to another, but that is better than to deprive any of the full advantages provided for them by the public.

Omaha owes a duty to its children, and should see that nothing is left undone to the full discharge of that duty. And, while the study is being made to relieve the present jam, a comprehensive and detailed survey should be taken up for determining what is to be done in the future. Nebraska's best crop is babies, and Omaha is providing its full share in this regard, and must make provisions for their education.

KEEPING THE HAIR IN ITS PLACE

It was, says the Wise Man, the little fly in the ointment that made the whole pot to stink. Likewise, the hair in the soup, or in the biscuit, or even the butter, has been the cause of a heap of disturbance in this world. The hair is all right in its place, but that place is not the food. How much of tragedy in the world has been caused by a misplaced hair no man may calculate. On a coat lapel it may mean almost anything, and, as Shakespeare reminds us, "Trifles light as air are to the jealous mind confirmation strong as proof of holy writ."

Homes have been wrecked on so slight a stumbling block, and many a good meal has been spoiled and a whole day ruined by the unwelcome presence of a vagrant hair. It matters not whether it has fallen because any one of a great variety of causes; it is enough that it has fallen, and, floating light as a thistle down on the breeze of the electric fan, or even the draft from the heated kitchen range, has come to rest on or in a dish about to be set before a diner.

One time in the past of the great and glorious west nothing would have been said about it; table etiquette in those days permitted it to be removed, and good judgment usually found expression in quietly picking it out with fingers or fork, as might be handiest, and the incident was closed, unless some witty person should accompany the act with some reference to the cook or the waitress. Then, there was the incident of the Virginian and the Monde biscuit-shooter, told by Owen Wister.

But, those simple days have passed, and life in those parts is a complex indeed. All of which is prefatory to commending Dr. Pisto, the city's health commissioner, for requiring that all who prepare or dispense food, no matter of which sex or gender, wear nets to keep the hair in place while at work. It is not only more sanitary, but such a rule well enforced will begot confidence in food and so aid digestion.

The Greeks have barked out of Smyrna so often that they may be said to be familiar with the route.

Henry Ford is said to be buying coal to keep his plant running. Is this a tip to other careful buyers?

On Second Thought

Be careful of the man who is always suspicious of everybody else.

UNABLE TO FILL THE ORDER



"As Our Readers See It"

Editorial from readers of The Evening News. Editors are invited to use this column freely for expression on matters of public interest.

How Can Profit Be Limited?

Soldiers and Sailors Home, Milford, Neb., Sept. 8.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Allow me a little space, I have taken The Omaha Bee for 40 years and think and know there is no paper in the United States that equals it for news and fair dealing.

I want to know if there is no law, or if one can't be made, to stop profiteering? I see every few days a statement that our governor is powerless to cope with it and stop it. I can't think that true. As in the case of banks, it tells him much interest, you shall charge him no more. Now, that is profit as I look at it. The same with wheat, corn or any other commodity. There are 100 cents in a dollar and they can sell it from 10 cents profit and grain or anything else in proportion, and no more. Anything above that per cent is profiteering. If it can't be done, give me the reason, why and oblige.

G. W. WOODRUFF.

Howell's Record of Service

Omaha, Sept. 11.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I would like to say a few words in regard to the candidacy of R. B. Howell for United States senator.

What are the standards by which a candidate for public office is judged and chosen? Is it not his record for things achieved, rather than vague promises of what he intends to do if elected?

If you were hiring a man to run your business, I imagine the first question you would ask would be "What is your record? What have you done in the past?" and you would be particularly interested in his promises of what he intended to do.

Let us then consider briefly the record of Mr. Howell. In the first place he has always been a consistent worker for municipal ownership of public utilities. For 15 years he fought against private monopoly to acquire the water plant for the people of Omaha. It was finally obtained in 1912 at a cost of \$6,319,261.68, and the water was made general. Since that time, the city only have water rates reduced 52 1/2 per cent to the water consumer, but the water department has made enough money to pay all expenses of operation including the interest on the bonded indebtedness, and shows a total in reserves, surplus and approximately \$1,000,000.00. Consumers due to change in form of service and reduction in rates, the sum of \$6,326,282.61, or more than the water property cost the city.

The gas plant was purchased July 1, 1920, at a cost of \$4,592,869.21, over the protest of Mr. Howell, who considered the price too excessive. At that time the cost of necessary supplies for the production of gas was high and steadily increasing, yet as soon as the plant came into the control of the Metropolitan Utilities district, Mr. Howell bent every energy to building up the plant, with the result that today the people of Omaha not only have a plant giving adequate and satisfactory service, but enjoy the lowest gas rate of any city in the country, similarly situated.

At the end of two years of municipal operation the gas department has not only paid all costs of operation, including the interest on indebtedness, but has accumulated in reserves and surplus a total of \$1,081,552.42.

The first publicly owned ice plant in Omaha was completed early in 1919 at a cost of \$248,000. Mr. Howell went into the ice business because the price of this necessary commodity was soaring and was beyond the reach of many families in the city. After less than four years of operation, during which ice was sold at 30 cents a hundred pounds, on September 1, 1921, the ice department showed accumulated reserves and surplus, after all cost of operation and interest had been paid, of \$234,959.95.

Incidents of Omaha will remember that at the time the city took over the water plant, they were paying 14 cents a kilowatt for electric current. As a protest against those rates a small plant was built at Florence and it was found that electric current could be delivered at the neighborhood rate of 4 of a cent a kilowatt. Mr. Howell then began a fight to extend this plant and service, and although the people have been thwarted and the legislature has failed to grant this right, the mere fact of this threatened competition has resulted in a reduction of electric rates in Omaha such that the gross rate is now 8 cents, or probably the lowest of any city supplied by a private corporation.

These things which have been accomplished by a public official within the sphere of his activities. He now wishes to resign to make room for one who may achieve even a greater number. He has successfully and materially reduced the cost of living for 100,000 people. He is not proud to reason that Mr. Howell will be lost as valuable to the people of Nebraska as a whole as he has been to the people of Omaha. He is not proud to reason that the election of Mr. Howell to the United States senate is of more importance to the people of this state than it is to Mr. Howell himself.

A TAXPAYER.

Nebraska Politics

Genoa Leader: Are we going to vote for Gilbert M. Hitchcock? Not by a darn sight. Neither are we going to vote for any man who does vote for him, not if we know it.

Fairbury News: If you have believed in your heart that W. J. Bryan always acted upon the dictate of his conscience, ask yourself now if you really believe he would have been supporting Hitchcock this year if Brother Charley were not a candidate.

Grand Island Independent: When we get wireless politics we may be able to do away with the poles.

Beatrice Express: The barrel type of political campaign is passing out, just as the keg type did several years ago.

Wayne Herald: In the Bryan-Hitchcock coalition, for convenience, we wonder if the senator has, among other things, accepted W. J.'s position on evolution?

Bryan hasn't allowed his recent conversion to Hitchcock to interfere with his "Weekly Bible Talks" that appear in the Sunday papers.

Aurora Republican: The question has been raised that if Charlie Bryan had not been nominated for governor, would W. J. Bryan be supporting Gilbert Hitchcock for United States senator? What is the answer?

"From State and Nation"

Editorials from other newspapers

The Crazy Idea.

From the Kansas City Star.

Don't laugh at the man with the "crazy idea." Forty-five years ago Thomas A. Edison laughed at himself, because he had a crazy idea. But he kept on and today in millions of homes the phonograph plays.

A real idea of a score of years ago Langley was laughed to death because of his crazy idea that man could fly. The greatest mathematician of this country, Newcomb, demonstrated "conclusively" that a heavier than air flying machine could not fly.

The world has been laughing for a hundred years at the crazy idea that women could, should or would vote. It was a crazy idea that two great nations with a boundary line between them 3,000 miles long, could by treaty do away with armed camps, forts, soldiers, ships of war on lakes. But Canada and the United States never have any use for the soldiers and the forts displaced by a treaty.

Wireless was a crazy idea. So was Bell's telephone, and Morse's telegraph, and Whitney's cotton gin. Many have thought Jesus Christ had a crazy idea. Don't laugh at the man with the idea which seems crazy just because it is new. If there had never been any new ideas we would still jail lunatics and debtors, burn men for witchcraft and use the knout for illumination. It is not so long since a republic was a crazy idea in government.

Some day the man will be born whose crazy idea will end war, strife, oppression, anarchy, crime and fraud. He will be laughed at when he asserts that skirts are to be made longer and longer, season after season, until they touch the sidewalk, there is a 100 per cent increase in his production. "Me-as" is the right word because such garments are so dangerous to health and so obstructive to the free and safe movements of women who wear them, in getting on or off street cars, entering or leaving automobiles and taking part in the crowded life of busy streets.

But even if Poirot, famous dress-maker of Paris, is right about the untimely coming of very long skirts it is quite safe to say that they will not stay long for a long time. The reasons for disliking them and avoiding them are too plain and too convincing. Convenience, comfort and safety cry out against such fettering apparel, in an age when women give increasing attention to athletic sports and make constantly widening use of motor vehicles.

And cleanliness and sanitary considerations protest the folly of making skirts sweep the pavement once more. The case is wholly un-

aided and the arguments against very long skirts are too overwhelming to be resisted for more than a brief space of time. Women are too free now, in thought and action, to go back to the old fetters of such clothing, and stay in the prison they make.

Moving Day.

From the Kansas City Kansas.

It is estimated that during September 199,000,000 will be spent in moving. No less than 5,000,000 families will change their locations. They always do at that time, and again in the spring. Perhaps the reason they begin the month of September with Labor day is because moving is no light job by any means. The fact that 5,000,000 people move twice a year is appalling. It emphasizes to a degree the extent of landlordism. Beyond this, it indicates a spirit of dissatisfaction. People flounce from one house to another, much as they toss about on the bed when they are unable to sleep. The high cost of housing, doubtless is one reason why people move so often. But it is not the only reason. The old sense of home life, with attachment to the old house, has almost disappeared from this country.

Sometimes we talk of agitation that would break up the home. The home as it was in earlier days, being broken up, and it is not due to agitation or to radical doctrines. Conditions under modern life are doing it.

A hall bedroom is not home, a rented house without ventilation or yard is not a home. That so many have to go away to work and are absent in destroying the home. Even the sending of children to college works the same end.

The number of times people who have nothing to move but a trunk change their locations, is not even suggested in the figures quoted

above. The 5,000,000 who move twice a year are trying to maintain families and the institution of the home. But how can they under such conditions? The very fact that they move so much is proof that they are dissatisfied.

Still in the Past.

From the Boston City Star.

Apparently New Jersey is still fighting the Newberry battle over its senatorial campaign, and Secretary Hughes is out with a blast on the subject.

For heaven's sake! Aren't there bigger issues before the country today, liver issues, than whether the Newberry committee spent more money than it should in advertising and organizing? Just how much money the Newberry people were justified in spending to offset the money that had been spent by Henry Ford in making himself known, would be difficult to say. The Michigan voters, in full possession of the facts, decided that Mr. Newberry was the man to represent them in the senate.

But all that is past and gone. We have industrial legislation of tremendous consequence before the country now, to say nothing of a recalcitrant, log-rolling tariff bill. Aren't those matters of far more consequence than the size of the Newberry advertising bill?

A Word to the Wise.

From the Boston Transcript.

An old gentleman whose hobby was homing pigeons took one of his pets to a public park. A few people gathered around to watch him and this attracted the attention of a policeman.

"What are you doing here?" the latter asked.

"Getting ready to fly this pigeon."

"You can't fly your pigeon here."

"Why not?"

"It's against the rules—that's all. If you try it I shall be obliged to arrest you."

The old gentleman placed the pigeon on the ground, stroked it and said to it gravely, "I can't lose you up here, for it's against the law. So you must walk home. Do you hear? You must walk home."

Not Long for Long.

From the Cleveland News.

Paul Poiret is a potent person, undeniably, in the world of fashion. No one can brush lightly aside whatever predictions he makes about the course of events. In that realm, and when he asserts that skirts are to be made longer and longer, season after season, until they touch the sidewalk, there is a 100 per cent increase in his production. "Me-as" is the right word because such garments are so dangerous to health and so obstructive to the free and safe movements of women who wear them, in getting on or off street cars, entering or leaving automobiles and taking part in the crowded life of busy streets.

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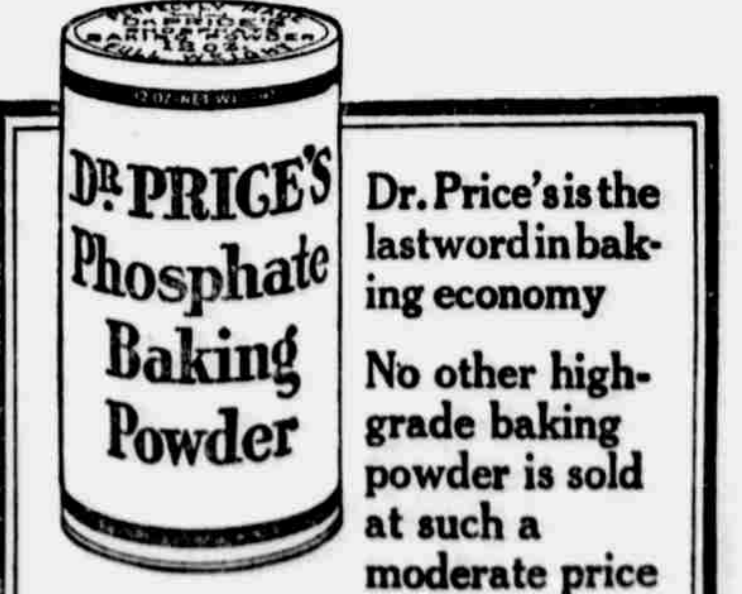
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