

THE MORNING BEE

MORNING—EVENING—SUNDAY

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WHERE CIVILIZATION FAILS.

The ultimate in labor warfare has occurred down in Arkansas, where a railroad strike that has lasted for two years has culminated in the burning of bridges, the lynching of a striker and wholesale deportations. From this distance it is impossible to apportion the blame; all that can be said is that the entire condition is wrong. This country must civilize its industrial life. The record of Bisbee, of Herrin and of innumerable other disputes between capital and labor is a black one.

Down in Arkansas the general public appears to have interfered, not in any just or intelligent way, but from sheer exasperation. This labor dispute has kept the towns along the Missouri & North Arkansas railway in turmoil for two years. For a time the railroad simply shut down operation, ruining the business life of the district. The loss has fallen on every one concerned—the strikers, the public and the railroad corporation.

The cauldron of hate boiled over when a new period of bridge burning began. These towns once more were face to face with isolation, with their trade cut off and traffic at a standstill. Settlement of the dispute appeared farther and farther away. The efforts the railway labor board had counted for nothing and there was nowhere to turn for relief.

Such were the materials of the disorder that broke out so disastrously to law and order. The final resort has been had to violence, a matter for sincere regret to citizens of all classes, whatever their sympathies. The sending in of troops will not undo the wrongs that have been committed. Something more is needed—a spirit of fair play all around, and a tribunal with power and authority to adjust labor disputes with justice to all before they come to such a pass.

TO RESTORE RESPECT FOR LAW.

The uncertainty, complexity and delays of the law, so noticeable to the public generally, can no longer be ignored by the lawyers themselves. The most serious consequence of these defects is that they create a lack of respect for the law, which undermines the moral fiber of the community. If the operation of justice is defective the rich are more apt to use their wealth to oppress and the temptation to cheat, steal and indulge in the whole catalogue of crime is unchecked.

It was with these thoughts in mind that a meeting of distinguished members of the legal profession recently met in New York to urge the necessity of restating the law and simplifying legal procedure. Consider first the fact that Elihu Root, probably the greatest member of the American bar, presided, and the report adopted by this meeting becomes startling. One section, which takes cognizance of popular opinion, reads thus:

"There is today general dissatisfaction with the administration of justice. The feeling of dissatisfaction is not confined to that radical section of the community which would overthrow existing social, economic and political institutions. If it were we, as lawyers, could afford to ignore it. But the opinion that the law is unnecessarily uncertain and complex; that many of its rules do not work well in practice, and that its administration often results not in justice, but in injustice, is general among all classes and among persons of widely divergent political and social opinions."

The remarkable thing is that these lawyers do not attempt to convince the public that it is entirely mistaken. "In our opinion," says the report, "the most important task that the bar can undertake is to reduce the amount of uncertainty and complexity of the law." No effort here to smooth over the situation by telling the public how wicked it is to question the sacred nature of legal rigamarole. Admitting the faults of the present system, they say: "These defects cause useless litigation, prevent resort to the courts to enforce just rights, make it impossible to advise persons of their rights, and when litigation is begun create delay and expense."

Having admitted the need for reform, the movement proceeds to the question of how it is to be done. A conference has been called for next month, in Washington, to consider plans for restating the whole body of the law. Chief Justice Taft, with a notable array of federal judges, the president of each state bar association, the head of each law school and many noted practicing attorneys will be invited to this meeting. It is seldom that any professional or business class display such a willing spirit under public criticism and moves to clean house from the inside.

EUROPE DRAWS ON THE CORN FIELDS.

For the third time since 1900 Europe has bought more than 100,000,000 bushels of American corn. There is encouragement for the middlewest in the news that corn exports for last year amounted to 166,003,000 bushels, an increase of 40 per cent over the previous year. This, however, does not equal the record for 1899, when 213,123,000 bushels were sold abroad, but it is much better than the total of 10,726,000 bushels in 1913.

The claim that the market for American farm products abroad has been destroyed is not borne out by the latest returns. Doubtless the low price of corn had much to do with the volume of exports, but at the same time the fact that Europe has turned to this source of supply would seem to promise a growing demand.

Omaha business men who induced the purchase of cornmeal for European relief work played a valuable part in advertising the Corn Belt. However, most of the corn exported from the United States is used as feed for dairy cattle and other livestock. Argentina is the chief rival in this trade, and in the twenty years from 1900 sold nearly twice as much abroad as did the United States. The South American product sells for 8 to 10 cents a bushel more than American corn, but has had the preference in some countries because of its smaller kernels, which make it suitable for poplite feeding and because of its sweetness and lack of moisture.

The fact that Italy, Spain, France and Belgium bought five times as much American corn last year as the previous average is important. The Corn Belt needs a larger outlet, and is prepared to fill any demand, however large.

FINANCING THE SCHOOLS.

In the move for public economy it is to be hoped that the schools will not be singled out for any unwarranted sacrifice. It would be so easy to stint the children of Nebraska and not feel the effect of it for a dozen years. Especially may those who have no children and who accordingly have little acquaintance with the educational system be expected to complain of the cost of maintaining the schools. The average parent, of course, receives much more benefit from the schools than they cost him.

There is waste, however, in the present educational system. This is not a subject for hostility, but for impartial investigation. The rights of the children come first in this case. If better schooling can be obtained at a smaller outlay, that is to be desired. It is unthinkable, however, that compromise with ignorance or illiteracy should be made in order to save any amount of money.

It is important that the teachers of Nebraska should be thoroughly qualified for their positions. To lower their standards would be a great mistake. This is a fact to be taken into consideration in connection with the proposal to shorten the normal school courses. Wage reductions that make the teaching profession less attractive and would result in a more rapid change of personnel would undermine the educational system.

Some things a rural community may do in order to improve its school facilities without extravagance. One of these is to avoid what is sometimes called the "suitcase teacher," who lives in town and comes out each day to her classes. An instructor should live and establish herself among the people she is serving. Undoubtedly also the ambition for power and glory has led many principals and superintendents to demand greater equipment or a wider curriculum than the circumstances warrant. There is not as great pressure to enroll every county school on the university accredited list as citizens are led to believe.

The Nebraska state legislature now has before it a proposal for an investigation of the expenses of the state university. This resolution arises as much from the fact that there has been no full and definite report of university finances as from any well grounded belief that extravagance has existed there. In a state that takes as much pride in its schools as does Nebraska, nothing is to be feared from such a survey.

The entire school system of the state is under scrutiny. The correct attitude for educators to take in this matter is one of full co-operation, not of obstruction. Always it must be remembered, certain technical details must be left to the trained minds of the instructors, but if simpler, more effective and less costly methods can be found, all will be the gainer.

ONE LINE RIVER-TO-COAST.

The Union Pacific and Southern Pacific have reached an agreement as to the use of the Central Pacific. Details of the arrangement are not as yet given to the public, and perhaps never will be, further than the statement that the treaty concluded is satisfactory to the Union Pacific. This would be all right, were the terms equally satisfactory to the public, which yet has an interest in the transaction that is paramount to that of the two companies.

In the beginning the transcontinental line was constructed by two companies, under the mistaken idea that work would be facilitated and the completion of the railroad hastened by such methods. The thought back of all the negotiations, in congress and out, was that the road would be operated as a unit, and not as competing or rival units. Farthest from the thought of anybody, except Collis P. Huntington, was the idea of the Central Pacific being used to blockade the Union Pacific at Ogden, while traffic was being diverted to the Southern Pacific, which was an afterthought on the part of Huntington. Owners of the Southern Pacific are yet loath to relinquish their advantage, or to loosen their grip on the business, and terms arranged with the Union Pacific, however satisfactory to the contracting companies, are not likely to embody all that the public has a right to expect as coming from a great transportation system that was so liberally subsidized in the beginning because it was to be of so important service to the public.

Shippers between the river and the coast are not yet relieved from the I. C. C. ruling, laid down in the celebrated Spokane case, under which the cost of the back-haul from the coast is added to freight from the river. The supreme court decision in the rail-and-water case still holds. Until the effect of these is overcome by some new application of the fundamentals of rate-making, the region affected will suffer, as it now does.

Transcontinental traffic will be benefited to the extent that the Southern Pacific is required to play fair in the matter of freight out of San Francisco. The Union-Central Pacific is the natural route, it is shorter and easier, and business should be the gainer therefrom. No good reason is known why commerce and industry should pay to maintain the cost of operating roundabout and difficult routes, when a direct and easy way exists.

Flour exports from Nebraska in November last were 1,551,851 barrels, an increase of 805,636 barrels over the corresponding month in 1921, if you want to know what the millers are doing.

Clarifying the Herrin Case

From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

By the rulings of Judge D. T. Hartwell, before whom the Herrin massacre case is being tried at Marion, Ill., extraneous and fictitious issues with which an effort has been made from the beginning to complicate it have been cleared away and the road has been made straight for a decision on its merits.

Even since the beginning of the investigation which resulted in indictments and the present trial, there has been a clamor about "capitalistic" persecution and alleged attempts to disrupt organized labor. It was based mainly on the interest manifested by the Illinois Chamber of Commerce which took the form of raising a fund for the expenses of the investigation and prosecution. Incidentally, there was much talk about the use of "gunmen" in labor disputes and complaint about federal secret service men having aided in the investigation. The attempt was made to show that the case was a life-and-death struggle between capital and labor.

But Judge Hartwell has ruled that all such testimony is incompetent and has excluded it, holding that the history of the "gunmen" and the contributions of the Chamber of Commerce have nothing to do with the case.

The rulings establish the case for what it is, a trial for murder of five men who happen to be members of a labor organization, but whose connection with that organization raises no special presumption either of guilt or innocence.

"From State and Nation"

—Editorials from Other Newspapers—

Political Pranks.

From the Kansas City Drivers Telegram.
 Politics, as expressed in the votes of the people, if that be politics, plays some peculiar pranks.
 As the result of the exercise of the suffrage of the people last fall we see Missouri with a republican governor and democratic legislature. Over in Kansas the result was the opposite, Kansas has a democratic governor and all the other state officials and the general as well as the republican.
 These freaks of politics act, in a way, as a corrective influence on men that are in power. It will be recalled that Thomas Jefferson said "In questions of power, let no man be trusted with power unless he be first heard of confidence in man, but bend him down from mischief by the chains of the constitution."

The sage of Monticello, who played the fiddle by ear and designed his residence at Monticello on purer Grecian lines than any Greek of ancient days ever conceived of, saw men inclined to usurp power and he wanted them held in check by the chains of the constitution.

Now in Missouri and Kansas we have governors of opposite political faiths, opposite ideals, different interests, and coming from different walks of life. Each is leveled down and held down by the power that the constitution of each of the states has put in the hands of the people. The legislatures as well as the governors are also bound down by the chains of the constitution, for no laws can be passed in Missouri or Kansas that are contrary to the constitution of the United States.

On the other hand the legislatures are bound down by the vetoes of their governors, except in the case of an overriding of a veto by a legislature. There might be such a partisanship in Missouri or Kansas that the legislatures, for purely political purposes, might override the veto of a governor, but it would have to be a law that was in keeping with the fundamentals of the constitution of the United States and in keeping with the common law of justice and equity or it would be time wasted.

Kansas and Missouri, with their bitter government, were offered interesting object lessons in attempted harmony between the legislative and the executive bodies, and it is to be hoped that in the interest of the people of both states, who are alike in justice and equity and that something worth while will be accomplished in both states, regardless of the political situations that are potential in either side wants the sword rather than peace.

It would be well for the members of the various state legislatures now in session to be reminded of the fact that a great many people, many politicians in the same category with "good Indians," and we of the west know what a "good Indian" was in the parlance of the plains.

Defective Drivers.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

Discussion of the mental capacity of persons who drive automobiles recklessly, menacing life and property, is passing from jest to earnest.

Sometime ago a Chicago paper took a fling at "The Moron at the Wheel" in a witty and witty way. It was recently judged here and there has been discussed gravely the mental state of persons who step on the gas without consideration of the rights or the safety of other motorists.

A recent departure in penology in the institution of mental tests, in Detroit, to ascertain what brain power the road hog and the speed mania commonly have.

The purpose proclaimed is to inflict severe punishment upon persons of mental capacity than upon those of low mentality. The mental test is a good one—that children under 14 years of age shall not drive automobiles, to the village idiot driving a horse. But it often was true that a horse, by its own intelligence, saved the fool at the reins.

Exceptional intelligence is not necessary to the successful and safe operation of an automobile. Many drivers who possess adequate intelligence are dangerous to others because they are not morally fit to be allowed to

Daily Prayer

Offer unto God thanksgiving.—Ps. 100:14.

We implore Thy blessing, our Father. Deliver us this morning from all our doubts and all that trouble and draw us near to Thee by all those encouragements which comfort the soul and which strengthen our faith, our hope and our charity for Thee. We confess our sinfulness, and we beseech of Thee, day by day, to forgive our sins, and everything in us which offends. Give us not, only clearer light, but grace to walk in that light. We pray that Thou wilt make our strength great when our burdens are heavy; that each of us may have a consciousness that God thinks of him, and overrules all things for his good. May the sweetness of Thy presence and the light and the joy which spring from Thy heart, be the portion of each of us. May we be more and more devoted in prayer; more and more earnest for the salvation of men; more and more vigilant in looking after those who are around us; more and more desirous of helping one another, bearing one another's burdens, and succoring those who need help. Wilt Thou comfort such as in bereavement mourn the loss of those who were dear to them. We pray for Thy forgiveness of all our sins, and the consciousness of Thy continued favor and presence.

And to the Father, Son, and the Spirit shall be praise evermore. Amen.

REV. J. W. SOMERVILLE,
 Wichita, Kan.

NET AVERAGE CIRCULATION
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 B. BREWER, Gen. Mgr.
 ELMER S. ROOD, Cir. Mgr.
 Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4th day of January, 1923.
 (Seal) W. H. QUIVEY,
 Notary Public

"The People's Voice"

Editorials from readers of The Morning Bee.

For Township High Schools.

Alexandria, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Being connected with the schools of Nebraska for the past 35 years, both as a teacher and a member of the school board, I have made quite a study of the school laws of the state. I see that two bills have been introduced into the legislature concerning high schools. One bill is that the free high school attendance law be changed and the price of tuition be changed to \$2 per week instead of \$3 per week, the present price paid. Should this bill pass and become a law it would work hardship on many of the high schools. During the 1921-1922 school year the board of education of Alexandria schools decided that they would admit the high school students at \$2 per week. Unforeseen expenses that arose after the budget was made up, and it was decided that the attendance to the high school could not be justified short of \$3 per week.

Another bill is for the county to pay the high school tuition instead of the district in which the student resides paying the tuition. We do not believe this law will be passed. The law as a township high school law. We have the figures at hand in our own township.

To illustrate, in Alexandria precinct there are 11 school districts, viz: Nos. 4, 6, 10, 14, 16, 21, 24, 30, 35, 52 and 85. These 11 school districts would maintain their own district school up to the ninth grade. The combined 11 school districts would be divided into a high school controlled by a board of trustees elected by the voters of these 11 school districts. The eighth grade graduates of these 11 school districts would be promoted to the receiving high school. The combined valuation of these 11 school districts is \$3,600,000; a 3-mill annual tax in the high school limits would support a good, strong high school after the high school building was established. What would be true in Alexandria township or precincts would likewise work out in 50 per cent of the townships in Nebraska. During the period of getting away from high taxes, why not decide upon some practical and feasible plan and lower taxes? Can you beat the township high school system?

What is true of the township of Alexandria would likewise be true in all the thickly settled counties in the state. It would work just as well at Wabasha, Bertrand or Elk City.

I would like to have some member of the legislature who is in favor of better schools after reading this letter in The Omaha Bee, draft some bill of this nature and push it through the legislature this winter. Here is for better schools.

L. H. THORNBURGH,
 A Member of the State Teachers' Association.

Radio Pests.

Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: We who sign our names below wish to register a vigorous complaint against a few of these unscrupulous chaps in Omaha who own spark sets in the manner in which they abuse their privileges.

A few nights ago one of them was trying to adjust his spark and instead of cutting off his aerial he left it hooked up, with the result that every few seconds we would get a very disagreeable buzz in our ears at some interesting part of a program we were listening to from out of town.

We don't expect very much from these kind of fellows in the way of co-operation, but perhaps a little publicity in your column might show them the error of their way and at the same time make it a little more pleasant for all the rest of us who have radio phone receiving sets.

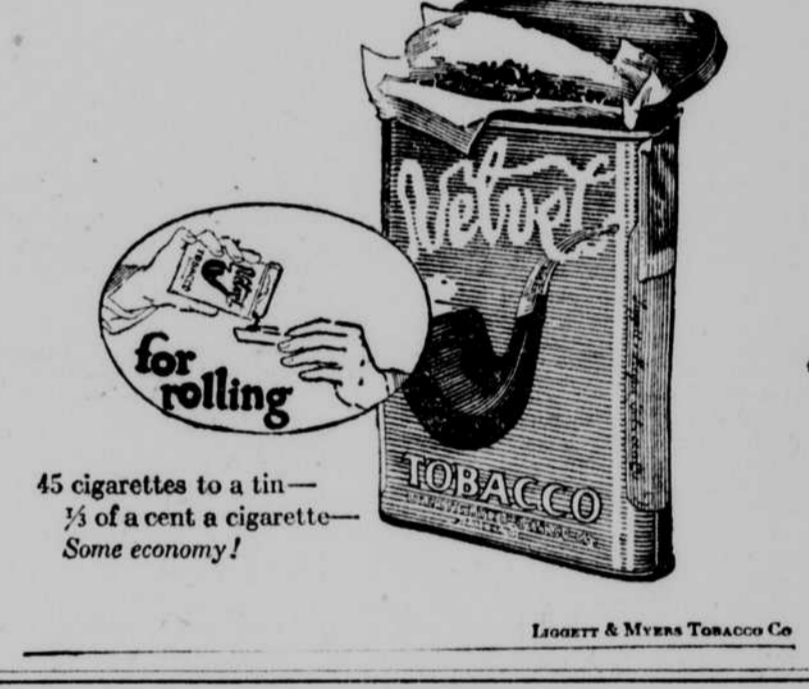
And Fort Omaha is a joy killer. Every time they start up sending we might as well hang up the receiver as he is all over our sets. It is not the operators' fault, of course, but we do blame the authorities in charge of that station for not correcting a fault

A Swimming Champion's Folks Ought to Have the Medals



that makes radio phone reception a nightmare. We understand that Fort Omaha has an aerial, the guy wires being all in one piece instead of broken up. If this be true, and we believe it is, then it is readily understood why they give us so much interference. This could and should be corrected, and we believe a little pressure of some kind might be placed in the proper spot to bring about the desired result. We truly believe we have expressed the thoughts and convictions of every radio bug in Omaha and vicinity who owns a radio phone receiving set. We would certainly appreciate anything you might do and you have our assurance that we will back you up in most anything in the way of correcting some of these faults. (Signed) G. E. Hopkins, Y. Strefler, B. E. Miles, G. E. Baldwin, L. T. Wright, C. W. McCancy, Elmer L. Broder, S. B. Hughes, C. C. Shaw, R. E. Shankland.

smokes cool
 —aged in wood
 that's why



Have you discovered it for yourself?

PERHAPS you've explored cook book after cook book for the right way to stew prunes only to find a way that was half-right and disappointing. Perhaps you gave up in sheer desperation and shrugged, "Well, stewed prunes are stewed prunes—what can one expect?" Or, perhaps, you're one of the fortunate few who have discovered the surprising difference between prunes that are stewed and prunes that are shamefully mistreated. If so—

You doubtless wash your Sunsweet Prunes, then soak in warm water to cover overnight if possible. In the morning you cook them slowly in the water in which they were soaked. You have discovered, too, that slow cooking not only absorbs most of the juice but develops the natural fruit sugar, so no sugar need be added. If you do add sugar, however, you put it in after the prunes are cooked but while still hot so the sugar will dissolve.

By this time you must have discovered also the pantry-handy possibilities of the new 2-pound carton of Sunsweet Prunes. More convenient; more sanitary. Packed in three sizes of fruit—large, medium, small. Your grocer has it!



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