

MORNING—EVENING—SUNDAY THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY NELSON B. UPDIKE, Publisher. B. BREWER, Gen. Manager.

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BRYAN PRESENTS HIS BILL. Governor Bryan's budget measure is a confession of failure. Looking back over his campaign speeches we find that Governor Morehead ran the state of Nebraska for two years at a total cost of \$8,000,000, and that Governor Neville, also a democrat, spent only \$9,000,000 during his biennium.

Canada has some concern in this matter, political and commercial interests holding our northern neighbors close to the islands. In 1913 a Canadian-West Indian conference at Ottawa discussed plans for getting closer together, and the thought of a strong Caribbean confederation under the Union Jack was brought forward.

Right here and now let it be pointed out that his estimate represents a reduction of \$3,799,702 from the appropriation made under McKelvie for the last two years, which amounted to \$25,792,256. Any reduction in the tax burden is to be appreciated, provided only it does not hamper or destroy the useful services which citizens have come to expect of their state government.

Several hundred thousands of dollars is to be gained by abolishing the department of agriculture. Abolition of the public welfare department is urged as a way of saving \$200,000. Some of the functions of these offices are to be dropped completely.

The confusion of mind which Governor Bryan indicates makes it difficult to determine just how the state government is to be run under his proposed changes. The "executive council," which would consist of himself and four other state officers, would direct the road building policy and supervise banks and insurance companies.

The good roads program he recommends is reduced. His pledge to cut automobile license fees in half would be fulfilled by abandoning the practice of spending \$1,500,000 on blader grading. The department of labor is to be abolished, with only a deputy remaining under the personal supervision of the governor.

The blue sky bureau is to be destroyed and reliance placed on laws which will punish fraudulent promoters more severely after they have committed their crimes. Instead of the department of public works is to be appointed a state engineer, without power to act except under orders from the governor and the council.

Appropriations for the state university and the normal schools are trimmed, but the state penal and charitable institutions are to receive a needed increase of \$313,000. The system of animal tuberculosis eradication, by which farmers whose stock is condemned and are partly indemnified, is to be dropped and the state agricultural college is expected to carry on this work, which cost \$235,000, without any added means.

Such is the program of economy outlined by Governor Bryan. Many constructive features of the state government are to be abandoned, but apparently little saving is to be made in the salary list. This is noticeable in the governor's private office, which Neville ran for \$72,000, but for which Bryan asks an appropriation of \$104,000.

Governor Bryan has been put to the test, and measured by his promises, he has failed. It was not possible for any man to bring about the savings that he so easily promised the people of Nebraska. His plan calls for the complete overthrow of the code system, and yet when this is done, and all his other ideas carried out, taxes will be only slightly lowered and every citizen will be poorer in the protection and service afforded him by the state.

No sound amplifiers will be installed in the house, members feeling that their voices carry far enough as it is.

Mr. Bryan is finding that it is one thing to talk on the stump and quite another to speak from the governor's office.

Three men dropped dead after a drink in a New Jersey speakeasy, a sign that Jersey lightning is still potent.

The dispute at Washington is not that the farmer needs help, but who is going to help him and how.

WEST INDIES AND UNITED STATES.

Some interest will be revived in the study of geography by the tentative discussion of a plan to transfer the British and French West Indies to the United States in settlement of war debts.

Support is given the proposal by certain especially interested persons, who see in possession of the Bahamas an opportunity to end illicit traffic in liquor, at least to the extent of cutting off a source of much irritation to the enforcing officers.

When the purchase of the Virgin islands from Denmark was concluded, a considerable group of population was compelled to change flags without being consulted. Similar consequences will follow if the Bahamas, the rest of the Leeward and the Windward groups and Jamaica are transferred to the United States.

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These are some of the points to be taken into consideration in connection with the problem. If the freedom of the seas, for which we have so long contended, is to be maintained, rum-runners will continue to vex and harass the prohibition agents; if self-determination is not to be denied, the opposition party in the islands will be heard to object most vehemently.

WHEN THE TEACHERS COME.

Once again Omaha is hostess to the teachers of Nebraska, assembled in annual convention. To reiterate the welcome, so many times extended, is a pleasure, for the teachers always are welcome here.

This is referred to only to show the devotion of the people of Omaha to the cause of education. Magnificent buildings, perfectly appointed and equipped, are of little service without the competent corps of instructors to carry on the great work for which the public schools are established.

Other elements of civilization are present in Omaha to give greeting to the school teachers. They come on business bent, with a program of deep interest to all, yet some of their time will be spent outside the lecture room or the conference chamber.

Another of the Shipping Board's cargo carriers is piled up on the beach at Manila. Surely the question of what to do with the fleet is being answered.

No need to go to Paris for the style of wearing a knotted handkerchief around the throat; the Nebraska cowboys originated this years ago.

Old King Ak is starting early this season, but the early bird is he who comes home with the bacon, or the worm, or whatever the prize may be.

While the Berliners are singing "Die Wacht am Rhine," the Yanks at Coblenz are warbling, "How can I bear to leave thee?"

We know a man who dictates to his wife; but she is learning to be a shorthand writer, and it is done for practice.

One of the troubles connected with taxing intangibles is that anything that is intangible is also elusive.

The Dog in the Canyon

Forbidden to meddle with world peace, reparations or the French march into the Ruhr, the cabinet at Washington is not without a living issue. That overlooking Providence which shapes the ends of many a lotterer has set up for the employment of the best minds the problem of a dog in the Grand Canyon National park.

The dog is first aid and comfort to a lonely postmaster. Without quadruped companionship the mind of the solitary official might wander even as a piece of misdirected mail. Hence the solidity of the department behind the postmaster; hence the first and sympathetic impulse of the president. But what to the head of the Interior department is human feeling to the literalness of a law made and provided.

"From State and Nation"

—Editorials from Other Newspapers—

Mr. Bryan's Suggestion. From the Nebraska City Press. Instead of the civil administrative code, which has been the infant prodigy of Governor McKelvie, Governor Charles W. Bryan would abolish that terrible bit of administrative iniquity and substitute therefor a "cabinet" of advisers, consisting of all elective officials except the attorney general, who would be required to confer with the governor on matters of state, leaving to the chief executive the right to appoint men to office or fire them if their services were not satisfactory.

Mr. Bryan's suggestion, as contained in his message to the legislature makes us laugh. It shows, for one thing, that campaign promises are of the value whatever except as a means of getting votes from the uneducated and unthinking. It proves, too, that the new governor is just as inconsistent as it was insisted he was during the campaign and that instead of utterly destroying the code he would repeal the present workable, competent laws and substitute therefor almost an exact imitation, to function like the trade mark of his predecessor.

There are indications in Mr. Bryan's message that he expects the legislature to adopt any revolutionary, reactionary or red-eyed program of lawmaking. He has shown, in addition, that his message, that he wants Nebraska to be well governed and that campaign promises and stump speeches are fulfilled, is not to be fulfilled, but to be a mere desire for office. The people elected Mr. Bryan to be their governor and they will surely not be so stupid as to let him continue to give Nebraska a square deal. They only regret that he is a partisan first, last and all the time.

Learning and Intelligence.

From the San Francisco Bulletin. Prof. Lewis M. Tuerman of Stanford is a specialist in the measurement of mentality. He tabulates the results of examinations of masses of people and on them bases the starting point of the population is increasing. Prof. Tuerman is not alone in this opinion. Other scientific observers have declared that the greatest illusion of all times is the illusion that the spread of knowledge among the people has been accompanied by an improvement in the average intelligence. One expert goes as far as to say that the intelligence of the Dark Ages and that they began with the French revolution. He believes that we confuse mere literacy with intelligence, that most of the people in general could not read in former times they did not think. The trouble with all such theories is that there are no trustworthy standards by which the intelligence of one period can be compared with the intelligence of another. All measurements of mass mentality are more or less guesswork, and certainly it would not be fair to judge of periods by the politicians they elect to office. Circumstances may have conspired to give us a poorer offering in the way of candidates.

Making Free With Millions.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer. This country has responded to every appeal made by the suffering peoples of the world since the tragedy of the great war. Millions upon millions freely have been given to succor and care for the victims of intolerable conditions existing in Europe and Asia. But there must be a limit to our national philanthropy. We must stop somewhere, no matter how urgent the appeals even of those who otherwise must perish. This is not indifference or hardness of heart. Even this mighty nation cannot become the almoner of all the desperate peoples in the world. Our charity and beneficence should be guided by prudent and careful discriminations. This people willingly will go the limit to relieve distress, sorrow and suffering, but such relief should go, in every instance, to those who may not hope for help from their own governments.

Daily Prayer

And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow; they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If then God so clothe the grass, which is today in the field, and tomorrow is cast into the oven; how much more will He clothe you, O ye of little faith?—Luke 12:22-28.

O God, Who Knowest our necessities before we ask, and the manifold temptations we meet with day by day, help us to put out of our hearts all things that belong to the flesh, to the devil, and to the world, and to keep us from the habit of morbid and sinful worry. So guide us, in all our ways, that we may keep our faces always toward the light, that our shadows may be behind us. Of Thy great mercy enable us to perceive our blessings, that we may always serve Thee with a glad heart and a quiet mind, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. BISHOP CHARLES E. WOODCOCK, D. D., LL. D., Louisville, Ky.

NET AVERAGE CIRCULATION

for DECEMBER, 1922, of THE OMAHA BEE Daily 71,494 Sunday 78,496

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

"The People's Voice"

Editorials from readers of The Morning Bee. Readers of The Morning Bee are invited to use this column freely for expression on matters of public interest.

The Burns Anniversary. Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Again draws near the anniversary of the death of one of whom the poet Wordsworth said: "I mourned with thousands, but as one more deeply grieved, for he was gone whose light I halied first in my life. And showed my youth How verse may build a princely throne on humble truth."

Who through long days of labor And nights devoid of ease, Still heard in his soul the music of wonderful melodies. If I were to undertake to point out the most exquisite passages in all the lyric poetry of the English language, I might quote from the poem, "Aton Water," these two lines: "My Mary's asleep by thy murmuring stream, Flow gently, sweet Aton, disturb not her dream."

I know of no finer specimen of what some one has called artless art. In what school, from what instructor in prosody did Burns learn, how to make such an exquisite adaptation of words to the finest sentiments of the human soul? I sometimes have been inclined to think that an attempt to analyze a thing of supreme beauty is a vain and injurious thing, for the reason that we cannot get at the essence of it by any means whatever, and such an effort seems to vitiate the instinctive appreciation; but it seems not improper to point out some matters of form that show beautiful and wonderful adaptation of language to the communication of noble sentiment. I doubt whether Burns himself consciously recognized the means chosen by his ardent feeling in the composition of this beautiful expression. Notice the apt alliteration, and the appropriate distribution of the consonants—m, s, l, f, d, w—and the pleasant and appropriate rhythm. Of all artists the human heart is the supreme one. To what school or teacher does it owe its power? "O, Nature's child, by shame unspelled, Though by some evils greatly troubled, Yet from your great heart, as you tolled, A sweet and sparkling fountain bubbled." BERIAH F. COCHRAN.

Halting Crime.

Weeping Water, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I will give you my plan to reduce crime, not only in Omaha, but the whole United States. Make it a penitentiary offense for a man to carry a gun and do not allow any to be sold. Allow any man or woman not less than \$10 for informing on anyone that is "toting" a gun. Allow anyone to be searched for firearms. Call the hounds off from trailing down parties

Spilled Children.

From E. W. Howe's Monthly. The most noteworthy event of my life this month was meeting a mother able to maintain the records of her children, I complimented her, and she said: "Bad children are a reflection on the mother. This is the truth simply stated. In one of the important magazines a man tells of an experience with his sons. He was ambitious to be good to them. His father had been a hard taskmaster, and he determined to be more reasonable with his own children. But the man soon discovered that he was spoiling them. They became impudent and mean, and he thereupon changed his policy, with excellent results. Nearly every successful, useful man in America has been compelled to work and 'train' as a boy, either by poverty, or by a stern father. Spoiled children are nearly always a curse to their parents and to the community in which they live. Thousands of apparently sweet young girls are terrible tyrants at home; and the number of boys going to the devil unnecessarily is astounding. All over the country parents are beginning to be more reasonable with their own children. When one is caught, it nearly always turns out that he is a bad boy who was not properly controlled at home."

Common Sense

Making Husband a Society Man. Too many wives try to make society men out of their husbands, when they do not enjoy anything of this sort. The task of making a living, laying aside enough for a rainy day or old age is a big problem to most men. They cannot afford the cloudy, tired brain, and worn nerves, which late nights would cause them to take to the office or shop next day. The man who is in earnest in endeavoring to make good, needs plenty of sleep and recreation that is restful, making him happy and contented. The right sort of man—husband or father—has his biggest aim to provide for his family in the present and the future. In planning for the future he thinks no so much for himself as he does for his wife and children if there is one or many. In this effort he should have his wife's help and sympathy. Instead of making the struggle harder, the good wife will try to avoid things which lessen prospects of success. As a wife, do you make it hard or easy for your life partner to do his best along the line he believes right. (Copyright, 1922.)

Benj. Franklin Said

"The Way to Wealth is as plain as the way to market. It depends chiefly on INDUSTRY and FRUGALITY—that is: waste neither time nor money, but make the best use of both."

This Is Thrift Week—

Make It Your Opportunity

315 S. 17th St. Keeline Bldg. C. C. WELLS, Secy.

The Fellow Who Objects to Straphanging



They are making a little beer for their own use and let them look a little closer for some of these holidays. Stop all traffic from going faster through town than 10 miles an hour, and if a man or woman is caught the second time, revoke his license. If they are caught running without a license, give them not less than one year in the penitentiary. Try my plan once and see how soon there will be less accidents and less crime. J. W. HOBBSON.

The Old-Fashioned Hired Girl.

Waterloo, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: While looking over the comic section this eve, I chanced upon the pantomime, "Cook Wanted—White." Being caught in a most helpless condition just recently it set me to thinking, what has become of the good old-fashioned hired girl. I have been married for over 25 years now, and during that time it has been our fortune or misfortune, as you like it, to have to employ during that period of time more than 25 girls. We used to be able to get one on a day's notice most anytime. But now—it's different. Five weeks ago our baby, age 3, fell seriously ill—tried to get house help, nothing doing. A week ago we were obliged to take him to the hospital in your city. Our little girl, age 11, went to bed the day before he was taken away. Mother had to go with babe. I had to stay at home with the other one and had to close my place of business. I begged, coaxed, pleaded with girls to help me out—"nothing doing." Today I found a cook. "Ain't it a Grand and Gigolo-orious feeling!" paraphrasing another cartoonist. Where, oh where, is our good old-fashioned "hired girl" gone. E. J. MEYERS.

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United States National Bank State Savings & Loan Association

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