# THE MORNING BEE

MORNING-EVENING-SUNDAY

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY NELSON B. UPDIKE. Publisher. B. BREWER, Gen. Manager.

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### THE CERTAINTY OF TAXES.

An economist who has gone thoroughly into the figures announces that state taxes about the country generally have tripled since before the war, and that the increase in Nebraska is no greater than the average. He makes the further statement that the farmers have not been harder hit than anyone else. The greatest increase, he reports, is found in federal taxes, and these are now hitting business five times as hard as before the war while they touch other classes much more lightly than that. Although sympathizing with the demand for more economy in the conduct of public affairs, he observes that much of the outery against progress and return to primitive conditions as regards education, good roads and many modern functions of government.

That a scientific investigator should make such claims is enough to cause the ordinary citizen to pause and take thought. The movement to reduce the waste and expense of government is capable of this line that ought not to be neglected longer. bringing great benefit to the people. If carried too far, however, instead of benefits, there will be actual losses. Some things governments can carry on more cheaply than can private enterprise. If a useful and necessary public function ceases to be performed by the government, it may have to be undertaken privately, and at greater expense, or the fact of its abandonment will cause an actual loss, perhaps to the health of the community or to the general welfare.

"Nothing is sure but death and taxes," runs the old adage. There is no possibility of avoiding the expense of maintaining organized government. Not even the new governor of Nebraska, by abandoning many of the state services, is able to make the cuts that he led voters to expect. There is a limit beyond which taxes may not be reduced without saddling the people with greater expenses of an indirect nature.

## NO POLITICS WANTED.

Judge Willis G. Sears is about to resign from the district bench in Omaha to assume the office of congressman. This will leave a vacancy in a branch of the government that is customarily free from political influence. Elections to the district court are on a nonpartisan ballot, and when the appointment to fill this vacancy is made, it should be on the same impartial basis.

The duty of naming Judge Sears' successor falls nonpartisan position and not one to be awarded to of homes and protectors of families. Foolish girls hibitionists for law and the other party for exactly what Mr. Bryan beyond that of loyal political service.

Arthur Mullen, the democratic political boss, is reported to be willing to make this appointment for to link up the administration of justice with a political machine. The people have made the district court nonpartisan; let the governor take care that he does not allow politics to creep in when the appointment is made.

# STIFFER PENALTIES FOR MOTOR THIEVES.

A bill introduced in the Nebraska legislature by Malcolm Baldrige, providing heavier penalties for motor car thieves, is a good one. The temptation to travel fast at some one's else expense is too great for many weak wills to withstand, and the possibility of sterner punishment may be counted on to supply the lack of moral scruples.

Instances frequently come to light which prove that automobile stealing is carried on by organized gangs. These count on destroying the eviedge of theft. This would make it extremely diffiengine numbers of stolen cars. The proposed bill would make possession of a car with a defaced engine number prima facie evidence of theft or knowledge o ftheft. This would make it extremely difficult for thieves to escape conviction, for it would be incumbent upon them to produce the man from whom they claimed to have bought the car.

Under the present law the sentence for automobile theft is from one to ten years in the penitentiary. It is possible for a convicted criminal to obtain release after serving eight months. Under the Baldrige proposal the minimum sentence would be three years and the maximum ten, and no parole could be obtained until after two years in prison. This would at least discourage repeaters and keep the offenders in a place where they could not make off with other people's property for a longer time.

# THE PEOPLE'S PLAYGROUND.

Since scores of American cities have opened up free municipal courses in the parks, golf is no longer a rich man's game. Five thousand Omahans obtained permits to play last year. The rise of this amateur sport has been so steady as almost to rival baseball. A national tournament open only to patrons of public courses was held last year, and it is to be repeated this summer in Washington, D. C., apparently having become an annual sporting event of considerable

magnitude. No encouragement for this form of wholesome recreation is to be found in the proposal made by City Commissioner Hummel that the city collect a fee of \$10 a year from golf players. His theory is that the men and women who use the links should bear the cost of their upkeep and thus enable the park funds to be expended for other purposes. He overlooks the fact that they are taxpayers themselves and as much entitled to use of the public parks as are those who prefer baseball, skating, pienicking

or visiting the zoo, for which no charge is made. The idea that a city should not provide any conveniences for its people without collecting a toll in addition to taxes is a dangerous one. Golf players as a class are not unreasonable. It is possible that they would be willing to pay a small charge, say of 10 cents a game, if the fund so raised were to be devoted to improving the courses, but to set the bill 95 cents a game or \$10 a year, as the park com-

### IN A WORLD WITHOUT TREES.

At the present time the United States of Amerca is using up its timber resources four times faster than they are being renewed. Not very many years from now we will have no timber resources, if the present policy prevails. A world without trees is quite within the range of prob- From the Philadelphia Ledger. abilities, if all peoples carry on as do the Americans. Impossible? Not a bit of it. Entirely within reason. China did afford a splendid example of the effects of forest devastation and denudation. Palestine, Syria, Persia, many other regions might be cited as examples. The ever-increasing demand of a growing population makes the onslaught on the timber resources of the world more intense, and the end may come much sooner than it did in the countries of the old world.

However, the world will be spared the spectacle. China, backward nation, under tutelage of the enlightened, torn by civil war and beset by all manner of difficulties within and without, has planted 100,000,000 forest trees within the last three years, more than the United States has planted altogether since it took up the business of forestry. Palestine's wind-swept hills are being reforested under the most arduous of conditions. Soil must be carried from the valley in many places, to recover the nude rocks, that tree roots may gain a foothold, but sometime the hills of Judea will be once more crowned with verdant foliage.

Switzerland has a state-owned forest more than nine centuries old, in which more trees are standing than were there at the beginning, and yet the wood is continually being drawn on for industrial and commercial uses. Before the war at least one taxes is founded on a desire to stop the wheels of German town of note derived all its municipal revenue from the city-owned forest. France has spent millions of francs planting and caring for forests. and gets a profit from its state woods. A world without trees would never come, for man is learning something, and is applying one of his lessons to growing forests. Nebraska has an opportunity along

### WAGES AND MORALITY.

A single phase of the movement to enact a minimum wage law for the working girls of Nebraska deserves attention above all others. It is the assertion that low wages drive girls to shame. This has been so often repeated that it has taken on the fixed aspect of a formula. Yet investigators of such standing as Dr. Katherine Bement Davis, Dr. Abraham Flexner, Mrs. Raymond Robbins, and others who have devoted much time and careful research to the problem, declare that there is so little of truth in the statement that it should not be considered in connection with wage discussions.

Moral as well as economic reasons must be considered in the fixing of wages, but such reasons do not include the element of unchastity on part of the workers. To insinuate that it does is to gratuitously insult the millions of girls and women who found a plan to improve the enforcedaily toil to earn their bread. The quality of selfreliance and self-respect bred from contact with on scholders that they will the affairs of the world as encountered in office, entirely from the purchase and confactory or store, breeds in woman something far sumption of alcoholic liquors. This movement he would extend to leading finer than a tendency to degradation. Girls do go wrong, and it is not necessary here to cite reasons; whole population. This idea carries the mind back to the days when there was a great difgirl is honest and upright and clean.

Men who work with these girls choose wives from among them; others of them wed outside the | On one side were the prohibitionists ranks of the workers, but all of them make good to Governor Bryan. It is important that he should wives and mothers. Lessons they have learned friendly, but they worked at the same be impressed with the fact that this is a strictly while earning their living serve them well as heads time in their several ways, the prosome deserving democrat who has little qualification are found among them, just as foolish girls and now suggests-pledges. boys are found in every grade of society, but these would be foolish wherever placed. The American working girl is a credit to her sex and to America, tirely overshadowed the activities of the prohibitionists. Temperance of No end is ever justified when an un the governor. This means only one thing, the effort | because she is honest, proud, sincere, and respecta-

> The proposed law to license motorists and to the Rev. Billy Sunday in the religious field, but the excitement died and the withdraw drivers' permits for thirty days upon conviction of violation of the traffic regulations ment with a skepticism that bordered shows what steps may have to be taken if reckless driving is not curbed by the voluntary action of the most effective orators in the automobile owners.

Eight million dollars worth of repairs ought to make the Leviathan a fairly presentable boat. But the boys who went over and back on this giant ship in '17 and '18 were not so particular about luxurious accommodations as they were over reaching land.

French reports say they are under no illusions he question that sentiment on the as to the serious situation they face, but they seem to have been under considerable of a delusion when they started into the Ruhr.

"Doug" Fairbanks is going to defy Czar Hays and all his cabinet. Very good; now took out for Doug and Mary in another "epoch marking" fillum.

Seven fewer postoflices for Nebraska at the beginning of 1923, but quite as many people to keep the remaining ones at work.

One thing the flyers will enjoy at St. Louis is an atmosphere dense enough to give their propellers fair hold for power.

Congress is facing such a stack of work it begins

to wonder where the last two years have gone. One way to keep folks from watching you is to direct their attention to the other fellow

The January thaw is about over now.

# An Ancient Blunder

From the New York Herald. The French government thus far has not mined much coal in the Ruhr, but it has succeeded in consolidating Germany. At least for the time being, M. Poincare has done what no German chancellor has been able to do. He has united the socialists and reacionaries, the workers and the employers, the agrarians and the industrialists, and he has made a German hero out of a German coal baron. He has supplied all Germans with an object which they can hate more fervently than they hate each other.

M. Poincare's apologists like to say that in using force he is at last speaking a language which the Germans understand. That is what the allied powers thought in 1793 when they went to war with the French revolution. That is what another set of allied powers thought in 1918 when they went to war with the Russian revolution. That is what Germany thought when she pacticed schrecklichkeit in Belgium and northern France. That is what the British tories thought when they sent the black and tans into Ire-That is what General Dyer thought when he ordered the massacre at Amritsar. That is what the allies thought when they sent the Greek army into

Asia Minor. It is one of the oldest blunders of, governments, the most ancient illusion of statesmen. It arises out of an inability to see that nothing is so calculated to unite a people as oppression by alien force. For in the presence of the invader the ordinary divisions of class, sect and party are submerged and the resistance which the invader went to crush is intensified many times.

# "From State and Nation" -Editorials from Other Newspapers-

ing them at the curb, out of harm's

So now they want to put regulation

It is absurd. Kansas cities have

lost most of their home rule powers.

Changing Names.

something in order to partly make

Tom Carroll, the new appointee,

simply changing the name of the state

Bryan's next political miracle will be

The State is Saved.

need to worry about the future. Mr

Mr. Broome, of the same division, has

taken out on the highway at night.

ing, bank guarantees, road making,

lamp securely fastened on his caudal

Common Sense

Do not delude yourself with the no-

open and above board. (Copyright, 1923.)

said—
"But he's an honest sort o' lad.
And he's stiddy—lookin' out fer
ahead.

I reckon he'd be awful good to you, An' buy a cottage that you'd like— ou could do worse. The safest thing

fixed in your mind.

Why worry, about finance, refund-

No matter what sort of taxation

stealing away of more of it.

Not a Failure. | and in many cities the governing heard has been manipulated so that the buses have been legislated against debt parley between the British in a hundred ways. But still the bus and the American debt commission persists in picking up passengers. has failed. In these jjoint sessions at usually at a nickel a ride, and depositwork has been done.

As a result, each nation knows where the other stands. We know of the buses into the bands of a com-that the British cannot pay off the mission at Topeka. lean in 25 years as congress directed and that the period of payments may need to be extended to 40, or even 50 What they want is the return of ; one years. There need be no serious diffi- home hule authority, instead of the

The British know now that congress is the body to be reckoned with making a settlement and that con- From the Kearney Hub cress is not likely to agree to an inwe are paying 4% per cent on our cause he promised to abolish the of-fice of state sheriff are now well loaned to the allies. The difference aware that this was only one of betwen 3 per cent and 4% per cent Brother Charley's campaign tricks. on a half billion dollars is the great. The chief executive had to abolish

Both commissions were working good his promise, and so he abolishwith their hands tied. British free ed the name of "state sheriff" and dom in bargaining was limited by made it the "chief deputy enforce-England's financial, taxing and indus- ment officer.' rial situation. An act of congress restricted the American commission, will receive the same salary as Gus commissions, after 10 days of Hyers, \$3,000 a year, and like Hyers clarifying talk, have broken off to will use as many gumshoe deputtes get fresh instructions. They had whenever and wherever they are get fresh instructions.

one as far as they could go.

On this side of the Atlantic the high-powered Cadillac automobile that oblem goes back to congress. Since t adjourns March 4 and a special ses- just think, the trick was turned by dent, by congress nor by the nation, law enforcement officer. Governor any action that will mean agreement on the debt is unlikely before the end to change the of 1923 or the first of 1924. If con-1923 or the first of 1924. If con-ess can and will act sooner, so much have fulfilled his pledges to the voters.

In London there will be a re-examination of the whole question. The the Bonar Law government such new proposals as Great Britain may be ble to offer the Harding administration and congress. They now know how far England must go to meet American views, and certainly they Somebody, a member of the house. will take home with them the knowl- has introduced a bill to prevent the edge that it is idle to talk about "can- sale of second-hand mattresses, and cellation" in Washington.

The debt negotiations have been suggested that red lamps be tied to suspended, but not broken off. There been no "rupture." The British embassy will continue negotiations ing Street. There is no good reason salaries or whether it would be propwithin a year, for there is good will The state will be saved if auctioneers and a desire for a just settlement on are prevented from "knocking down"

oth sides.

These joint sessions were no more people, and the glory of the commonthan preliminaries, but they were wealth will not be undimmed when necessary preliminaries. Now the Old Dobbin goes clumping over the real business of settlement.

### Back to Moral Suasion. From the Detroit Free Press.

William J. Bryan thinks he has ment of the Volstead act. To start with he would secure pledges from people everywhere and finally to the

ference of opinion among temperance against the evils of alcoholic excess. and on the other the moral suasion They were not altogether

At one time this movement to con vert the people to a life of total abstinence assumed proportions that enthe prohibitionists. Temperance exhorters attracted audiences and treated furors comparable with the most spectacular accomplishments of the Rev. Billy Sunday in the religious field, but the excitement died and the religious field. prohibitionists, who viewed the moveon hostility, finally occupied the field alone and won to their cause some of

moral sussion camp.

Now the complete political victory of the prohibition cause brings a re-vival of the old idea that the way to stop the consumption of alcoholic liquor is to persuade the people that it

wrong to use it.
Doubtless there is merit in the suggestion, for all experience shows that law enforcement will never get much beyond public sentiment and there is stands in need of a strong moral

### Another Bad One. From the Wichitz Eagle.

One of the absurd proposals that the Kansas legislature is said to be about to be subjected to is a bill for placing the regulation of motor buses in the hands of a state commission, presumably the public utilities, or rate hiking commission.

Just another little scheme of the blg public utilities to crowd out the newer improvements which tend to force themselves upon a community in spite of its well established old customs. The traction interests cannot bear to see the buses prosper. Because the buses render a service quickly, in an ordery manner, and in a more modern way than the traction interests that are tied to tracks in the center of the street can render it, the buses prosper, anyway. In-fluences have been brought to bear,

# Daily Prayer

O my God! confessing my guilt and with a contrite heart I kneel before Thee and implore Thee to look upon me according to the multitude of Thy mercies. I detest and am heartily sorry for all my sins, not only be-cause I dread the loss of heaven and the path of hell, but also and principally because by them I have offended Thee. Who art infinitely good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins and to amend my life. I acknowledge Thee, O God, to be the Supreme Good, and I love Thee with all my heart. Be merciful to me, a poor sinner. I beseech Thee, by the passion and death of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, to forgive me my sins. Amen.

### NET AVERAGE CIRCULATION for DECEMBER, 1922, of THE OMAHA BEE

B. BREWER, Gen. Mgr. ELMER S. ROOD, Cir. Mgr. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4th day of January, 1923. W. H. QUIVEY, (Seal) Notary Public "The People's Voice"

Omaha-To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: At a recent meeting of one of our large business organizations, there was considerable discussion concerning the Boy Scout work, and arguments that were raised the indignation of thoughtful people. That anyone can be so narrow as to object to a thoroughly democratic organization of that sert, just because the sons of some of the wealthy men of the city receive benefits therefrom

s deplorable, to say the least.
Boys are boys the world over, and as such, they hold within themselves all the potentialities of coming citi zens and business men, regardless of whether or not their fathers had plenshould refuse to contribute to an enterprise which has for its object proper guidance of the energies of outh, and wholesome instruction i ideals of truth, honor, purity and courtesy, simply because, mayhap, rich father, seems to be a deliberate and reprehensible shutting of eyes to he responsibilities of one generation proper nurture and preparation of the next. Should not good be more universal than that: hould not the children of this day have the right to expect a wide and more neighborly care and interest, insuring them their best developand women shall be altogether worthy Truly did Christ say, "No man unto himself alone." The sons liveth unto himself alone. f the poorer citizens, those from the Now then, everybody ought to be iddle walks of life, and those from he more fortunate circles (as the gle, in play, at school and, later, in business. Is my care for my son to be so short-signted that I shall fail legislation is passed at this well-known issociates determine, in large measre, what he is to be? And is my duty him done whom I provide for him one, give him, only, opportunities education, for wholesome vigor of body mind and spirit?

Nay! For shame! Let us see farther into the meanings of life and opbetter the spirit of parenthood and "big brother"-hood. Let us recognize that the son of the wealthy par ent needs exactly what the Boy Scout fact democracy and high ideals, can give him. In many cases, indeed, his the son from the humbler home. much idleness, too many indulgences, are all more dangerous to the proper errands or throwing newspapers! The ever, is just as well worth saving as There is always a day of reckoning, the one with too little, and his chances for that salvation may not be nearly

as great. The more you can get this idea into our mind and your soul that things crusted selfishness, and bask awhile balance somewhere and somehow, the in the sunlight of a more nearly un you will be careful not to versal love, a love that will go frely stretch things too far in the wrong direction on account of the reflex ac-The balance is bound to be struck. discipline of a Boy Scout camp. Let Are you going to like the result us regard every boy in the when the pendulum rebounds? valuable unit which, in the tremen-Then think seriously and honestly in terms of truth and you have nothing to fear.

dous forces of the future, will eventually rule, shape and direct the activities of this metropolis of the west. ing to fear.

The minute you take a step in the direction of anything less than truth and justice you may be sure that you are directly enterprise whose efforts are directly enterprise whose efforts are directly enterprise. and directed towards helping to shape the lives of our boys and develor tion that you have an excuse which them into noble, healthy, useful and intelligent citizens.

# Gun Toting.

man by making it little less than a capital offense for a man to carry a

Mr. J. W. Hobson says to make it "penitentiary offense" for a man It is now a penitenall the laws, lessening the number of what's holdups and robberies to any apthe worst he is don't make him preciable extent?

We have a law against carrying weapons, framed to as far concealed Don't suppose he'll ever reach the Hall as possible prevent the carrying of o' Fame. I say guns by youths and other irresponsible persons and to serve as a handle by which to hold suspicious charac-"I've seen a lot of poorer jakes, I'll swear.

Who strutted up and down the pike, An' it gives me satisfaction to compare Them with good lefer nothing serious against the responsible person who, on occasion, "toted" a gun for self-degree with good lefer nothing serious against the responsible person who, on occasion, "toted" a gun for self-degree with good lefer nothing left against the responsible person who, on occasion, "toted" a gun for self-degree with good lefer nothing left against the responsible person who, on occasion, "toted" a gun for self-degree with good lefer nothing left against the responsible person who, on occasion, "toted" a gun for self-degree with good enough as it stands. It was not intended to be used, and seldom is, against the responsible person who, on occasion, "toted" a gun for self-degree with good enough as it stands. fense, which is as it should be. "A Reader," Bassett, Neb., is on the right track, but goes a mite too far, I believe, when he says let anyone carry a gun who wishes to. Some egulation is needed.

I say the police department of each

# As I can see—is marry Ike." -Robert Worthington Davie.

Men's Hose A Final Clearance 75c to \$1.50 Values

> At 55c The Pair While They Last (2 pairs for \$1)

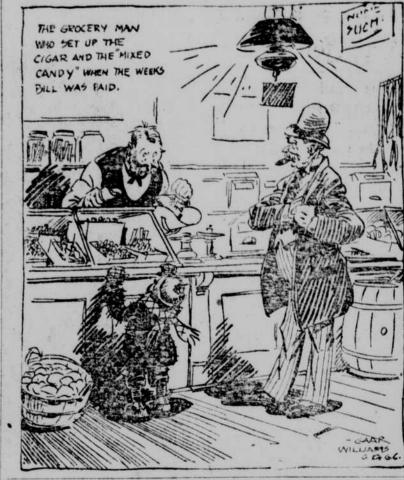
So great was the response to our last 55-cent salemany late customers failed to find their size requirements. But for Saturday, an entire new lot goes on sale in sizes for every man.

Winter weights, dressy silks, wool mixtures and the finest cotton lisle hose are included. Many grades represent value-better than two pairs for the cost of one.

Fadden & Bittner Sixteenth St.

make a section of the contract of the contract

# Among the Folks in History



adult male citizen as to his fitness to also suggest each state pass a be fit persons should be required to the court of domestic relations. the popular pastime it now is · A VICTIM.

Marriage and Divorce.

Omaha.-To the Editor of The of Kansas has introduced a bill in congress to the effect that no one can married who is feebleminded or afflicted with epilepsy, insanity or ding all interracial marriage. none of its provisions should be acted taken" until after the marriage has taken place. It's not before marriage taken place. It's not before marriage hans't been long since a similar de takes place where the mischief enters lusion was being nursel by severa in. It's afterwards, when your moth- million er-in-law arrives and the pettifogger mercial Appeal. has a talk with your wife, especially velopment of our young people than if the husband has a few hundred

city and town should examine every behind the bars for a few months. carry a gun, and all those found to cities of large population in favor of have a gun and to become proficient a one-man power, but a board of lay in the use of it, those being unlearned men to pass upon all marital trouble in the use of firearms to be taught in private, this board to have the so by some competent person in the po-lice department. Let this be done attorney for his or her gefense. This take into account the fact that his and see how long banditry will remain board should have full power to pass verce is granted and the amount of alimony to be given, etc. C. L. NETHAWAY.

### He Knows. Mayor Curley of Boston says noth

ing will ever persuade him to sit lown at the same table with Admira-Sims. There's one good thing about the Boston mayor; he knows his place -Philadelphia North American.

### You Never Can Tell "England will never go dry.

Americans.-Memphis Com

What's What in a Name. They call prices prohibitive because I hope Capper's bill will have a they never take a drop .- Philadelphia

# The "Vose" Small Grand

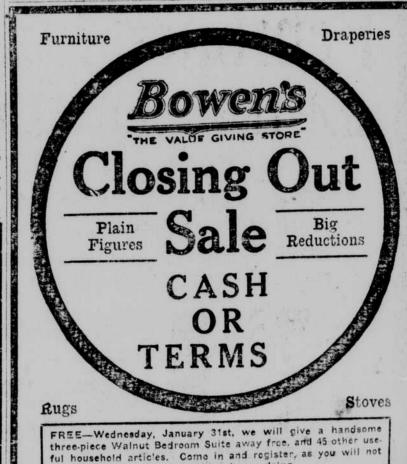
If you have the impres-

sion that a grand piano must be large in size in order to give the largest amount of volume and a perfect tone, you have but to hear the "Vose" Small Grand to be convinced that everything you expect of a grand piano is incorporated in the Vose, though it is small in size.



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