

THE MORNING BEE

MORNING—EVENING—SUNDAY

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KING ALCOHOL PUTS ON OVERALLS. Oil is a very essential thing to modern civilization. The need for gasoline as a source of power has led to serious disputes between great nations.

In the United States control of oil is so nearly monopolistic as to lay every user under tribute to the producers. Moreover, it is listed among the perishing industries. A dry oil well is about as useless as anything well can be, and oil wells are being exhausted.

Such elaborate restrictions were provided in the law, however, that it proved almost unworkable, and people stuck to gasoline. With a monopoly threatening the price, a condition is developing where alcohol may come into use.

LIVE STOCK GROWERS REMEMBER. Mr. William Gibbs McAdoo did not get away to a very happy start in his race for the presidency, at least not before the live stock men gathered in Texas.

Following the well-trodden path of the 1922 campaign, the late secretary of the treasury and dictator of the railroads charged the republican party with responsibility for all the misfortunes that have overtaken the country since he took charge of the transportation lines five years ago.

The cattle growers promptly challenged Mr. McAdoo's statements, especially with regard to freight rates and deflation. One of the speakers particularly referred to June, 1920, as the beginning of the post-war deflation, while the republicans did not come into the administration control until March, 1921.

POLITICS AND THE POLICE FORCE. If Dan Butler wants the police department, and Henry Dunn is willing to let him take it, the transfer should be made. If any improvement in service results from the change, it will be welcome.

Omaha's police force has been a storm center of politics for 35 years. The metropolitan police system was brought into being in the midst of a political storm as fierce as any that ever beat in the city, and in all its life it has seen but few clear days.

Men cannot do good service, no matter how well they are disposed to serve, when the conditions under which they work are subject to the perpetual disturbance of political maneuvers. Until the police force is set on something approaching a basis of permanency, discipline and general conduct will be at a low ebb, because the men will be hampered in their work, no matter how loyal and efficient they may be.

Omaha citizens have just consented to the expenditure of a considerable sum of money over last year's budget item for police protection. This was done to improve the service, and get security for the homes. That is the real mission of the police force, to give protection to life and property, and it should be the chief end of any man who is put in charge.

Walking is good exercise, but it ought to be possible without a snow blockade to stimulate the sport.

SEEN AT THE STATE HOUSE.

Persons who thought the state of Nebraska did not need a new state house should pay a visit to Lincoln while the legislature is in session. Let the visitor stumble through the dark and crowded corridors, make his way up and down unlighted stairways, and otherwise endure the inconvenience and discomforts of movement around the old building.

Then, let the inquiring visitor enter either the senate or house chambers, and discover what the lawmakers are putting up with. Poor light, no ventilation, desks close together, accommodations of the most primitive sort, even the pioneer lawmakers, who sat in the first Nebraska territorial legislature, had less to put up with than is borne by the body now in session at Lincoln.

After noting the conditions prevailing in the legislative halls, visit one of the state officer's headquarters, whether it be the treasurer at the west end or the state superintendent at the east, and discover how unfit the quarters are. Men and women who are serving the state deserve something more than mere salary for the sacrifices they are making.

Men are not capable of producing their best mental efforts when under stress of physical discomfort, and this fact may account in some measure for what is going on at Lincoln. Just the other day the legislature had to adjourn because of the cold.

With no reflection whatever on the departing postmaster general, yet the citizens of southern Nebraska along the Burlington line from Thompson to Oxford hope that the new head of the postal department will see that their mail service is improved. A correspondent of The Omaha Bee living in Guide Rock writes in to call attention to the neglect of postoffice or railroad employes which often results in the delay of the mails for a whole day.

We received our Sunday Omaha papers on Sunday, March 11, for the first time for quite a while," he writes. "It is not only Sunday that we miss, but it occurs quite often during the week." He states that citizens along this southern Nebraska line intend to carry the matter to their representatives in Washington.

Incidents of this sort, in which mail is left to lie on the platform of a junction as the branch line train pulls out are too frequent. In this case the people for 150 miles are accommodated. They look for their daily paper, as they look for their letters, only to discover that they have been left behind and will arrive a day late. If carelessness is to blame for this situation, it should speedily be remedied. If train schedules are at fault, they should be altered in behalf of good service.

TAXES ON THE INSTALLMENT PLAN. The provision in the federal income tax law which allows payments to be made in quarterly installments is one that might well be taken over into state and local use.

The decision to abolish publication of "Shun," the annual scandal sheet of the University of Nebraska, ends a most vulgar episode. The students responsible for this paper, sad to say, are young men with talent enough to produce real literature.

One of the mysteries of the hour is why the house should want any additional help in debating the form of government Nebraska is to have.

Mr. Bryan's opinion of Dr. van Loon will be as vigorous, but not so sulphurous, perhaps.

These dogged robins were just spoofing us. Looks like the drouth were bent a little.

Homespun Verse By Robert Worthington Davie A BACHELOR'S PLEA.

You wonder why I'm laching, though a graceful youth of yore— An extremely fluent speaker—as they used to vouch of me— Why I'm happy with a cottage that has verdure for a floor. And a roof that is as "holly" as a roof could ever be— Where the rain drips slowly downward from the foliage of a tree— I behold the stars dancing in unpainted brilliancy. And the sunbeams creep around my couch and table and settle— Is there any wonder I'm a bachelor and poor? I've no children to divert me of my dreams immaculate. I've no need to dig for opulence, in peacefulness I dwell. Close to Nature's subtle freshness in a simple, wholesome state. And I listen not to misery, and I have no grief to tell; When I'm victim of an illness dandelion makes me well. I exist amid the treasures man can neither buy nor sell. And my verse gives recreation in this quiet, restful dell. 'Could I be one of God's children and be seeking, craving more?

"The People's Voice" Editorials from readers of The Morning Bee are invited to use this column freely for expression on matters of public interest.

A Nebraska's Tribute to Neihardt. Albin, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: A poet has come out of the west. The soul of a dreamer, "out of the blue," early looked upon the cloudless vast from a Nebraska home. Years upon the wind-swept rolling plains of our own land of the goldenrod rose a man whose great heart pulsates with thrilling epics, whose harp of life quivers with sweetest lyrics.

The first contributions have already been made. Those who have read them and lived in them reflect with reverence on their kinship with this great American. To Nebraskans must come an awed pride, that he has lived right among us while writing his immortal verses.

Poets give us new contacts with the infinite. They reach out into the illimitable spaces of spirit and attach anchorages by which others may climb to mighty heights. They give us courage. They inspire us with hope. They find rose tints in back of dark clouds. They see life in its grandest aspects, stripped of sordidness. Their interest is for us.

Explanations of the Bible. Danbury, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Of late I note the advent of some marvelous minds. After such claims as Paley, Voltaire, Volny, Hume, Renan, Gibbon, Owen, et al., of equal learning and mental potency, signify failed to dent the Christian scriptures, should I rush into public print, asserting my disbelief of any part of the Bible, I should consider egotism a mild term to apply to myself. The notoriety would be too cheap.

Daily Prayer Our Heavenly Father, accept our thanks for the re-creation of body and mind Thou hast given us in the hours of wonderful sleep. Help us to be so attentive to Thy still small voice of our Teacher and Guide, the Holy Spirit, that whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do this day, all shall be done to Thy glory.

NET AVERAGE CIRCULATION for FEBRUARY, 1923, of THE OMAHA BEE Daily 71,558 Sunday 78,661 B. BREWER, Gen. Mgr. T. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr.

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Songs of Courage by John G. Neihardt Nebraska's Poet Laureate

HARK THE MUSIC. Hark, the music calling! From the earth it grows. From the sky 'tis falling. In the wind it blows. Flying-fingered Winds sip'te To the strains of rain; Through the misty midnight Moans the Growing Pain!

As to the symbols, we grant your contention. But that which is not symbolic is just as plain as language can make it. The first chapter tells us that it is letters to the Church of Christ in different localities. It says things "which must shortly come to pass," not have come to pass, as you would have a big job, brother, explaining the Bible. I can take it and confound all denimations. The Church of Christ I belong to is not a denomination. Christ is not divided. I am a member for all who have been misguiding.

Questions School Board Policy. Omaha—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: The board of education's extravagance in equipping the new Technical High school building with costly and unnecessary luxuries as well as unwarranted purchase of a building site for the North High school that cannot be used for such purpose are subjects of deepest import to the taxpayers of this city.

Common Sense Recognize Good Service as Well as Bad. If you are not given good service in a store you do not hesitate to make a complaint to the man in charge of the department.

Another Electric Triumph Electric Trucks of the Jay Burns Baking Company and Peterson & Pegau Baking Co. are right on the job despite the blizzard, delivering Hard Roll and Betsy Ross Bread to your grocers.

"From State and Nation" Editorials from other newspapers.

Unseemly Haste. From the Osceola Record. Many people are wondering why the haste in the matter of Mr. Bryan's request that the home folks write to him and also to the legislature demanding the passage of his bill no that the state would be saved that \$9,000,000 and have that bunch of 150 employees wiped off the pay rolls at the state house. Why does the governor wish people to write to him? Is he needing to be convinced that his program is a good thing and will it require a few thousand letters from people over the state importuning him to stand for his own program before he will be finally convinced that it is a good thing? And if the governor wants to receive some letters himself, why does he not wait till he is convinced before he urges the home folks to shower the legislature with these demands? And then, too, why did not the governor wait till he had a chance to see what was in his 414 bills, before they commence their bombardment of the legislature to pass these bills? As a matter of fact members of the legislature commenced to get these cards that Bryan asked them to write before they had even had time to see the bills which the cards requested them to vote for.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Bryan has set up an impromptu structure which he has designed to take the place of a grand rush to the people asking them to demand something they know nothing about except the label that Bryan has adroitly pasted onto the bottle. The unseemly haste that has been exhibited by the chief executive of the state in this matter of rushing the game before there was any opportunity to fathom the inside of the play is a piece of "trickery which didn't get very far."

Unseemly Haste. From the Rocky Mountain News. The world seems to be experiencing an archeological boom. Judging from reports received of discoveries in Egypt and Central America. Perhaps the various expeditions are no more zealous than those which dug amid the ruins of an early civilization before the war checked such activities, but the more recent results have been the most successful in years. An expedition dispatched by the Carnegie Institute to Yucatan has returned with photographs, records and relics bearing on the ancient Maya civilization of that region.

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Nebraska are commencing to wonder where that \$4,000,000 deficit that Bryan charged is coming from. They wonder who got the money on whether the whole brassy bluff to discuss his predecessor will be heard from again. And if the Bryan method of relief for the taxpayers of this state is as sound as the charge that the state is \$4,000,000 short in its finances—then why not get a law that will do it early and indecently hasty, isn't it? Well see.

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