

THE MORNING BEE

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PASS THE MATHERS BILL
A practical plan for reorganizing the government of Nebraska has been presented by Speaker A. N. Mather.

By transferring the functions now performed by the six code departments to four of the elective officials numerous economies become possible.

The people of Nebraska do not care greatly how the necessary business of government is carried on, so long as it is done well and cheaply.

Partisanship must be dropped at such a time as this. The fact that the democratic platform called for the grouping of code offices in a way closely resembling that proposed by Speaker Mather has not prevented republican support of the measure.

No intention lies at the back of this amendment to infringe on the powers of which Governor Bryan is so jealous.

"DR. HALE'S BABIES."
City folks who are familiar with hospitals, "twilight sleep," and other modern conveniences, do not understand what the approach of the stork means in places remote from the comforts and triumphs of science.

And here is where the good old family doctor came into action. He was more than "philosopher, guide and friend" to the young father and mother.

We are pleased to note that out in Ravenna a number of residents have organized a society to be known as "Dr. Hale's Babies," being a tribute to one of Buffalo county's pioneer doctors.

His monument, however, will not be the shaft they propose to set up in his name. It is builded firmer and truer in their hearts.

LESSON IN FRED THOMPSON'S LIFE.
A vagrant news item will be of interest to some of the older residents of Omaha, and may hold something of a moral for the younger.

Twenty-five years ago two of the most popular and enterprising young men of Omaha were "Fred" Thompson and "Skip" Dundy.

Misfortune overtook the firm, and its members as well. Full of amusement ideas, able to conceive and bring forth several novel ways to give the public a thrill or a laugh, neither one nor the other was a good business man in the sense that neither seemed endowed with the faculty of holding on to any portion of the wealth that poured in on them.

Judge Hull of the democratic national committee says he is not paying attention to the factions in his party. This makes it unanimous.

A Los Angeles man who has survived six falls from high places is looking for a job on the ground. He will probably drop into a well then.

CRIME A POOR PAYMASTER.

A young man has been occupying considerable front page space in the Omaha and Cleveland papers lately. He achieved this by means of an over-excited imagination, confessing to having committed a terrible murder, and seemingly inspired to do this by a desire to escape trial for another crime.

Whatever he reckoned on, his calculations were faulty, for they did not take into consideration the workings of the law he thought himself capable of befooling. His story, told with definiteness and some detail, was only worth its face value, and subject to the test of careful examination by men who are trained to scrutinize just such tales.

However, the law has yet a hold on him, and he will go back to the Ohio city to face a charge on which there is good chance of convicting him. If found guilty, he faces a sentence of life.

A more serious predicament scarcely could confront a youth. This one seems to be a wayward, but not entirely bad boy. His solicitude for his mother indicates that he is not entirely lost to the promptings of good, but his conduct justifies the persistence with which the law pursues him.

Only on one theory can he be explained. He is suffering from an aggravated ego. Crime appeals to him because of its excitement. He has found it easier to steal than to work. Released from prison, where he finished a term for theft, he immediately resorted to theft to get money. A job offered too prosaic a method of securing capital. He will have ample time to study out his own peculiarities before he is free to prey again, and it may be he will discover the mistake he has made.

A life in prison is quite as dull as any led by a working man outside, with the added restriction of liberty when off duty. A working man has certain hours of the 24 that are his own, a convict does not. If nothing else should restrain one from crime, it is that honest labor pays better in the end.

This boy, like the beautiful model in New York, has paid too high a price for a little excitement. She is murdered at 27, just when her young life should be the fullest of zest. He faces a life term in prison at 23, just when other young men are laying plans and building hopes for the big things they are to do in the world. It is sad, but "the wages of sin is death."

THE CITY BEAUTIFUL.

The civic community service division of the Nebraska Federation of Women's Clubs has spent some time on the study of "The City Beautiful." This has been narrowed down by those planning the work to the home and community in which each woman lives and is especially interested.

If each individual would spend a few spare moments each day in the cultivation and care of shade trees, blue grass, or flowers, the stranger would carry away a different impression of Nebraska towns, to the condition of the parkings and lawns has much to do with the general appearance of the whole street.

Many cities and villages have a distinguishing mark which sets them apart and makes them stand out from other towns in the memory. It may be the cleanliness and sanitation, a perfect lighting system, beautiful lawns and parkings, or a perfect stretch of road that attracts. Portland, Ore., will always stand out in the memory of the tourist because of the Columbian highway, that beautiful stretch of paved road following the river and entering the city from the east, and from which can be seen many natural beauties and wonders.

To come closer home, what beauty-loving soul can pass through certain portions of Fremont during the summer months without carrying away a vision of beautiful homes, clinging vines, stately trees, green lawns and bowers of lovely flowers? There then is Meadow Grove in Madison county, which received special mention by some of England's road experts in a good roads meeting held across the Atlantic, because of the danger signal forcing the automobile driver to stop, think and use caution before crossing the tracks of the Chicago & Northwestern just outside the town. The perfection of this signal has not only caused this little village of less than 500 people to stand out from other towns, but has also set Nebraska apart from all other states in the union on this one point of perfection.

Winter is about over, and many of us have been thinking what to do to improve our yard or neighborhood when spring comes. Let's not forget that resolve now.

Irish republicans do not object to a fight, be it understood, but just to that particular sort of a fight. And they will enforce their views, even if they have to fight to do so.

Teaching policemen how to treat citizens is all right, but teaching citizens how to treat policemen also might help.

At least, those delayed income tax reports should have some clemency because of the weather.

When Dan Butler does take hold, he will find a police department recruited up to full war strength.

Jack Pickford may be a "star," but he is not shedding much light on the movies just now.

Homespun Verse

By Robert Worthington Davie

THE MONEY DAD GAVE.

Never wondered much about it. I was half inclined to flout it— Took it, seldom went without it— Money from my faithful dad. Never thought it obligation, Never heard his hesitation. Ever gave me with elation All the currency he had.

I was careless, never worried How I squandered, wasted, buried Dimes and dollars. I was flurried By the shallowness of youth. Life was like a dream before me. Nothing sorrowful was o'er me. Nothing troubled, nothing wore me— I was absent from the truth.

But the dear old days are ended, I no longer am befriended, And the precious coins expended Bring solemnity to me. Now I strive in vain to save them. In despondency I crave them— While the dear old dad who gave them Can not know the gloom I see.

The Song of Three Friends

A Novel in Verse by Nebraska's Poet Laureate, John G. Neihardt.

For some days The Omaha Bee will run upon this page extracts from "The Song of Three Friends" with explanations that will keep the thread of the story. This poem, published by the Macmillan company, in 1912, was the occasion of the award to its author, John G. Neihardt, of the prize of \$500 given by the Poetry Society of America for the best poem by an American published during the year. It is well for the reader to bear in mind that the story is historically true. It is concerned with the second expedition of the American Fur company from St. Louis up the Missouri river to its junction with the Yellowstone, and the further adventures of the three comrades at the mouth of the Musselshell.

WHEN MAJOR HENRY WENT.

Up river at the head of Ashley's band, Already there were robins in the land, Home-keeping men were following the snows. And through the smoke-thin greenery Of boughs The scattering wildfire of the fruit bloom ran.

Behold them starting northward, if you can. Dawn comes across the Mississippi's tide: A tumult runs along the water-side. Where, scenting an event, St. Louis throngs. Above the buzzing voices soar the songs Of waiting boatmen—lilting chansons—ettes.

Of waiting boatmen—lilting chansons—ettes. Whereof the meaning laughs, the music frots, Nigh wailing that such gladness cannot stay. In turn, the herded horses snort and neigh Like panic bugles. Up the gangplanks poured. Go streams of trappers, rushing goods aboard.

The snub-built keelboats, squat with seaming aloft— Baled three-point blankets, blue and scarlet cloth. Rum, powder, flour, guns, gauderies and lead. And all about, goodbyes are being said.

Clings to their bearded heroes, count the days Between this parting and the wedding morn. Unwitting how unhuman Fate may score The yearning dream. Fer O how madly a lad Would see the face of Danger, and go mad With her weird vixen beauty; aye, forget This girl's face, yearning upward now and wet. Half woman's will the first vague guess at woe!

At 6:30 p. m. There is no train north out of York until the freight, about 11 a. m., which does not give one any time to do any business and get back to York, as the last train from the north arrives at York about 2 p. m.

"The People's Voice"
Editorials from readers of The Morning Bee are invited to send them to the office for expression on matters of public interest.

Why Tax Bus Lines?
York, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Daily Bee: It seems from Senate File 158, regarding buses and trucks, that the railroads still have a great deal to say in Nebraska regarding the laws, for the good of the dear people.

It looks as though the real object of this bill is to kill off the bus lines that have started up on account of the poor service of the railroads, and wonder after the legislature has passed the bill what will they tell the people who elected them as an excuse when they go home and wake up to the fact that they have passed a bill in the interest of the railroads, and against the people who elected them to protect their interests.

The bus lines so far are an experiment and should be encouraged, instead of discouraged. Here at York we have a bus going west at 7:15 a. m.; no train until about 1:15 p. m. It goes to Grand Island and Hastings and comes back about 5 p. m. There is no train service from the west after 2 p. m. until 10:25 p. m. The Lincoln bus leaves Lincoln about 7:30 a. m., gets to York at 9:30 a. m.; goes back to Lincoln and makes a second trip to York, arriving at 4:30 p. m., then back to Lincoln. Now, after 4 a. m. there is no train from Lincoln till 1:15 p. m., and no train to Lincoln after 2 p. m. till 10:25 p. m. The Norfolk bus leaves York at 7:30 a. m., goes to Norfolk and comes back

Daily Prayer
Therefore shall the people praise Thee.—Ps. 45:17. Almighty God, Heavenly Father, Who are the light and life of men, we give Thee humble and hearty thanks for all blessings of Thy merciful Providence, and we commend ourselves this day, and all who are near and dear to us—our family, our friends, our neighbors—to Thy divine care and protection. Give us grace, so to live that we shall not be afraid to die. Save us from all dangers of soul and body. Grant us strength for our daily work, succor for our daily needs, and a right judgment in all things.

We pray for our country, that it may be exalted in righteousness; for those who exercise authority, that they may be wise and just; for all our citizens, that they may be faithful to duty and obedient to law; that our land may be a land of liberty and peace, of true religion, of mutual service, acceptable to Thee, our God, and honored throughout the world. Finally, we beseech Thee, O Father, to protect and encourage those, who, by life and actions, at home and abroad, are proclaiming the Gospel of Thy redeeming love. Send out Thy light and Thy truth, that all men everywhere may acknowledge themselves to be the sons of God, and that Thy Kingdom may be established in all the earth. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

NET AVERAGE CIRCULATION for FEBRUARY, 1923, of THE OMAHA BEE Daily71,558 Sunday78,661 B. BREWER, Gen. Mgr. V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of March, 1923. W. H. QUIVEY, Notary Public

Farm Credits

Nebraska Editors Give Views on Extending Federal Aid to Farmers.

Norfolk Press.
Marie Weekes: The farmer needs cash, not credit, for credit means debt and too much debt is what is the matter with the farmer now. Instead of laws to help him into more debt he needs prices for his products that will help him out of debt. Renewal of debt is not payment thereof and our local banks are friendly enough and businesslike enough to extend all the credit good for any of us if they are left free of Wall Street direction.

Hemingford Ledger.
Farmers with credit can get all the money needed. Without security they borrow no money under the proposed state law. They need increased prices to grower and lower freight rates so they can produce with a margin of profit instead of loss. Farmers need no more credit. What they need is some means of paying off the result of too much credit. House Roll No. 7 is not favored here.

McCook Tribune.
F. M. Kimmel: Western Nebraska farmers and stockmen are particularly interested in two phases of the federal rural credit law, those which increase loan amounts and lengthen time of payment. Both are essential in their business, hence they expect relief from the law. These give the farmer more favorable action on his lengthy turnover, especially in stock.

Hildreth Telescope.
The new federal farm credit bill may furnish temporary relief to the farmer. It is good as far as it goes, but it does not entirely solve the problem. A fair price for his products, lower freight rates, lower prices in the goods he must buy—all these are necessary because the farmers' condition can be readjusted to a permanent basis for prosperity.

Gordon Journal.
Dwight P. Griswold: I do not expect the new farm credit law to give much relief. Those with good security can already get what they need, and judging from the action of the government loaning agencies others will be unable to borrow from them. Since our exports of farm products last year were the largest in history and are expected to grow smaller as Europe again takes up agriculture it seems that the only true relief will come through decreased production. There is no money to be made in farming as unprofitable and big wages can be secured in other industries.

Orleans Chronicle.
H. H. McCoy: The new farm credit law has passed doubtless for the purpose of affording some relief to the agricultural interests of the nation and will give the farmer aid to the extent that he may borrow money at a comparatively low rate of interest. This law will augment the tendency of the agriculturist, in our opinion and in the opinion of bankers and others, to take advantage of this opportunity to borrow money and thereby increase his indebtedness. This in our minds is not the solution of the present difficulties of the farming class. Legislation that would permit more beneficial agricultural interests at this time and actually give the farmer the relief he seeks would be a law to furnish a better market and better prices for farm products.

Lindsay Post.
H. J. Whitacre: Requirements of the farm credit law are so strict that it will be of comparatively slight value, according to bankers here. Those who can meet the requirements seldom need a loan of this character, and if they do the money is usually readily available from several sources.

The New Teller, York.
The new farm credit law has excellent features, but in the opinion of practical men in this vicinity nothing will give permanent relief to the farmer until he can obtain a price for his goods commensurate with the cost of production, not more debts, but a chance to pay present ones is the only solution.

Polk County Democrat, Osceola.
E. A. Walrath: The farm credit law should be of temporary benefit for agriculturists and appears to have been designed with that object. While the law may contain much of merit, its provisions permit too large an opportunity of subsidizing its benefits to favored sections and withholding the same from others. Agriculture needs credit, yes, but all credit is a temporary expediency.

Wayne Democrat.
E. A. Gardner: The farm credit law will not improve the condition of the farmer. It will only prolong the

Wotta Life! Wotta Life!



struggle. Give labor and agriculture equal opportunity. Let congress cease to delegate the power to issue currency and control the volume thereof. Let the farmer have a profit, not a loan.

A Book of Today

And let no guilty man escape! Such would seem to be the motif of "Blind Cupid," a new book of short stories by Josephine Daskam Bacon. It made no difference, millionaire, chauffeur, ex-convict, fate snatched them all rather blindly, but happily for all that. There are seven stories in this volume. Published by Appleton.

"THE SEVEN AGES OF WOMEN" by Compton Mackenzie. President A. S. Stokes Company. Unlike in most respects any other novel Mr. Mackenzie has done this story is characterized by one characteristic of the author's most popular work. A critic has written: "It is for his women that Mr. Mackenzie must surely be remembered." This new work presents one woman, Mary Flower, who will rank with Jenny Pearl, Sylvia, Phyllis or Pauline, but is far more universal, for here the author has given an epitome of the life of every woman. Taking seven critical periods in Mary's varied and rich life, Mr. Mackenzie tells most fully a story that will cause numberless women readers to live over again their own lives, living in pleasant retrospect over the past and peering with comfortable anticipation into the future. There is a tingling joy and

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