

MORNING—EVENING—SUNDAY THE OMAHA BEE PUBLISHING CO. NELSON B. UPPKE, President B. BREWER, Vice President and General Manager

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WHY AMENDMENTS GO ASTRAY. One of those unaccountable things that have beset the way of making laws for many years, and have pestered the most careful of lawmakers, is just now confronting the legislature at Lincoln. A bill to create a banking commission was passed and sent to the governor, who approved it. The governor has selected the names of the men who are to form the commission, and has sent them to the senate for approval. So far, so good.

It develops, however, that somewhere along the way the bill has become so narrow that it will not travel from inception to their final place on the statute books most of the teeth of the new banking commission law dropped out. An amendment that is vital has disappeared. Senators are very positive it was adopted; records seem to show this, but the original amendment can not be found.

Inquiry will follow, of course, and the law will doubtless be cured so that it will contain the provision now missing. Yet this will not be sufficient. Our system of law making is good, but in practice it is open to many abuses. Committees allow work to accumulate, the house and the senate clutter up and clog their general files, and invariably the closing hours of the session find prospective legislation in a terrific jam.

That is when the danger is greatest. Smooth workers, representing special interests, not always operating for the good of the public, get in their work at the last minute. Jokers slip into bills, amendments are lost, errors occur in engrossing measures, and a long list of things happen that should not happen. Seldom is a culprit located; frequently, if the blame is fixed at all, it is sawed off onto some subordinate, a temporary employe, who serves as a scapegoat, yet who rarely if ever really are culpable of anything more than carelessness induced by crowding of work at the last minute.

In the case of the banking commission law the omission is discovered in time to permit correction without serious loss, yet this does not always happen. The lesson is before every legislature that meets, but it gets little attention. As long as the present plan of law making is pursued, it will be open to this danger. Strict rules for repressing the lobby are enforced at Lincoln, yet they are not sufficient to prevent confusion. The right of the people to approach their legislators is not to be questioned or denied, yet it should be so arranged that the orderly work of making laws will not be interrupted by insistence from groups that have special interests in proposing or opposing legislation.

DAUGHERTY POINTS HIS GUN. Accepting as accurate the report that raw sugar prices declined 50 points on the announcement that Attorney General Daugherty had started a suit against speculating profiteers, the conclusion is justified that the government is proceeding along right lines. The great question is, Will the effect be permanent?

One of our difficulties, as the greatest sugar consuming nation of the world, is that we import three-fifths of all we use. Most of this is raised in Cuba, but some comes from Java and other regions, where the United States is not in authority. In Cuba, for example, the sugar men are said to have perfected an understanding that means the American users will have to pay tribute to them for a long time to come. Most of the capital of the great sugar plantations of the island is furnished by Americans, but the control is located in Cuba.

One thing that is plainly demonstrated is that the tariff is in no sense responsible for the upward flight of sugar. Under the democratic administration, when sugar was soaring, nobody thought of alleging that the slight duty was to be blamed for the work of the speculators. Nor is the present tariff sufficient to bring about the undue rise in the price. Supply and demand should govern, and in effect do, but manipulation is possible, and in this instance the belief is that such is being practiced.

As the time of year is approaching when sugar will be in greatest demand, the hope may be expressed that the move of the attorney general will be a little more than a gesture, and that he breaks up the combination that has been running away with the market. The people want relief, not at the expense of legitimate interests, whose rights should be given all consideration, but from the greedy profiteers who have been extorting unreasonable returns from their customers.

LOVE, AND COMFORT, AND LIFE. "One more unfortunate" has sought the solution of her life's problem by hurrying herself into the next. Eleanor Oles went to a Pittsburgh hotel, wrote a letter and took poison. Her letter gives clue to her trouble, and puts a question to the world. She says in her last message:

"Please give the unfortunate girl a chance. Don't throw her open to public opinion, don't shut her in the reformatories and after a couple of years expect her to be a good angel. It will have hardened her to the world. What she needs is real love and someone to comfort her, not to constantly remind her of her little wrongs."

It is not a little wrong, however, nor one lightly expiated, yet in this girl's letter is contained the one sure way to bring those of her kind back to a sure footing on life's pathway. Love is the thing needed, and comforting. Psychologists, sociologists, criminologists, medical men, and other students have analyzed the girl who goes wrong. They have in one or another ways applied tests to her, examined her mental capacity, her moral attributes and her physical accomplishments. Many formulas have been laid down for dealing with such cases, but all of them fall just a little short of the mark.

A hungry soul is calling out for love, for comforting. It is not self pity that moves them, but a deep and unsatisfied longing, a hunger that will not be satisfied. A little love, a little comfort, and life may be brighter and sweeter, and work easier, with sunshine instead of gloom and a strong determination to live instead of a yearning to die.

"Hath no man condemned thee?" Christ asked the weeping woman who knelt in the sand at his feet. She answered, "No man, Lord." And Jesus said unto her, "Neither do I condemn thee; go and sin no more." He knew what was needed to heal that broken, bruised heart, just love and comfort. It does not cost much, but it is priceless.

WOMEN WILL INSURE WELFARE.

Woman is still seeking to establish her place in the general scheme of things, but in one department of life's activities she is without peer or rival. That is what is generally summed up and classified under the label of "welfare work." It is not to be wondered at that the women of the Sixth Nebraska district proclaimed themselves in favor of certain defined items in the general program, and against the demolition of the Nebraska welfare department.

These women understand a point that is missed by the public. The really active opponents of welfare work of any sort are the ones who most strongly bear down on the rights of the sovereign states whenever federal activity and support is suggested, and who then bear with equal insistence on the natural rights of the individual when the state takes hold. Governor Bryan came under the spell and gave his assent to the dismantling of a welfare department that had scarcely begun to function. Locating some of its factors in other departments of bureaus, he struck out some, and arranged that whatever welfare work is carried on will be done piecemeal. This was one of the reasons his plan for reforming the administrative government for Nebraska was rejected.

Sixth district women are awake to the importance of giving active support to the things that are intended to conserve and promote the general health and happiness of the people. They know the need of giving mother and child assistance and protection; they know how vital it is that school children be looked after, that home and community alike have attention, and they know these things can not be left to the whims or notions of individuals. Standards must be set up and maintained, and money must be spent that good may come to all.

It is a fine thing, not only for Nebraska and the nation, but for the world, that women are devoted to just such matters as the district delegates at Ravenna gave their warm approval.

WHEN A GOVERNOR GOES TO JAIL.

A peculiar sequence of events has brought some notice to the office of governor of Mississippi. A stenographer sued the governor on a sensational charge, and a former governor was subpoenaed as witness in the case. He was chivalrous enough not to appear, although he had been summoned on behalf of the lady. For this the judge had him brought to bar, and sentenced him to jail as guilty of contempt of court.

Accordingly the ex-governor went to jail, from which he is about to be liberated because of clemency on part of the offended judge. While in jail he did not undergo material inconvenience, other than that he was deprived of his privilege of strolling about the streets of Biloxi, meeting and greeting friends and chatting about the weather, the new canal that shortens the distance from New Orleans to the sea, and other items of the moment. A thoughtful sheriff vacated his private apartments in the calaboose, and furnished the rooms with all modern conveniences, so that the distinguished prisoner might not miss anything while in jail.

Even this is not the interesting part of the performance. As he entered the cell, the one-time chief executive of Mississippi smugly delivered himself of an address the burden of which was that he hoped his fate would be an example to all who were disposed to hold in light esteem the courts of the country. We hope so, too, and we also hope it will not be necessary to send any more governors to jail to remind them that they are amenable to the law they have sworn to uphold and administer as well as the common or garden variety of citizen.

Somehow, this Mississippi episode reminds us of the tale of the man who was about to be hung, and to whom the sheriff had accorded the special privilege of addressing the throng assembled to witness the execution. "Ladies and gentlemen," he said, "I'm not a public speaker, but one thing I do want to say. This is going to be a hell of a lesson for me!"

LONG LIFE TO THE T. P. A.

Omaha is entertaining a very interesting group of men just now. Or, rather, a very interesting group of men are entertaining themselves in Omaha. These are the delegates to the state meeting of the T. P. A., now in convention. Essentially a business organization, and composed of business men, it mingles with its existence considerable that is essentially a social nature. Just what else could be looked for from a group of traveling salesmen is not clear. While the man who kisses his wife goodby on Monday morning, and spends the week hopping from one town to another taking orders—and, singular as it may seem, these fellows are taking orders now—is no longer a peripatetic joke book and dispenser of "good" stories, he still holds such an element of the milk of human kindness that he couldn't be unsocial if he wanted to. That is why he has a good time, even if he has to make it for himself; but Omaha knows and honors the traveling salesman, and the T. P. A., and wishes for them and for their delegates an harmonious and beneficial business session, and a social stay that will surpass any former experience.

"Jimmie" Larkin might be sent to Russia, where he can taste the fruits of communism. Only he'd be put to work over there, as were Comrades Hayward, Berkman and Goldman.

The injunction may not be a popular institution, but it seems to have worked out all right on the sugar combine.

At least, the D. A. R. elections are not cut and dried affairs.

April is commencing to act like April.

Homespun Verse By Robert Worthington Davis

KEEP PLUGGING. Once in the days receded a fellow came to Dad and said, "I'm up against it, I don't know what to do. For while I strive and struggle things keep a going bad, and I have come hoping to get relief from you." Dad looked at him and answered quite bluntly with a smile. "Keep plugging and I reckon you will get there after while."

"From State and Nation" Editorials from other newspapers.

The School Situation.

From the Nebraska City Press. Placing the limit of school levy at 12 mills on the dollar will not bring the relief the legislative supporters of the measure desire to procure, by law, as the friends of the bill propose to do, we shall find it necessary in a short time to provide funds for districts whose wealth is negligible in excess of 16 mills, an expensive expedient at best; the other proposed "common pot" for all the school money in Nebraska, to be distributed by the department of a plan which is destructive of the "home rule" idea and not likely to be countenanced in any form, for centralization of power in this regard would assuredly destroy the public school in their home school systems. We realize, of course, that the discussion of the problem grows out of the feeling that education is costing Nebraska too much money, but money economies cannot be enforced equitably through the enactment of any such legislation as is proposed, and after all, it is not like some "tax" that can be cut through local remedies. The moment the Mathers plan was suggested, representatives from sparsely settled districts in Nebraska raised the point that a limitation on levies would not benefit their schools, for many assessed valuations are not high, and this is an argument that seems to have been overlooked by proponents of the bill. Mr. Mathers would not mind a district which has great wealth and a limitation of levy might not work the harm it would, for instance, in Cherry county, where the chief resource is a region of "unimproved" lands. Nebraska City's assessed valuation last year was \$5,276,833, with a school census of 1,877 to provide for, or a per capita valuation of \$2,808. The proposition of Mr. Mathers would not materially affect school finances in this city just now, but no man knows what contingency, requiring further outlay, will come next year. Half of our tax money goes toward education, most of it for local schools. With that ever in mind, would it not be best, after all, to permit localities to solve their own problems by their own means, and to fight out their own destinies, just as they have been doing in the past. Most assuredly none of us wants to handicap the school work of the state, but by insisting on applying the same hard and fast rule to each district in the state, we shall do the very thing we are trying to avoid.

Facts About Florida Peonage.

From the New York World. Investigation on the spot by the World correspondent in connection with the death of Martin Tabert in a convict camp shows how closely guarded by secrecy is the whole peonage system in Florida. It is established and enforced in a way to keep from the public all knowledge of the treatment of prisoners or even the barest information about the conditions under which they live. What happened in this case might easily happen in scores of cases and nothing heard of it. To a board of county commissioners is given power, at its discretion, to lease the county prisoners to private contractors for labor in the mines or another county. Their interest in the prisoners ceases when they are turned over to the contractor by the sheriff on receipt of fees, apparently variable. They may be shipped to distant lumber camps in the wilderness and that is the end of the county's responsibility for their care. Whatever happens there is nobody's business but the contractor's. All prisoners of the state are supposed to be under the charge of the state commissioner of agriculture. But when the World correspondent asked Commissioner McRae for the number of counties that lease their prisoners to contractors and the number of prisoners so leased, the reply he received was "I can't tell you. The counties are not required to report that information to the state." Theoretically, state supervisors of prisons, of whom there are four, visit the convict camps once a month and report on the health of the prisoners. If a prisoner dies, his death is reported to the commissioner of agriculture, Martin Tabert, the North Dakota boy, while ill, was brutally beaten on the pretext that he did not stand up to his work, and died a few days after. His death was reported due to pneumonia.

In Leon county, where Tabert was sentenced to pay a fine of \$25 or serve 90 days imprisonment, the county commissioners leased the prisoners to the Putnam Lumber company in another county. The receipts on file in the county clerk's office showed that 105 prisoners were leased out in 13 months, but County Clerk Lang says the entry number was 126 on the agency of 21. Presumably one-third of the prisoners were white men and two-thirds negroes, but "the commitments and receipts for their delivery do not show."

"If we had guessed what the conditions in that camp were," pleaded County Clerk Lang, "we certainly would never have leased out our prisoners to that company." That the

Daily Prayer

One thing have I desired of the Lord, that I will not forget: That I may find mercy and grace. We need Thee, O living God. We are lone, we are discontented, helpless, defeated, without Thee. How shall we know ourselves aught unless Thou teach us? How shall we love God and know and strive after holiness, and know the deep joys of the soul unless Thy Spirit abide in us? How shall we be able to meditate Thy just expectations unless we companion with the Most High God? How shall we bear our burdens and overcome our temptations, or be unselfish in service, or turn away from covetousness or envy, or the beauty and majesty of the character of Christ, unless Thou take possession of us? Thankful we are, then, that Thou dost not withhold Thyself from any eager, hungry, obedient heart. We know that Thou art willing to give Thyself to us. Teach us how to open our hearts to Thee. Help us to be obedient to Thy will, joyful in our allegiance, co-operative in all of Thy plans. Distrust us when we go astray; discipline us when we are willful; hearten us when discouraged; strengthen us when perplexed. Through all the experiences of our lives, fashion us in Thy likeness, O our exalted Christ, so that we may be Thy true sons and daughters. Amen. PHILIP L. FRICK, P. D. Buffalo, N. Y.

We Nominate For Nebraska's Hall of Fame.



ANDERS JOHN HAUGSETH is an instructor in painting in the University of Nebraska, to which he comes from Chicago, where his studio had already achieved a reputation among the younger artists of the modernist movement. He has exhibited in Chicago and New York, as also in Cora Arden's traveling exhibition. Mr. Haugseth's work is of striking originality, decorative and imaginative and vividly coloristic. He is deeply interested in stagecraft and stage settings and has done extraordinary work in this line for the University Players during the present season. Like other Nebraska artists, Mr. Haugseth is looking forward to a summer in New Mexico, drawn by the scenic charm of the southwest. Leon county commissioners ever gave a moment's thought to the matter there is not the slightest evidence. They signed the contract, delivered the prisoners day after day and collected the money. The Florida legislature is proceeding to an investigation. But the system is inherently wrong, and immediate action to root it out would better suit the situation.

Asia Comes Next.

From the Kansas City Kansas. The interest of the world centers in Asia. It is there that American capitalists have recently obtained concessions for building 2,000 miles of railroads and numerous cities along modern lines. It was there that Germany was planning to rebuild the empire of antiquity when the world war came. It is there that France and England and Greece have been looking in all their negotiations since the war was ended. All this means that a circle has been completed, and the attention of men is turning to the localities where history began. When the Bagdad railway is completed, when Nineveh, Jerusalem and Babylon are rebuilt as modern cities; when the old irrigation canals are reopened and repaired, the surplus over which races fought for generations will again be exceedingly fertile, and great empires may once more spring up on the stumps of old empires long since dead. But when one reflects on the numerous wars that have been fought upon the old valleys—by the Euphrates, the Tigris and Jordan, by the Hellestine and the Rhine—the longest stretch of continuous valley land in almost a straight line in all the world—it seems that by this time men should have learned to build to enjoy rather than to fight for the thing builded. Why should there be rivalries between France, England, the United States, and even Germany and Greece and Italy, over which shall gain advantages in the new building to be done? Would not all prosper more if they were to work together instead of seeking only nationalistic advantage? Since the discovery of America Europe has lived by exploiting distant lands. Now the field has closed for that continent. The Monroe doctrine is practically a command for Europe to keep out of the western continent for purposes of conquest. In reaching for Asia—each nation for herself—Europe has been beaten by America. Europe is practically out, except along two lines. First of these is a system of world conquest; and she is losing colonies rather than gaining them. The other is, in universal co-operation for the good of all. Whether we like it or not, we have come to the point where we must think in terms of world progress and happiness, or else reap the results of destruction.

Prairie Gems

Kearney is putting on metropolitan airs by building an apartment house. Thank heaven, Nebraska City is still a place of homes and home builders!—Nebraska City Press.

If the bootlegger's industry goes to the dogs it will have no one but the bootleggers to blame because they are beginning to make the stuff so bad that their customers are reporting them to the police.—Grand Island Independent.

It's a cinch that if somebody rides free on the railroads somebody else has got to pay for it.—York Republican.

Lots of mothers wear last year's hats so daughter can have the latest model silk stockings.—Harvard Courier.

Eight million dollars have been paid for bank guaranty. This seems a needlessly large sum, and it is hoped that the new law will show better results.—Hamilton County Register.

Table showing NET AVERAGE CIRCULATION for MARCH, 1923, of THE OMAHA BEE. Daily: 73,997. Sunday: 80,029.

"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.

Complaints of Insincerity.

York, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Please pardon the intrusion, but I notice in The Omaha Bee that practically all classes of the English people, churchmen, Protestant and Catholic and others, trades unions, laborites, Tory and conservatives and liberals are going to demand the expulsion of the Russian trade delegation and bolshevik of every description, and that the question is to come up in parliament some time for some sort of action there, and all because Russia's so-called "government" killed Vicar General Butchavitch because the vicar general, according to the Russian government, had been interfering in the affairs of Russia.

How sympathetic English trades unions, churchmen, Protestant and Catholic and others, and laborites, and Tories, and conservatives and liberals, etc. are when Russia kills a Catholic priest. Their crocodile tears over things like this raises the waters around England to flood tide, and some people, no, or others unplaced politically over the foul murder of this Irish priest? Did the above worthies or any of them demand an investigation of this infamous murder of an Irishman and demand due punishment for the perpetrators of the inhuman crime? Peace and justice and humanity will reign when governments like England and governments like Russia find their way to the scrap piles as worse than worthless junk.

Where the Creed Originated. Sidney, Ia.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: On page eight of The Bee of Tuesday, April 17, is a column headed "From State and Nation"—editorials from other papers. The second item in this column is entitled "An American Creed" and is subtitled "From the Cincinnati Enquirer." My dear editor: This creed for which the Enquirer gives a nun in an Ottawa (O.) school credit, was written in Baltimore and was awarded a prize for excellence in a nationwide contest for an American creed. Its author is William Tyler Page, and it is on the walls of almost every school in Iowa, and I suspect of almost every school in all the other states.

Why the Labor Party Moved. Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: In a recent issue you published in your "Editorials by Our Readers" column a communication from W. K. Riter, under the head line of "Organized Labor Cleans House." In the letter referred to, it is intimated that the Midwest Labor News is moving out of the Labor Temple at the request of the Labor Temple board because it has championed certain matters, the merits of which need not be discussed here.

She's Just a Tiny, Timid Thing!



COME ALL YE TIMID VIOLETS! AN-DA-AH-AH-A-A-A! THAT'S RIGHT—AND EVERY TITLIP GAY! THAT'S A GOOD VIRL GO ON NOW!

Sinclair Refining Co. Announces the opening of the second of its Fourteen New Omaha Service Stations AT 30th and Redick Ave. SATURDAY, APRIL 21st. Each purchaser of five or more gallons of gasoline at this station Saturday, April 21, will receive a Souvenir Kewpie Doll. A Carnation for Each Lady Customer. An Eveready Flashlight will be given away free of charge to each customer purchasing a \$10.00 coupon book for cash on opening day. This Flashlight ordinarily retails for \$1.70. Sinclair Coupons are redeemable for gasoline and oils at Sinclair Service Stations or the stations of dealers handling Sinclair Products in Omaha or elsewhere.