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WHAT ABOUT LOWER FREIGHT RATES? The class one railroads are now earning almost 6 per cent on their estimated valuation. That should be reassuring to those who cling to the idea that before anyone else can be prosperous the railroads must get theirs.

Certainly agriculture must have cheaper transportation before it can be restored to its proper level of earnings. The farmers' profits do not approach the railroads' 6 per cent. No indeed. The figures of the Department of Agriculture show that 14 per cent of the farmers failed to break even last year.

In the cities industrial activity is at high pitch. If this fine tone is to be maintained, the basic industry of agriculture must be tuned up also. Nothing could do so much immediate good as lowered rates on the shipment of all farm products.

No one else than the railroads have been heard to complain that any rate is too low. From the whole middlewest goes up the cry that rates are too high.

SELLING THE YEARS OF HIS YOUTH.

"I couldn't steal a dollar from the bank, any more than I could rob my own father." This laudable sentiment is expressed by a young man under arrest at San Francisco on charge of burglary.

When it came to other's property, his conscience was duller, his sense of right not hung on so delicate a balance. He goes on:

"Banking does not pay very well and I like to entertain and take out girls. And I did not like to speculate in stocks. I fell in with two men three months ago and the adventure and profits in the burglary business appealed to me."

What a remarkable inversion of morality! A blind spot in his mind that prevented his seeing the crime in burglary, when his mental vision was so keen as to the money of the bank.

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SETTING SOUTH DAKOTA FREE.

The Yankton bridge has a greater purpose than just to get a span across the Missouri river. Its destiny is to still closer unite two great neighboring states. It will also emancipate the producers of one of the most fertile regions of the west from an economic handicap they long have endured.

This handicap has been endured for a long time, not always with patience, but because the people have relied on promises made that the barrier would be lifted by one or another of interested railroads.

Probably the opening of the bridge will have the effect of hurrying to construction of the direct line of railroad so often promised and so long delayed, between Omaha and Yankton, and reaching into a great farming region north of Yankton.

Omaha will directly benefit by the existence of the bridge, just as will the citizens of both states to the north. Communication will be facilitated, an outlet for commerce will be provided, and while this great market town will be brought into touch with new territory, the producers and consumers of eastern South Dakota will have access to a new market.

the president would have had to look long and hard to find a better qualified man for this position.

NO APOLOGY WILL DO, GOVERNOR.

Seldom has a public man fallen so far and fast in the public estimation as has Governor Bryan. Even the democratic press has a difficult time to defend his actions in office, particularly his latest move in vetoing the Mathers-Dysart bill and thus preserving the code. It was this same code that Mr. Bryan attacked so viciously during his campaign, claiming that it gave the governor too much power—"made him a czar," as he expressed it from the platform. Yet by a scratch of his executive pen he now has saved it.

Verily in the code issue Mr Bryan built up a Frankenstein which is destined to devour him. No political machine that he can construct through his power of handing out jobs can save him from the disillusioned people of Nebraska.

It was on this matter of political appointments that the governor's veto turned. That is plain in his message of explanation. The reorganization of the state government under the Mathers-Dysart plan was lacking, in his opinion, because it did not concentrate all power in the hands of the governor. It assigned certain duties to the state treasurer, the commissioner of public lands and buildings, the lieutenant governor, the secretary of state and the superintendent of public instruction. Voters do not need a long memory to recall that Mr. Bryan's campaign was run on the theory that the constitutional officers did not have enough to do, and that the code departments in many cases duplicated their work. He promised that if he was elected he would eliminate the code secretaries and make these elected officers do the work.

It turned out that only one of these officers elected by the people was a democrat. And if they were to assume any new duties they expected to hire their own assistants. This conflicted with Governor Bryan's desire to fill up the statehouse with democratic jobholders. Accordingly he devised a scheme by which he would have taken full command of every state department, appointing every clerk, stenographer and assistant.

Instead of following this line, the legislature adopted a plan which would have given the governor direct charge of only one department out of the six. This was the finance department, which keeps a check on state expenditures, acts as a purchasing agent and compiles the budget. In vetoing this measure the governor makes much of the point that under such an arrangement he would only have five or six jobs to hand out to his friends. Here are his words:

"The department of finance, which prior to the code was in the state auditor's office, where it should be now on account of being largely a duplication of his work, has been assigned by the Mathers bill to the governor after refusing to make any salary provision for the secretary of finance and reducing the appropriation for the department from above \$80,000 to \$25,000, which will necessitate reducing the number of employees from 10 to possibly half that number, or a total of five or six."

As a matter of fact, the state auditor's office never performed the work of the department of finance, which arose as a result of the adoption of the budget system. There is no duplication. The governor always claimed that the secretary of finance was a useless jobholder, and that the work could be done with half the help and for a fraction of the cost. Under his own plan he wanted control of all six departments, and now he complains because he has been given the job of looking after one, and that one the most important, in a business way, of all.

A more inconsistent action than the governor's veto of this reform measure has never been seen in Nebraska political life. Pledged to repeal the code, instead he saves it. No longer does he want what he wanted when he wanted to be elected governor. What he wants now is a free hand to fill all state jobs with his political friends. This opportunity to build up a machine has been given by his veto. And knowing Governor Bryan as they now do, the people of Nebraska do not doubt that he will now strive to make the most of his opportunity.

DEFENDING HER GOOD NAME.

"Good name in man or woman, dear my lord, is the immediate jewel of their soul," said Iago to Othello, at the very moment when he was most determined on cheating his chief. His remark is true today. On the good name of each hangs the fate of the world, because it is that which sustains the confidence on which the world stands.

The affairs of the Farrar-Tellegan family jar have been paraded for many weeks, but now they come in for another airing. In her suit for divorce, the fair Geraldine named certain young women as having shared in the philandering of her Lou. One of these, Stella Larimore, has come into court and succeeded in getting an order for a hearing, that she may vindicate her own name.

The young woman's courage deserves commendation. She is willing to strike a blow for herself, and will not sit quietly under an imputation of misconduct. Too frequently in divorce suits and other actions persons are loosely and even wrongfully accused, and all too frequently are left under the cloud that has been cast on them. Even if fully cleared in court, they never are entirely set right before the world, for some of the odium will always cling to them.

"Be thou as chaste as ice, as pure as snow," said Hamlet to Ophelia, "thou shalt not escape calumny." But if more people were to turn on the calumniator, the practice of making loose charges without sufficient proof might be discouraged. At any rate, it is a hopeful sign when a woman goes into court to defend her good name against aspersions cast by another.

Omaha shows an increase in building of one-third over last year so far, which means that houses are being built to meet the needs of a growing community.

The consumption of meat products is increasing. That's another evidence of prosperity. When times are hard, meat is an infrequent guest at many tables.

Homespun Verse

By Robert Worthington Davie

WHEN WE GROW OLD. All, all is well when we are young. And life a garden fair. And strife beyond our paths is flung To wither in the air—

"From State and Nation" Editorials from Other Newspapers

Your Boy. From Foresight. The imagination of boys exceeds the dreams of men. Boys are initiators and their youthful minds develop many interesting and fantastic situations in which they have a part.

There is no justification whatever for the desire of foreign governments to gain immunity from American laws, whether those laws apply to the violation of liquor or any other practice that is obnoxious to our government. Citizens of other countries who desire to come within our boundaries are bound to obey and respect our laws just as American citizens are expected to obey the laws of any foreign countries in which they may be visiting.

Prohibition is the greatest question before the American people today. Despite the concentration of city, state and national attention upon the liquor law, the latter being embodied in an amendment to the constitution of the United States, have increased alarmingly and it has been discovered that these violations are very largely due to the operations of rum runners and smugglers along our Atlantic seaboard.

Any foreign government that persists in encouraging its ship owners to violate our prohibition laws is very nearly inviting our navy to sail against the United States, and the quicker all nations are made to realize our attitude in the matter the better.

Mark Twain would say, at his own expense, that two for sportfulness in the game of life as in athletics, and that the possibilities for honors are infinitely greater, they are in a fair way of development.

Let the reader try the experiment of a half hour's chat with a boy, his boy or anybody's boy, and note the effect on the boy—and on himself. He will be encouraged to repeat the experience.

A Mark Twain Memorial.

Mark Twain would say, at his own expense, that two for sportfulness in the game of life as in athletics, and that the possibilities for honors are infinitely greater, they are in a fair way of development.

At no time since the appearance of Huckberry Finn and Tom Sawyer was Missouri or either of these towns lacking in pride of their illustrious citizens. The big and grand Missouri country towns as they are called, are not only the great American humorist was not only of American soil, but of the soil of their state.

And now little Florida, Mo., the birthplace of Mark Twain, wishes to tell the world of the American humorist who lived and worked on the Missouri river. The owner of the Clemens homestead has offered to give the house to the state and will sell the land at a fair valuation, and the editors of northeast Missouri have organized a campaign for a Mark Twain park.

America, with her various halls of fame, has no Westminster Abbey, and yet here is a more fitting memorial to the great American humorist. It is not a Fartheron where the many may be immortalized. It is a simple home that speaks of the childhood of the famous American humorist. Mount Vernon or Monticello.

But America, unlike England, has been slow in recognition of her illustrious dead. England knights and makes a monument to him that bears this epitaph: "Folly was his foe; wit his weapon." The same may be written on the tomb of Mark Twain, but the finest epitaph to him are the atmosphere, the environs of his boyhood stories.

As to be found at the Florida homestead, and the country will watch with interest the campaign of the Mark Twain Park association.

Liquor on the High Seas.

Imperial valley, in the southernmost county of California, and with a long eastern border which here constitutes the international line between the United States and Mexico, has shipped the last, for the present season, of its money crop. Lettuce shipments from Imperial valley, since December, totalled 7,726 carloads, of which the first 6,000 had been shipped this year. The number of carloads shipped this year was 3,669 greater than last year. This has not been a result of greater production of lettuce, but a recognition of the fact that, during two or three years past, raisers could sell lettuce at more profitable prices than their other crops, although in recent weeks the middlemen in the lettuce markets, where they have lately appeared in large numbers, have caused a rise in complaints among producers. The cost of transportation in carload lots to eastern markets has not been changed, but prices for the produce have fallen, while investigation has failed to show any reduction to ultimate consumers.

In the great bowl called the Imperial valley, out of which the east takes so many of the good things of life, there was, last year, something as nearly resembling a strike as the producer ever calls. After the shipment of a few thousand carloads of cantaloupes, the growers, beginning to realize that they were getting too small a part of the high prices being paid in the east, left thousands of the melons to rot in the fields. The like cause will produce the like effect this year and on a more extended scale, with the probable result that, owing to an artificial scarcity so produced, the consumers who are able to procure cantaloupes will pay still higher prices.

The cantaloupe crop of Southern California, Florida and South Texas will begin moving in carload lots during the early part of May. The problem of middlemen's cost having been more intensively studied since last year, it may be possible to hold prices down to last year's level. Little more than that may be expected.

Daily Prayer

Faith which worketh by love—Gal. 5: 6. O thou great and eternal God, Creator, Redeemer, and bountiful Benefactor—the one from whom every good and perfect gift descends, we are assembled as a family to engage in worship of Thee, our Father, our Father in heaven, the spirit of true devotion. Give to us repentance for our sins. Thou hast taught us that there is but one thing that can come between our souls and Thee, that is, that we can exclude us from the Kingdom of Grace and from the Kingdom of Glory; the one and only thing that Thou dost hate, and that we are to be delivered from sin; that we may have our fruit unto holiness, and in the end everlasting life. We are taught in Thy Holy Word that if we confess our sins, Thou art faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Give to us faith—faith in Jesus as our present personal, all-sufficient Saviour. Give to us hope—the hope that is an anchor to the soul, sure and steadfast, that entereth into that which the veil, and that we are to be delivered from sin; that we may have our fruit unto holiness, and in the end everlasting life. We are taught in Thy Holy Word that if we confess our sins, Thou art faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Give to us hope—the hope that is an anchor to the soul, sure and steadfast, that entereth into that which the veil, and that we are to be delivered from sin; that we may have our fruit unto holiness, and in the end everlasting life. We are taught in Thy Holy Word that if we confess our sins, Thou art faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Give to us hope—the hope that is an anchor to the soul, sure and steadfast, that entereth into that which the veil, and that we are to be delivered from sin; that we may have our fruit unto holiness, and in the end everlasting life.

We Nominate— For Nebraska's Hall of Fame.

BOOK OF Mrs. Jack Burton's poems, entitled "Mother Poems for Mothers Day," has just been published on the press of the Beatrice Express. Mrs. Burton has been engaged in newspaper work for over six years and for some time has been a member of the news staff of the Daily Express.



Mrs. Jack Burton

She began writing at the age of 19 and, encouraged by her teachers and friends, has engaged extensively in the work, writing more as a recreation rather than as an occupation. She has a wide range and writes light comic verse as well as epics and heart appeal poems. For over a year Mrs. Burton has contributed a poem each week to the society page of the Express. Mrs. Burton is not only a writer, but an entertainer as well, and she often reads her own poems at civic gatherings.

JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY'S POEM ON "ABE MARTIN."

James Whitcomb Riley, the genial Hoosier poet, who passed away recently, dedicated to Kin Hubbard's humorous character, "Abe Martin," which appears daily in this newspaper, the following characteristic verse:

TO KIN HUBBARD—THE FATHER OF HIS COUNTRYMAN, ABE MARTIN.

ABE MARTIN—Dad-burn his old picture! 'Tends he's a brown county fixture—A kind of comical mixture Of hoosiness and no sense at all! His mouth, like his pipe, 's allus goin' And his thoughts, like his whiskers, 's howl'— And what he don't know ain't worth knowin'— From Genesis chub to baseball!

The author, Kin Hubbard, 's so careless He draws Abe 'most eyeless and earless, But he's never yet pictured him cheerless. Er with fun 'at he tried to conceal— Whether 'nto the fence er clean A-rootin' up ragweed er clover, Skeert stiff at some 'tambler' er Er new fangled automobile.

It's a purty steep climate old Brown's in, And the rains there his ducks nearly drowns in. The old man hisself wades his rounds As 'an old and serene, nighty night, As the old landsaw hawg, er the mottled. Milchcow, er the old rooster waddled Like the numps had him 'most so well throttled. That it wuz a pleasure to die.

But best of 'em all 's the fool-breaks 'at Abe don't see at all, and yit makes 'em 'at Both me and you lays back and shakes at. His comical, miraculous cracks, Which makes him—clean back of the power. Of genius 'itself in 'is flower— This Noble Master of the Hour, Abe Martin, the Joker on Facts, —James Whitcomb Riley.

The Spice of Life

A psychiatric board was testing the mentality of a negro soldier. "Do you ever hear voices without being able to tell who is speaking or where the sound comes from?" "Yes, suh," answered the negro. "And when does this occur?" "When I see table ever de telephone." The Christian Evangelist (St. Louis).

"What are the grounds for the divorce?" "Oh, some French girl named Sussette sewed her name on all his shirts." Clapperton.

A negro went fishing. He hooked a big catfish which pulled him overboard. As he crawled back into the boat, he said philosophically: "What I wanna know is 'tude 'is magazine took er is die fish nigger?"—Atlanta, Constitution.

Assistant—Here's a woman writes that she doesn't know which way to turn. Editor—"Send her a copy of the traffic regulations."—Boston Transcript.

"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.

Nonstop Fishing Record.

Elm Creek, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Every morning as we sip our coffee over the morning paper we see where some fair daimsel broke the nonstop fishing record or some galoot ate pumpkin pie for 72 hours. But here is one for the fair reader:

Mr. (Pat) Tucker of our village holds the nonstop, no-bite fishing record of all the universe as far as we are concerned. For five days and five nights he sat on the bank of the famous Buffalo creek, angling, with out a stop of bite, until he was suddenly to a close at 5:15 this morning, when in 17 minutes he caught a six-pound catfish and two carp, weighing five and a half pounds each. How about it? Has it ever been equaled? A HERO WORSHIPER.

Woman's Opinion of Men.

Norfolk, Mass.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: In The Omaha Bee of May 2 I read with much interest Charles Stollenberg's article on "Women and Politics." He says, by the laws of nature the women will never master politics; that they could never burn a negro at the stake; that they could not take a man from jail and hang him. No, thank God, women will use the "sword of spirit" instead of the steel sword in politics. The spirit of the Lord is more powerful than brute force. God created man and woman on an equality.

"In themselves and by their own nature," but man has neglected developing the spiritual nature—that is why the world has gotten into such abnormal condition. Women have been more willing to abide by God's laws than men; hence at this critical age we need spiritual people in politics. So I hope in 1924 and 1924, also in the future, God's spirit of truth will be the important plank in politics. Yours for a peace on earth and good will to man.

MRS. NELLIE FRANK.

That Wonderful Smile.

Genoa, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: There are a few people that late themselves and do not smile. How often have I seen, even business men, that failed to realize the value of smiling.

This day and age commands us to be cheerful. We have heard it said: "I love that person's actions" and "Oh, that wonderful smile." No one can doubt it, smiles will win love, friendship, cause trouble with flappers—keep down anger.

Who admires an old grouch? Not me. No one with a 20th century disposition should. Persons who are not fortunately born with a lovely disposition, need not remain a grouch. Smiles may be produced by proper cultivation. Overhaul yourself occasionally. Persuade yourself to be more agreeable and the smile germ will mature despite the fact you are a grouch.

Many smiling and agreeable clerks find themselves always busy—customers will wait to ouy from them. Being willing to show the goods and, whether you buy or not, their face remains the same. Thanking their customer, asking them to call again. They usually do.

When you once assume the responsibilities of a foreman, forebody or instructor, nothing less than a miracle will reveal itself, when you learn the

Phonographs for One Dollar Down

We have 75 splendid, slightly used and demonstrating phonographs which MUST BE MOVED THIS WEEK to make room for new stocks now in transit.

Every One Is Guaranteed to Be in First Class Condition. They come in all finishes and sizes and are the ones we have taken in exchange on pianos and player pianos.

For one dollar down and a few records you select and pay for your choice will be sent to your home. Come in before they are sorted over and make sure of a bargain you will always delight in.

Notice These Bargains

Table with 2 columns: Was, Now. Victor, oak \$40.00 \$9.00. Mag-Ni-Phone, mahogany \$25.00 \$12.50. Premier, mahogany \$35.00 \$15.00. Victor, oak \$50.00 \$22.50. Portophone, leatherette \$35.00 \$23.00. Outing, oak \$37.50 \$25.00. Columbia, mahogany \$50.00 \$28.00. Saxola, oak \$150.00 \$65.00. Columbia, mahogany \$140.00 \$68.00. Victrola, mahogany \$150.00 \$78.00.

MAIL THIS COUPON

Name Address Tear out the phonograph list, make a check mark after the phonograph you are interested in and mail at once. It will save you money.

These bargains will not last, and for \$1.00 down cannot be equaled again. This is your chance to own a high grade phonograph and to pay an unheard-of price.

Schmoller & Mueller Piano Co. NEBRASKA'S OLDEST & LARGEST MUSIC HOUSE 1514-16-18-Dod St. - - - Omaha

Abe Martin



Pinky Kerr who wuzn' worth his keep before th' war now pulls down \$5 per day. These girls that are dancin' two or three days without stoppin' had better save their steps till they settle down an' try t' make a nice pie without a kitchen cabinet.

(Copyright, 1922.)

difference between a grouch and a smile. Of course "a grouch" cares little whether they are liked or disliked, or if they are in business, whether business is good or bad. But when so many of their customers ask, "Why this grouch this morning?" it seems to me they should wake up to the fact that the grouch rests with themselves, not their few customers.

Their competitor just across the street, has a good paying business. Why? Because they feel it just as necessary to wear a smile as it is to wear certain clothing.

As I have said, smiling at flappers may cause trouble, but, listen, it is useful if used in the right way and harmful if not taken care of.

H. A. HANSEBERRY.

Less Jestin' Over Young Love.

St. Paul, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Our boys and girls do little step into marriage today with as little serious thought as they stepped into the puddles by the side of the road 12 or 14 years ago, and are about as soon tired of the venture.

They emerge with hearts as sore and smarting as their legs were in those days. The pity of it is that the hearts carry the scars to the end of their days.

How much sorrow could be avoided if love affairs were more seriously considered. Parents and elders begin to redden their brows about love and sweethearts before they are considered old enough to be taught to pray.

First in every man's life is his fortune; next should be his love. Religion indeed are the children whose parents know this and act accordingly, eliminating all talk of love from their conversation with children until they are of proper age. Instead of making their sons' or daughters' love affairs the butt of rude jokes and jesting, treat it as it really is, one of the most serious things of life.

H. M.

Advertisement for KC Baking Powder. Features the text 'KC BAKING POWDER 25 Ounces for 25¢' and 'Use KC for Finer Texture and Larger Volume in the baked goods.' Includes a coupon for a free sample and a list of products with prices.