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WITH COURAGE TO THE FUTURE.

One hundred and forty-seven years is less than a tick on the clock of time. Yet it marks the recorded span of the life of the American people.

Let the record speak for itself. Even the grumbling that is heard is proof that the freedom guaranteed by the constitution is enjoyed, as fully as it may be under the law.

Years have added responsibility, and experience has sobered a great people, so that the duties assumed in 1776 are borne in 1923 with a more fully realized sense of the obligation thus taken up.

Who doubts the future of the land, where liberty is preserved, and honest pride in great achievements stirs every patriotic breast and gives new courage to individual and state as well?

All over America today, in foreign lands wherever Americans are gathered, throughout the world, the birthday of the United States of America will be celebrated, not alone for what our nation has been and is, but for what it will be.

Chicago's crime commission indicts the automobile as an ally to crime. Let us look into this. For many months people have been talking of a "crime wave," and many are convinced that never in all the history of the world was there so much wickedness as now.

If there is more crime today than ever, is the machine to blame or is man? That men have robbed, murdered, and otherwise misbehaved themselves in the past is no excuse for their doing so today, nor does the fact abate in any degree the wrong that is being done.

Another reason must be found for the seeming success that attends crime against person or property. Instead of blaming the automobile, why not put some of the responsibility on man? Jurists that free criminals in face of conclusive evidence, or that inflict minimum punishment when the serious crime is certainly proven, are doing more to encourage the evildoers than any machine that ever was invented.

ON THE SUNNY SIDE. The very caution with which business is proceeding leads many financial observers to believe that a period of genuine prosperity is on the way.

"We want stability rather than alternate booms and depressions," is the way George E. Roberts, once a country banker in Iowa and now a famous banker-economist of New York, expresses it.

MAKING THE MOST OF OUR RESOURCES.

Mr. Harding's first hand contact with certain of the great economic problems presented by the west has left him cautious and thoughtful. It is not surprising that he does not blaze forth with a suddenly conceived plan for doing all the things that should be done.

Those who have given most study to the problems of reclamation, forestation, irrigation, and other features of the general problem, are aware of the truth of what the president says. That is why federal or state authority, rather than private enterprise, is called upon to bear the load through the years that must pass before all the work is done.

Mr. Harding suggests that these resources must not be permitted to fall into the hands of companies of men who will exploit them for private gain. Unfortunately, the natural treasury of the west has been very carefully combed and shredded by just such corporations for just that purpose.

What is most encouraging is that President Harding evinces his sympathy with the general problem, and this implies an intention to give it closer attention. Eastern statesmen are slowly coming to understand why the people of the west are persistent in bringing these matters to the attention of congress, and now, with the president actively enlisted, better progress may be made than at any time since the days of Roosevelt, whose sympathy and support rested on actual knowledge of what is needed.

LIVING WITH A NEWSPAPER. If we were inclined to add materially to the noise of this glorious national birthday, we would open the exercises by firing a salute of 101 guns in honor of James Stapleton of Blair, Neb.

What has he done to be so singled out for attention? Well, he is probably the oldest living subscriber to The Omaha Bee. He has read the paper daily and faithfully since it was established in 1871.

During all those fifty-two years has he been in touch with the big as well as the little things of life, for he has daily had a careful and interesting chronicle of world events. A wonderful epoch is contained in that span of a little over half a century.

He also has voted the republican ticket steadily for all these years. In this he exercises the judgment of a free man, holding firm to what he conceives to be the right policy for the good of his country. Politics in Nebraska has seen many changes and upheavals in the last fifty years, and it has taken a man of courage and firmness to stand by his guns and refuse to be swept from his moorings by the gales of passion that have lashed our prairies and stormed the citadels of established party organizations in that time.

Therefore, if we fire a salute at all this morning, after we have done obeisance to the flag, it will be in honor of "Jim" Stapleton, soldier, pioneer, builder, republican, and good citizen.

Six hundred delegates are meeting in Chicago to form a "third" party. It doesn't say which serial number.

Mr. Harding took part in an Oregon Trail celebration at Meacham. Ezra Meeker was not present.

Picked the winner yet? Neither have we.

Homespun Verse

The old team of horses My uncle endorses, Hell take 'em, he says, every time. An auto—he hates it. In value he rates it. As small as the worth of a dime.

The Omaha Morning Bee: Wednesday, July 4, 1923.

A Railroad President's View

Chicago—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: An editorial in the Omaha Bee of June 29, "Nebraska Pays the Freight," discusses the business in which I am engaged. I have read the editorial with interest, disagreeing with the writer, however, and this letter is written to discuss with you the points brought out therein.

Out of every dollar they took in last year, the railroads paid out 44 cents for labor, there are about 750,000 railroad employees. They constitute a good-sized block of the consuming capacity of the country. Their wages are used—as is the farmer's income—to buy clothing, food, fuel, shelter, education, amusement. A large part of the railway payroll finds its way immediately into the channels of trade.

"THE FIRST CENTURY OF THE REPUBLIC." "The American Republic closes the first century of its eventful life today. One hundred years have elapsed since the Fathers of the Republic promulgated their immortal declaration, which proclaimed to all the world their determination to establish and maintain a government by the people and for the people.

Center Shots. A baby's idea of heaven is a place where it is against the law for its father to sing.—Appleton Post-Crest.

They knew. All the beauties of Cleopatra a time used palm and olive oil.

God's Minute. Containing the Daily Prayers published in The Bee, 85¢ of them. Price 65¢. Kieser's Book Store 221 N. 16th Omaha

Hot Weather Advice. Set an old-fashioned mint julep recipe by the side of a copy of the 18th amendment to the constitution and think intensely about both of them when the mercury goes to 98.

Abe Martin. Jedgin' by ther newspaper pictures, we'd guess that champion girl swimmers break more records than hearts. Nothin' as funny 't us 't see a feller leadin' a poor, ole bony horse along th' road 'n' tryin' t' act like he wuzn' with it.

The First Plow

A bunch of old-timers Used to come to tawn, With hair and whiskers That nearly reached the ground. Said one old-timer, "It gits so durn dry And moisture's so scarce We can't afford to cry."

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MONEY TO LOAN ON Omaha Real Estate. The CONSERVATIVE SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION 1614 Harney

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