"WHO IS THE BLACKMAILER?"

substantiate, that the Omaha Re-

"We charge, and we are ready to

don our inverted finance health will

Why Not a Poets' Club?

your paper has been a revelation to

There are so many in Nebras-

ka, and such an organization in Oma

ha would furnish a common meeting place for them. The exchange of

deas, the friendships that would be formed and the mutual interest in a

erest in poetry.

I favor a poets' club simply because

am interested in that department literature. Those interested in

other departments could also form

clubs, and in a short time Nebraska

mon endeavor would stimulate in-

such a forcible manner.

P. J. PRESTON.

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### THE MAN WITH A "PULL."

· Albert J. Beveridge is not going too far in declaring that the man with a "pull" is doing more to wreck the social order than is any outright apostle of revolution. In fact, it is the man with the "pull" or special privilege of one sort or another who is at the bottom of a great deal of popular unrest and dissatisfaction.

Equality of rights, opportunities and responsibilities is the main object of democracy. A fair field and no favors is the American idea. If men and women feel in their own hearts that their right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness is as well pretected as that of any one else, no matter of what class or group, then is there peace and harmony within the nation.

Ex-Senator Beveridge recently had something to say on this before a meeting of the New Hampshire bar association. As a lawyer, speaking to lawyers, he touched only on one phase of the matter, that of equality before the law. He said:

"Everybody knows that the public mind is in a tate of unrest and discontent. Why? There are nany causes; and with one of these the American ench and bar is particularly concerned. That cause is the general feeling that justice is not administered with impartiality. Wherever two or hree citizens are gathered the comment may be heard that laws which should apply with absolute equality to rich and poor alike, are not, in fact, so pplied. There is a good deal of truth in this comlaint. Conspicuous instances will occur to every-

"It is common belief that during the war vast fortunes were amassed by violation of law; that, ven now, millions are being accumulated by violaion of law; that opulent lawbreakers escape whereas tesser criminals are punished. General opinion is that poor and friendless offenders are prosecuted while wealthy and influential evildoers go unwhipt of justice. If this is not true, our public authorities should say so plainly and with all the emphasis of official statement, albeit official assertion has been made of just such criminal practices. If it is true, then let justice be done speedily, and without regard to the wealth, power, prominence or 'pull' of the guilty."

These same principles of human justice must be applied also to every department of life. Respect for the law is paramount, and on this rests the foundation of free institutions. But everywhere, it every relationship betweeen man and man, there is the necessity for square dealing. Domestic neace is not to be had if the belief spreads that each nan's hand is against his neighbor, seeking to take unfair advantage. It makes no difference if the bull" is in politics, business or what, the fact of its stence or even the suspicion of its existence, dakens the national solidarity.

The evils of such inequalities, once they are perofitted, multiply and spread. Those who feel themelves denied are led to seek, not equality, but speprivileges for themselves. A good deal of hop, and jump legislation is designed to secure a Mance, or to weight the scale a trifle in the opposue direction. The haste and passion that accomwhies these efforts at equalizing often leaves them defective and futile. Let government, let business, let society as a whole, respect and affirm the equality of citizens, rich and poor, not alone in theory but practice as well, and there need be no fear of rest or disaffection.

### AN ACTUAL FEDERAL SAVING.

Democratic critics of the national administracontinue to find fault with the way Secretary ellon directs the treasury operations, but the taxmyers of the United States will not complain greatly the showing, made at the end of the fiscal year, hat an anticipated deficit of \$823,000,000 had been tarned into an actual surplus of \$310,000,000. This fference of \$1,133,000,000 is not merely a bookeeping stunt, but is an actual gain in government erations.

The change was brought about by an increase \$767,000,000 in receipts and a reduction of \$366,000,000 in expenditures. For neither of these facts can the democratic party take any credit whatsoever. Its leaders in congress and out stoutly posed the McCumber tariff bill, but it contributes to the general result by adding an excess of \$213,-000,000 to customs receipts. The republican plan for a new general revenue law also met strenuous opposition from the democrats; while it raised the limit on incomes, so as to relieve millions of small taxpayers, and lowered the import and excess profits, the director of the budget reports an increase in ternal revenue receipts of \$423,000,000 and in iscellaneous receipts of \$131,000,000.

On the other side of the account, a saving of 2151,000,000 was made in general expenditures of ie government, and \$45,000,000 in interest on the public debt, while there was a further decrease of \$170,000,000 in capital outlays and similar miscellaneous operations of the government.

Cordell Hull, chairman of the national democratic committee, calls attention to the fact that the greatest reduction of war debt was made by the democrats in 1919-20. This is admitted, but Mr. Hull neglects to explain that it was accomplished in the easiest possible way, simply by the natural slowing down of the wheels, discharging the short-time rrowings and using funds available to discharge oating indebtedness, leaving to the Harding admintration the problems of funding the Victory notes, sking care of the hold-over certificates, and a few ther remnants of the happy-go-lucky days of Mc-Adoo and his successors.

What the republicans promised was a reduction of both expenses and taxes and the payment of the debt inherited, with the least possible disturbance to Business. The balance sheet at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 1923, shows how this promise has been kept.

Governor Bryan may be able to make another sh commissioner, but it will be a long time before gets another as good as "Billy" O'Brien.

"Tommy" Gibbons may have won a moral vicry, but "Jack" Dempsey got \$250,000, and that is what counts in prize fighting.

Again Omaha got an illustration of the difference between a newspaper and a club.

### RACING WITH A TRAIN.

An Illinois Central engineer, Charles H. Barnett, who pilots one of that line's fast trains over a southern division, writes to the National Safety News a discussion of the ever-increasing danger of railroad grade crossing accidents. Viewing it from his own standpoint, and that of his fellow engineers, he

"I have known engineers, whose locomotives have struck automobiles and one or more persons have been killed. These men never entirely recover from such an experience. The horror of that mentary glimpse of white, upturned faces in the instant before the crash, they tell me, is something that time can not eradicate.'

Mr. Barnett calls attention to the fact that a train moving at the rate of 60 miles an hour covers one-eighth of a mile in seven and one-half seconds. which is not a very long time. An automobile going 30 miles an hour covers the same distance in 15 seconds. Therefore, if the train is a quarter of a mile from the crossing and the auto 200 yards, the train has the race won, and the auto driver will better admit his defeat. Dealing with this point, Mr. Barnett writes:

"The trouble lies in the mistaken idea of responsibility. The public must learn to accept its own responsibility in this matter. . . Judgment and caution are the only safeguards. The man who takes a gambler's chance with death has no one to blame but himself if death calls his bluff."

Such advice from a practical man ought to have great weight with all it reaches. A momentary delay on the road, while waiting for a train to pass, will not seriously affect the affairs of any one, but it will make sure that those affairs will go on after the train has passed.

### GOLD NOW A CURIOSITY.

An old, old anecdote tells of how a youth to win wager stood on London bridge, offering gold sovereigns for a shilling each, and unable to make a sale. The passing throng was too sophisticated to be taken in by such a ruse. Now a similar tale comes from Broadway. Probably the wisest bird extant today is the Broadway bartender. Even the venerable owl could learn something from him. His wits are sharpened day by day through contact with "slickers" of every sort, each striving to put one over on his fellow men. Even a drink of illicit "hootch" is prize enough to tempt the trial of an ingenious swindle.

So, when a western man with a pocket full of \$10 gold coins went to buy a drink, the bartender was ready for him. Anything that looked like a gold coin was spurious; a "shinplaster," whether for rubles or dollars, might have passed muster, and a give bond to pay to bank or postoffice and did pay within the last four they never stopped to clean their as designated, to be credited to the months. \$500 toward the maintesilver "cartwheel" would have met instant recognition and welcome, but a \$10 gold piece-there ain't no such animal on Broadway. For the matter of that, they are mighty scarce anywhere outside the treasury vaults and the banks.

The bartender was not altogether to blame, for very few people have seen one of Uncle Sam's eagles since the war broke out. They are still making them, down at Philadelphia, but when made the handsomest coin the world knows goes into respectable retirement. Its beauty is not sullied by the passing from hand to hand; silver, "patient drudge between man and man," is seldom seen any more, but while pockets bulge with paper money all is

### VIOLENCE FOR PROFIT.

A strange mania persists in America. Certain of matters, so long as they have their own way about whatever they are doing. Chiefly, this is exhibited in connection with lawlessness of one two own another.

Courts And Liberty.

Hordville, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: In one word "Liberty and seven-eighths of a cent for himband seven-eighths of a cent for hi our citizens have imbibed the notion that nothing For example, down in Kansas a party of harvest hands resented the effort of two bandits to rob them. Immediately the robbers opened fire, killing one and wounding a number of others of the workers, whose only fault was they would not fork over their earnings on demand of the desperadoes. Kansas City contributes a story of how a man working on a new house was set upon and beaten to death by four others who happened to be on strike. From Chicago we get a report of a pitched battle between two gangs, with one dead and several wounded as a toll for the weapons that were freely used in the fight.

Not a day passes but a gleaning of news columns will duplicate this showing. What is the answer? A strange psychology is denoted, one in which the underlying motive seems to be to possess something that belongs to another, the money he has worked for, his right to work, a dispute over the division of loot, any of a long list of reasons, but all meeting at the same point.

The challenge to our civilization is clear. Some way must be found to restore the balance, at least to put a higher price on human life than seems to prevail at the moment.

An honorable gentleman serving in parliament says the British peerage is a joke. Yet some folks say an Englishman never sees one.

No reason is given for the cut in the price of lead, but now is the time to lay in your supply.

The "glorious Fourth" put up a record almost equal to an ordinary Sunday for casualties.

When they get to "hijacking" the police station

the time seems to have come for action.

Shelby now realizes what is meant by the "cold

gray dawn of the morning after." Sailing in a thunderstorm will not daunt the

## Homespun Verse

-By Omaha's Own Poet-Robert Worthington Davie

LOOK UP AS YOU GO.

You purchased a home, did you, brother? You've a wife and a girl and a boy,

And it seems to me you are standing today at the peak of material joy. You grumble because you're not wealthy; you look

upon life with a sneer When you'd ought to be counting the glory and splen-

did diversion that's here. You'd ought to be building the future with fatherly ardor and pride,

For this little home is a kingdom where fervor and virtue abide. The wife who has given you courage, the children who

love you today

Are more than the wealth of a nation could ever in gratitude pay. They live to ennoble your efforts; you cannot be deaf

But show them by deeds of your doing the true adoration you feel, And let them see life as a mirror where rapture and

godliness glow. For bliss leads us upward toward heaven, and grief to . the taverns below.

## "The People's Voice"

Changing Farm Demand. Council Bluffs, Ia .- To the Edite of The Omaha Bee: There is a fact existing in the middlewest that no one seems to take into consideration, and this fact is that gasoline is furnishing lmost the entire motive power for traffic on the streets of cities, and much of that in the country and on farms. That in consequence of this fact, horses and mules have practically disappeared; the livery stable and the barns for dray horses have been supplanted by garager and the farmer's glimmering.

No editorial article on "The Situa-tion in the Middlewest" or "A Message to the East." as published in The Omaha Bee, nor Mr. Harding's sympathy for the farmer can alter this

Get the statistics on the entire output of every manufacturer of automo-biles, trucks and tractors in the very recent history of the world and the wonder is that the corn farmer has any market at all. Imagine the sitnation if the gasoline supply should fail and we again became dependent on horses and mules to move the traffic. Where would prices stop for at not a horses and mules and corn and cats to a pro-

Proposes New Wheat Plan.

ed to, has the temerity to denounce

Frederick, Okl.—To the Editor of The Bee as a blackmailer. Now, Proposes New Wheat Plan. the price and the producer guarantees the Hitchcock ring to name a sinthe price. Let the government call a gle instance where The Omaha Bee congress of the representative wheat or its proprietor has exacted a dolgrowers of the country to ascertain lar of hush money from anybody, the actual average cost of production or where he has ever levied a dollar per bushel to produce and deliver to upon anybody by threats or intimi-local market, plus a fair profit, with the average freight haul added to the "On the other hand, we charge

Let the government set the minimum | Chauncey price, based on foregoing conditions. Senator Hitchcock, and through him The government to handle the wheat the United States government was after the plan used during the late blackmailed out of vast sums of war, with the following exceptions: war, with the following exceptions: The first of July each year make

an estimate of the probable amount substantiate, that the Omaha Re-

per cent per bushel, more or less, acat the local markets. Local buyers braska, has been forced to contribute night, and far as the records show

set price and the export price.

bushel each month, beginning with September, for the remaining year crop, to induce producers to hold wheat off the market, so it will come gradually.

W. E. CHAMBERS, was to

America stands for, and through the misconstruing of that one word every

tion of Independence and constitution of the United States does not mean that. Taxes will remain high, and rations for the front. we will get no relief until men agree When St. Louis we will get no relief until men agree. means very broadly that the people at large of a state or of the nation shall decide on laws for guidance and be restored, and not till the regulation for each and all of them. The liberty of one person or many people ends where it interferes with the rightful liberty of another person or

ther people.

The supreme court can annul a law Omaha Bee: The "Hall of Fame" enacted by the chosen representatives of a state, a number of states or of the nation, but it cannot deprive people of reason or change the statutes of so many able writers in Omaha and uman nature. The constitution allowed the supreme court to be formed, but the constitution can be amended so as abolish the present court and provide for the creation of a national ribunal that will not be superior to laws enacted by legislature and the

### Profiteering on Taxes.

Omaha.-To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: High taxes are now blamed for the high cost of living. Railroad managers say taxes are re sponsible for high freight rates; landords use the same excuse to sustain ents; money loaners to justify interest rates, workmen to excuse wages, and so on all along the line. Let us look at a phase that seldom s viewed. When the 1917 revenue

law went into effect, it imposed a tax on tobacco, more particularly on the manufactured varieties. A brand of smoking tobacco I then favored had been selling at 10 cents per can. The day the law went into effect I laid down a time to pay for a fresh tin of my favorite, and was told by the dealer that it would then cost 11 cents. Why? The government had just put a tax on that tobacco. eighth of a cent per can. Well, Mr.

## Daily Prayer

Our Gracious Heavenly Father, for the light of another day we thank Thee, for Thy watch care over us during the past night when, unconscious and helpless, we sought rest for our weary bodies. Thou hast granted to us another day wherein to hono and glorify Thy Holy name. May i be lived for Thee. May all the word spoken to one another and all the meditations of our hearts be accepta ble in Thy sight. Strengthen us with might by Thy Spirit in our inmost being that we shall be fortified against temptation. Reveal to us more and more the unspeakable privilege continuous fellowship with The shed abroad in our hearts that love so unnatural to us but of Thyself, which shall enable us to love the unand the unloved, those may slight or insult us, and those wh hearts with peace through the clea onsciousness of sins forgiven, wit unspeakable that names ar written in Heaven, and with hope n only for Thy resurrection which awai us, but for Thy speedy reappearance mistakable that some soul ere this day is over shall be led to acquaintance with Thee our adorable Lord and Savior. Amen. REV. HENRY W. STOUGH, D.D. Wheaten, Ill.

be outstanding among similar organ-izations of the United States. I do not claim my idea of a poets' lub as original, in fact, others no

loubt have thought of the same thing am just taking a definite step. It there is any way we could encourage the organization of a poets' club of any others have any advice to offe along this line, I would be pleased to have your co-operation. I hope that any Nebraska poet wishing to form JACK LEE, Author of Niobrara Waits. Wasted Energy. If the energy wasted by the Ameri

an youth in smoothing back his re bellious pompadour were put to bet se, the lawns of this country ild be kept in perfect condition .-

NET AVERAGE CIRCULATION for MAY, 1923, of THE OMAHA BEE Daily ..........73,181 Sunday ..... 80,206

B. BREWER, Gen. Mgr. V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2d day of June, 1923. W. H. QUIVEY, (Seal) Notary Public

Does not include returns, left-overs, samples or papers spoiled in printing and includes no special

## "From State and Nation"

-Editorials from Other Newspapers-

by the Tribune some time ago is gain-Times of Dante, and it was great fun ing apace, A Central City writer, sign- The fun was in playing around with ing himself "A Citizen," sends the the schoolmen and saints of Dante's following comment on the subject to age, just as, long, long ago, it was

expresses himself upon a subject with Cyrus, a boy, over into Media which has been apparent to many and tarry with the youth in the home has been apparent to many known jurors to be selected to sit upon Surely this is a man who has dis-

f any quizzing by attorneys. Let the udge take the jurors in a private oom and select them, then, maybe, en of intelligence could be secured.' The Tribune cannot regard the sug-Omaha experienced some pretty cold eather during January, 1875, but that d not keep the political pot from oiling over. On the 25th of that onth Mr. Rosewater paid his respects the manager of one of his local con-mporaries after this fashion: ourt room or a city council chamber the grafting of a seeing eye in place of a blind one. "Chauncey Wiltse, the man who, at at not a very remote period, declared to a prominent republican of Omaha that he could send Phineas W. Hitchtion gives the impression that somehing important is being covered up. Graft, corruption and dishonesty and their most fertile breeding cock to the penitentiary if he wantgrounds behind closed doors. The pub-lic's business which is in the hands of The Omaha Bee: Here is a new wheat we defy him and the whole brood of the public's own representatives plan whereby the government sets political desperadoes who constitute should be conducted above board and in the open.

### Romance on The River.

'The "race" up the Mississippi be tween the towboats St. Louis and laboratory. The miracle is to be at world of light and color, surgery with tempted in Chicago, which is bidding have accomplished, by a man's skilled hands and the vision of his soul, the and are ready to substantiate that winner was 12 days reaching Cairo
from New Orleans. Nobody seemed to be taken before the last bold excare. No crowds stood on the bank periment—that of attempting to care. past! No tall silk hats were lifted in course of these experiments the sur-"We charge, and we are ready to

It was not so in the olden days. Eve. tion. Scientists are disputing this price of same, which will give the cey Wiltse is manager, has been for ning lawn parties were given then on point. approximate loss between set price years and is now being kept up by riverside plantations that the guests cannot be done the investigator and export price.

The government to levy, say 10 federal officers. the Belle of Shreveport storm past, every normal appearance and that flames beiching from their towering cording to the amount to be exported. substantiate, that James W. Nestacks and the black smoke steaming skill, has knit and grown normally.

The same to be levied on the producer ville, United States attorney for Nestacks and the behind. The boats ran all

government. The levy credit referred to in foregoing sentence shall be construed to mean and to act as guarantee fund both to the producer and the government.

The levy credit referred to make the federal officers have, during the same period, been blackmalled out of various sums. Some of the men government.

Those were the days. Nobody dared ship bacon on a fast packet because, if the craft were challenged, the loyal crew would seize the freight and the same period. Any wheat imported shall be taxed blood into Mr. Hitchcock's rejuve-per bushel, the difference between the nated mummy, are already prostrate gineer was famed afar for his skill and The from the excessive bleeding; others nerve. His religion was "to treat his same to go to the guarantee fund, will be in that condition before the engine well; never be passed on the Any deficiency shall be added to next centennial year expires. Any deficiency shall be added to next year's levy. Any surplus left over shall be deducted from next year's levy. If the producers only raise what wheat is consumed in this country, there should be no levy; but, on the other hand, the larger the surplus centennial year expires.

"When an organ—conducted sole-liver, and to heed the pilot's bell."

"When an organ—conducted sole-liver, and to heed the pilot's bell."

In times of stress, he would send a man to the United States senate, that the precious element of speed whom even his own chief organ—might not be sacrificed to mere safety.

Upon the decks, belles of unmatched ject for the penitenciary—attention. other hand, the larger the surplus ject for the penitentiary-attempts beauty strolled with gay blades of to be exported, the less the producer to destroy public confidence in The high family connections but lament Cocives.

Bee by raising the cry of blackmail, able habits. In the smoking room
There should be a small advance per it is high time that the public be poker games were played for fabulous made acquainted with its real char- stakes. One of the players wore a low cut silken vest, a long-tailed black coat, and long mustaches. There was Dealer couldn't pay it, and as there a cold look in his calm, steely eye, was too much bookkeeping to be done, he had solved the problem in the eas-All the way along the line this can nigger in the classic endeavor to an ace high straight beat a pat hand boosted, the price was boosted, so that In those days, toddles were carried the consumer not only paid the tax. from the bar to card tables in relays.

Taxes are high, no mistake about of supply as another was leaving with of the United States does not be stated to be stated as the state of the captain at the state of open carriage met the captain at the in" and his wife goes down the Ford to meet him. There is no pulmotor for a dear

### De Senectute. Advocate of Peace,

A fundamental question in our se I did not dream that there were prepare for old age? Nothing is Nebraska, simply because the fact had more pathetic than a sight of an old man solitary and vacuous. With a background of years filled with noth finds himself at last with no soul-sat to encourage them, the wealth of the isfying occupation. There seems to be nothing but the pain of loneliness state, its geography and its people. Nebraska is ideally situated and equipped for the producton of writers Is this the inevitable result of life! When Rochefoucauld remarked f superior talent.
I believe that these writers should 'Old age was a tyrant which forbade the pleasures of youth on pain of death," did he tell the truth? We think not. And yet if old age is to e brought together in closer com-I believe that social contact ould be an encouragement to them. find any recompense it must be pre-pared for long in advance. This can particularly the youngerlones. Conseuently I have thought seriously of advisability of organizing a poets'

be done. Here is a man 77 years of age who writes: "I am all right. Have just passe

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my 77th birthday and am still work Trom the Fremont Tribune. ing my garden, cutting my own wood in Florida, winters, and last year gave fun for me to march along a parasan "It is interesting to read the article or two, or stretch upon the sands of republished in your paper from the Euxine with Zenophon and his Fremont Tribune in which the editor 10,000, and mount a charger and ride

people for years. The writer has known jurors to be selected to sit upon important cases who had not even a speaking knowledge of the English language.

"The better plan to select jurors in "The better plan to select jurors in years threaten with little effect. The ng judge to select them irrespective writer is a kind friend, for he writer is a kind friend, for he has lifted from the brow of age its crown

### "Lux ex Tennebris."

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger, testion as very sound. This "secret the greatest of modern surgical com" stuff goes against the grain, triumphs is to be achieved, if achieved at all, in the United States though ublic interests are involved. Good at all, in the United States, though itizens always get suspicious when a by a surgeon trained in Vienna. It is The imagination trembles at the pic-

successfully on human beings. What would nan give for sight?

Can it be done? Dr. Theodor Koppanyi, famous Viennesse biologist and day, the bandages are stripped from surgeon, has transplanted the eyes of a blind man's eyes, after long dark-rats and rabbits. He has not carried ness and while surgeons wait breathhis experiments to a conclusion beless, he stares about him and cries cause of poverty. Vienna, once the out: "I can see!" cause of poverty. Vienna, once the world's medical center, is beggared by the war. There is no money for science. Otherwise America could not science. Otherwise America could not working. If the blind can be led out working. If the blind can be led out of the course o ween the towboats St. Louis and laboratory. The miracle is to be at-

transplant the human eye. salute. No silken sunshades waved in sencouragement. To their assertions that it

Th' newest thing in stallers is th' feller that wouldn' have a closed car if you'd give it to him. pany is civilizin' an' helpful t' a home even if th' dishes do pile up. Copyright, 1923.

Abe Martin

have lured him away from his familiar of the exterior darkness into the There are many intermediate steps kindliest marvel of modern science

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