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WHEN MAN AND NATURE MEET.
Early in the morning of the long expected day, the old team was hitched to the wagon, and pa and ma, and the children got in, and soon the way was taken down a lane along which the dog fennel and the smartweed drooped under a heavy coating of gray dust. It was August, and dog days, and there was no rain and little dew; and the sun shone fiercely, while the dust stirred up by the horses' hoofs and the narrow tires of the old spring wagon lunged heavy in the air for hours. All roads were marked the same, for from all directions the marchers were converging at a common center.

It was the opening day of the county fair. In the wagon box might have been found a pumpkin, or a batch of jelly, or a loaf of bread, or a quilt, or some other specimen of handicraft or home cooking or the produce of the field. It was to be exhibited alongside others of the variety or kind, and soon blue and red ribbons would testify the judgment of a committee of awards as to which was the best plate of Winesaps or "Seeknofurthers," the choicest loaf of bread, the handsomest quilt, the tastiest pound of butter, or any one of a number of articles that were presented in competition. Outside, in the pens, boars and brood sows, sheep, cattle, chickens, all were decorated in like manner, and the winners went home proud because of the distinction, but generous in that they had given in detail to all inquirers the secret of their success.

Now, the farmer mounts his car, steps on the gas, and away he goes down a well paved road to attend the same old county fair. Pumpkins and apples, crazy quilts and jelly and all the other triumphs of skill are shown in the never ending competition. But these are improved by modern methods of production and display. The livestock is cared for under better conditions than once the owners were housed. The pumpkin show and host trot features remain, but glorified as compared with the start. Practically all that once was objectionable has been eliminated, and the entertainment now offered at the county fairs as a rule is as clean as the object of the fair is worthy.

It is a place where farmers compare results and discuss methods, exchange ideas, and get the benefit of neighbors' experience. Relaxation is a necessary part of the affair, but not its sole end. Education is a progressive process, going ahead steadily, and the annual shows of the products of the fields, dairies, breeding pens, orchards and kitchens are but advertising to the world the advance of thought and result. So, when the county fair comes on this week or next, and the state fair soon after, take a day off and go. It will do you all good.

FOLKS WILL TALK.
Some folks are not willing to take another's word for anything, but must test by their own experience all they come into contact with. Such folks are frequently in trouble. One of them is a Baptist preacher of the name of Tabor, down in Baltimore. He is, according to his own statement, an advocate of prohibition and a teetotaler, but just now he is accused of tipping, and admits that it is true. His defense is that he sought for experience. Some skeptical people scoff at this, and suggest he might well have been guided by observation in his onslaught against the forces of evil.

Thus it ever has been. Motives of the purest may be professed, but a world that moves from fact to fact is apt to judge by what it sees and not take the time to go deeply into the subject. That is why we find in St. John the admonition, "Judge according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment." This means to examine carefully before concluding as to the conduct of others; but against it, so far as the minister is concerned, is the further admonition to avoid even the appearance of having done wrong. "Evil communications corrupt good manners," said Paul, and he knew what he was talking about.

One who would avoid censure should also avoid giving cause for any censure. If a minister does openly those things he condemns others for doing, he need not be surprised if people talk about it, and if gossip put the worst construction upon his deeds. Anyhow, this particular preacher says he already knew the taste of whisky, and therefore he did not have the excuse of innocence to support him. Whatever else he has done, he has gained for himself notoriety he might not have attained had he stuck to his pulpit for years.

KEEP MOVING ON THE QUICKSANDS.
A little story from Columbus, telling of how two farmers and their wives met a mishap when fording the Platte will recall many a tragedy of pioneer days. In this case the motor car's engine went "dead" in the middle of the stream, and the driver and his companions were forced to move fast to get it out. The joke seems to have been that the women took off their dresses, while the water was but three feet deep. Whether to swim or to keep from getting wet is not decided.

We want to approve the course the women took. Either to swim or to escape a ducking, they were wise in removing their skirts. No dress of any kind, not even a bathing suit, is likely to be improved by subsmerging it in the sandy waters of the Platte. And the men ought to know now that they were facing the danger that struck terror into the hearts of pioneer teamsters. Forging the Platte was a serious business, and is today, because of the so-called "quicksands." This is a natural result of the swift current of the stream. A swimmer's foot, the tire of a wagon or an automobile, checks the current from above, and the little eddy just below washes out the loose sand, that seems to be so firm at first, but really is so treacherous, and presently the trap is sprung.

"Keep moving" was the order of the day, after incautious drivers had unhooked the checkrein that their horses might drink in midstream, and then found their wagons hopelessly held in the clutch of the sand. It is true of all the swift flowing streams that cross the great plains of the west. A lesson may be found in this. When crossing anywhere in life from one firm foothold to another, keep moving. It is the only way to avoid the quicksands and the bogs. High ground or rockbottom will hold, but the uncertainties of life are avoided only by going steadily forward until the danger is passed.

"THE RARITY OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY."
"But sad as angels for the good man's sin,
Weep to record and blush to give it in."
While all may pray, "Forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us," how many really feel that way about it? Is it not true that men more generally place a literal interpretation on the law as laid down in Leviticus, and require an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, forgetting the greater admonition, "Vengeance is Mine, saith the Lord, and I will repay?"

This does not mean that there will be no punishment for the evildoer. The more reasonable interpretation of the precepts of Moses was that restitution and reparation should follow discovered and definitely located crime. In fact, he expressly coupled with the eye for an eye law the further provision that anything wrongfully taken, used or destroyed shall be restored and its owner be compensated for its use or its loss from not having it. It is no part of the divine plan that crime or sin shall go unpunished. The foundation of earthly law is found in the law of the Almighty, as the same has come down to us for ages.

It is the private judgment that is harsh, and from which the most severe penalties proceed, to be applied with unrelenting zeal in their execution. Men often assume to decide on motives, when even actions are not clear, and however unjust in conclusions, they do not spare to put in force judgments so reached. That is why the course taken by a religious group in Minnesota last week shines out so clearly. A preacher from an interior town was found dead in a room in a Minneapolis hotel, under circumstances that pointed clearly to his misconduct. If he had been living when discovered, he would have suffered dire disgrace.

Shocked and humiliated, his congregation recalled his eighteen years of service as pastor, and forgave him his sin. Ministers of his faith joined with the flock, and the dead man was buried with Christian ceremony as if his life had been beyond reproach. This will be sneered at by some, laughed at by others, ridiculed or scorned by the cynical, and held up by the ungodly as another proof of the sham of piety. Does it not truly exhibit a high application of the spirit of Jesus? He was one who forgave; the Magdalen, the dying thief, those who doubted or denied Him, all were forgiven, "for they know not what they do."

Should one act of wrongdoing offset the blameless record of a whole life, spent in good works? A single act of repentance is said to be sufficient to gain an eternity of bliss, compensating for all the wickedness of years of misconduct. Did not that congregation in Wisconsin show its faith in its profession when it received the body of the minister who died in shame, and remembering only his long career of usefulness, give decent interment with the service of the church to the corpse, leaving his soul with God?

LOWER RATES ON EXPORT WHEAT.
A conference to be held over at Chicago today will have some influence on the grain situation. Representatives of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce and the Omaha Grain exchange will meet President Gorman of the Rock Island and others of the magnates of the western lines, to discuss the proposed temporary reduction in rates to the seaboard on grain and flour destined for export.

Right here it might be out of place to explain that the request was not made to the railroads in the first place in ignorance of the law, as has been insinuated. The course taken was the proper one. When the Interstate Commerce commission is approached, it may give relief, but not instant; the railroads can agree to a lower rate, ask permission to put it into effect, and usually get that permission without the delay that ensues when direct approach is made to the commission, for hearings and protests are avoided, and a lot of red tape is dispensed with.

The conference between the committee and the railroad men will develop definitely what must be done to secure any relief that may be obtained in the way of rate concessions. Chairman Kennedy, Senator Capper and others have pointed out plainly to the railroad men what their duty in the situation demands. It is not to deprive the railroads of revenue they deserve, but to secure relief for the farmers. Thirty-three years ago in August, 1890, in a similar emergency, this phase of the situation was summed up in The Omaha Bee in this fashion:

"The only new point in the petition worthy of consideration and which may hereafter be taken into account by the commission, is the fact that the reduced crops of this year will lessen the revenue of the roads, but the crop will probably not be less than in other years when the rates were below what they are at present, and besides the relative reduction in revenue from this cause will undoubtedly be offset by a reduction of expenses, and this would take place if the existing rates were maintained to the extent which the demand on the transportation facilities of the roads should be reduced in consequence of short crops."

The farmers who are affected by the price of wheat are simply asking a chance to stop loss. They are holding up shipments, not to hamper the railroads, but to prevent glutting an overstocked market. The concession proposed is not on the great bulk of the crop of 1923, which in the end will go to market, but on the proportionately small part of the crop that is to be sent abroad. This does not seem unreasonable, but has been denied so far by the railroads. What will happen at Chicago today can only be guessed at, but one safe guess is that the farmers will be watching the outcome, and will remember what occurs.

Nebraskans have their eyes on the bedside of Edgar Howard, hoping he will soon be about, his same old genial self.

Homespun Verse
—By Omaha's Own Poet—
Robert Worthington Davis

FOLK OF THE CITY.
Folk of the city, God bless you!
Loving your gay content;
Scarcely does grief distress you,
Never is uneasiness spent,
Never the weary feeling,
Scarcely the lonely cry,
Ever is life revealing,
Joy as the days go by.

Nothing is ever denied you;
Want is a strange request,
All is present beside you—
Pleasure, knowledge and rest.
You are excessively merry,
Ever your needs at hand—
Build you a home on the prairie,
Then you will understand.

Then you will fathom your gladness,
Then you will treasure your health;
Pity will mingle with sadness,
And waken your senses to earth;
Soul will instinctively show you
That even the city of kings
Is son to the prairie, and so you
Will stand when the robin sings.



IN 1875 a convention had been called to form a new constitution for the state of Nebraska. It was subsequently completed, and stood the test for nearly twenty years, only a few amendments being added prior to the general revision that was effected in 1900. One of the principal features of the document was its provision for the judicial system to be elected by the people. This document, by Mr. Rosewater in "Weekly," May 19, 1923.

"JUDICIARY REFORM."

"The absolute necessity of judicial reform was doubtless the prime cause that impelled the people of Nebraska to call a constitutional convention. The defects of our present judicial system are universally conceded and it is therefore unnecessary for us to dwell upon them in detail. The question that now presents itself before the constitutional convention is how shall the judiciary reform be accomplished without imposing too great a burden upon the taxpayers? This question resolves itself into two distinct propositions: First, shall our reorganized judiciary system comprise an independent supreme court? and second, what shall be the number of districts into which the state is to be divided? Upon the first proposition will, in a great measure, hinge the solution of the second. If we are to have an independent supreme court, the number of district judges can be reduced to a minimum. If the district judges are to serve on the supreme bench, the time lost by them at these periodic sessions must be made up by an increase in their number."

"In other words, the creation of a supreme bench will enable the district judges to devote their whole time to their own districts, and hence the districts can be larger than if these district judges had to spend a portion of their time in the supreme court. For our own part, we emphatically favor the creation of an independent supreme court. Without seeking to reflect upon the individual members of our present judiciary, we repeat what we have asserted on a former occasion, that this tribunal is an unmitigated farce. It is utterly impossible for judges who have to divide their time in the district court to concentrate their attention upon the important causes that come before them for review on the supreme bench. Such a condition naturally must result in ill-considered decisions, and an instance has even come to our knowledge, where an important decision had been rendered, which the judge, at a later date, during his official term, and has never done so since. The highest judicial tribunal in the state should be afforded ample time for thoroughly digesting every case that comes to them for final adjudication.

"Our supreme court demands the very best legal talent of the country. Men possessing these qualifications can seldom be induced to accept such positions if coupled with the drudgery of the district court. If our present system is perpetuated every session of the supreme court forces the closing of the district courts, and consequently justice is impeded in many instances. If the present system of converting district judges into justices of the supreme court is adhered to, a larger number of districts must necessarily be created, and thereby more territory will be gained in point of economy. There are many other reasons why an independent supreme judiciary is imperative, and these will be set forth in a paper to be issued by the constitution of 1871 provided for three judges of the supreme court and five district judges, granting the legislative discretion to increase the number of districts. Such an arrangement, it appears to us, would fully cover the requirements of the present day. At any rate, it could do no harm to give it a trial for the next two years, and let the subsequent legislature create one or more additional districts if the exigencies of the situation should require it."

A Book of Today
Harriet Graham Lewis travels out of the beaten path in her new novel, "Behind the Scenes," published by the Straford company. Judge Arrel Kahree, of wealth and moving in exclusive circles, wins his case with Gwen Vance, a young woman of fancy and taste. The judge's previous years cast a shadow over his married life, resulting in separation and divorce. Questions of the eternal sex problem run through the plot. The treatment of these problems, however, is on a higher plane than was used in several recent books that might be mentioned. The story itself is interesting and the author runs the gamut from gay to grave.

Daily Prayer
And they continued steadfastly... in prayer.—Acts 2:42.
Gracious Lord, we bring Thee anew this day the praise of our lips and the thanksgiving of our hearts. We beseech Thee for the care of our bodies, for the guarding of our minds, and for the delight of our awakened spirits in Thyself. We confess we have not merited even the least of Thy mercies, and yet our lives are crowned each day with unnumbered tokens of Thine infinite love. Will Thou bestow within us a new humility, a deepened sense of our dependence, and a fuller surrender to Thy will.

Give us the peace which springs from a constant sense of Christ's infinite sacrifice, the sanctification of our lives which is the fruit of His indwelling; give us the power through Thy Holy Spirit to serve and honor Thee.
Help us to walk in a spirit of constant prayer, to increasingly delight in Thy Holy Word, to love one another, and to have some part in bringing the light of the Gospel to those in darkness. In the midst of the confusion and stress of earth, may our souls rest in Thine own perfect calm, and may we be able to comfort those in trouble with the comfort where with we are comforted of God. We ask all in Jesus' name. Amen.
HUGH B. MONRO
New York City, N. Y.

"The People's Voice"

Editorials from readers of The Morning Bee. Readers of The Morning Bee are invited to write letters from time to time on matters of public interest.

Using the Boy Scouts.
Omaha—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I think the time of the boy scouts could be profitably put in collecting birds nests and properly labelling them for the kindergarten classes at school. A bent twig and some glue would enable them to get spiders webs and a little aquarium could be put in where they could watch the growth of tadpoles, and many other things will suggest themselves. It would be good for the scouts to know they were working for the youngsters and all would grow up to know there was something in life beside a jazz band and they would retain a lively interest in it to the end.
D. E. VULE.

Significance of Recent Events.
Omaha—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Within the past few weeks four most significant events in American history have been recorded in the memory of our people. The death of President Harding, the death of our Republic made an extended tour of the country, not for any partisan purpose, but to bring to the citizenry a report of his stewardship.

Before the tour was completed, but after the details for which it was made had been carried out, nearly to completion, death struck the chief executive in San Francisco, the extreme western city of the union. The funeral train carrying the remains to their final resting place moved westward, and the very same day a million people whose recognized leader had been stricken, stood silently by the side of the railroad tracks with bowed and lacerated heads to show their respect and respect for the deceased head of their government.

Within 3 hours after the knell of death fell upon the ears of the nation, the State of Vermont elected Calvin Coolidge as his successor in a lovely cottage in the state of Vermont and the government continued to function without a moment of alarm or an instant of delay.

In no other land could all of these events have transpired. In no other country would a ruler lay the feeling of unrest which pervades many sections. On the other hand, it will be very easy to intensify this feeling.

Capper's Weekly, however, mentions the hope that the Harding cabinet will be retained, expresses the opinion that "with these advisers the country may expect that Calvin Coolidge will steer the ship of state with steady vision and a strong hand through waters that promise to be troubled, even stormy."

In Nebraska, the Norfolk News reviews the story of Coolidge's nomination to the vice presidency and declares that it shows he has qualities of leadership that will make him a formidable candidate in the oncoming national election.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, a democratic organ, is more outspoken in its admiration and thus reaches out to deal with the agricultural crisis.

"The farmers and their 'bloc' cannot complain that he knows nothing about the farm. He was brought up on the rock farms of Vermont, where the cost of living was paid for with unceasing toil, sweat and thrift. It had to be dug out of the ground. But if he views the demands of the farmers' bloc and some of their visionary measures on relief, he is in the light of the fundamental principles of American institutions and constitutional government.

The Woodmen of the World is a fraternal life insurance association held policies aggregating over \$646,000,000 December 31, 1922. The total gross assets of the society exceeded \$110,000,000, of which \$55,000,000 was invested in bonds, mortgages and real estate.

The Woodmen of the World in 1922 paid \$7,255,000 to beneficiaries of its policies; its payments since organization total over \$140,000,000.

In 1922 this organization paid \$583,244 as salaries to employees, \$100,000 for printing in Omaha, \$60,931 for postage.

The Woodmen of the World is a customer of The Omaha National Bank.

Capital and Surplus Two Million Dollars
The Omaha National Bank
Farnam at 17th St.

Assaying the New President

Newspapers East and West, North and South Express Confidence in Coolidge.

The general newspaper verdict is that President Calvin Coolidge is big enough for the job. Faith in his ability to handle the problems that face America is voiced by editors, both democratic and republican. Those who know him best, in his home state of Massachusetts, measure him by his past career; give assurance to the rest of the nation.

"The qualities and characteristics which Calvin Coolidge brings to the great office which is now his are known to us of Massachusetts," observes the Springfield Republican. Especially is this so here in the western part of the state where, following his college days at Amherst, his friends and neighbors have watched the progress in his path of public service which began with his election to Northampton's city council less than 25 years ago. We have seen him as mayor, as a member and president of our Massachusetts senate, as lieutenant governor and as governor in the anxious days of Boston's police strike. We know that the country will find him dignified in his simplicity, thoughtful and cautious in word and act, firm when his decisions are made and moved throughout by a profound sense of public duty.

The Boston Transcript hails him as "the man of the hour," and says: "There does seem to be some thing peculiar or at least distinctive in the measure of ready faith and quiet confidence now flowing out from the people to Calvin Coolidge in this tragic hour as he enters upon the duties of the most trying and tremendous official office on earth. It is more than sympathy, it is belief. It is the belief that Calvin Coolidge's experience and political training, including the especially prophetic training President Harding made possible by having the big man make his home in the state of Vermont and the government continued to function without a moment of alarm or an instant of delay."

The New York Tribune, "Today with grief still first in our hearts, there is neither dismay nor doubt."

The six times that vice presidents have succeeded to the presidency through the death of the chief magistrate ought to give Americans a juster view of this office. It ought not to be that an unexpected president should be a source of uneasy speculation, of expectancy or never make the nation. This speculation is no disparagement to President Coolidge. It proceeds from inevitable circumstances, from the working of our somewhat haphazard political system. The nation is reassured by what it knows of the new president, but it doesn't know much. His former office did not and could not reveal him.

"The president's antecedents give high hope of the man. Of the system the nation must still have its doubts."

A similar view is advanced by the New York Times, which says: "The circumstances surrounding the selection of a vice presidential nominee are seldom of a sort to suggest that the convention is giving the task the grave attention which the importance of the post should demand."

The Rocky Mountain News of Denver sums up the prospect of the new administration thus: "There is nothing to fear from him; there is everything to hope from him. He has been preparing for what comes to him so unexpectedly."

Christian Science Monitor, which asserts: "The circumstances surrounding the selection of a vice presidential nominee are seldom of a sort to suggest that the convention is giving the task the grave attention which the importance of the post should demand."

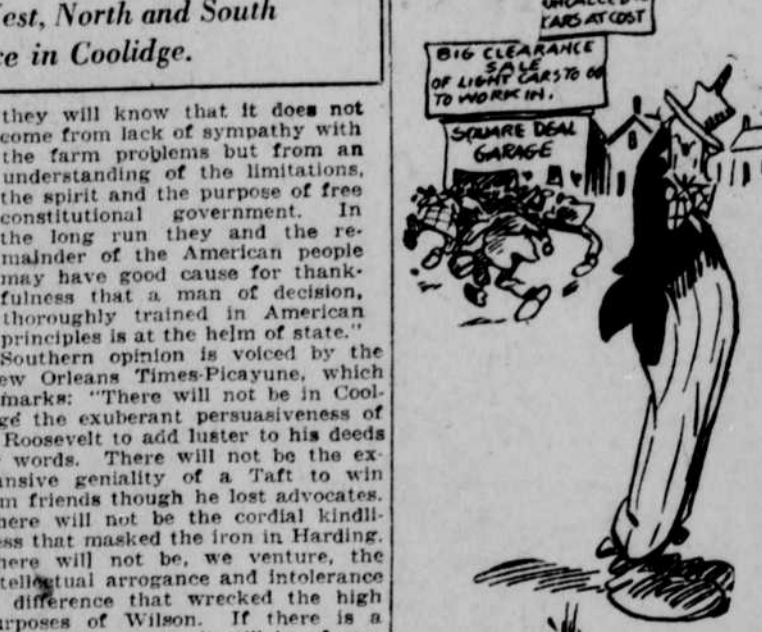
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"The president's antecedents give high hope of the man. Of the system the nation must still have its doubts."

Abe Martin



"Th' worst menace is th' driver o' th' poplar little car who butts in an' out o' traffic like a gold fish. We don't know so much about wheat, but it's common knowledge that th'er's gamblin' in cantaloupes."
Copyright, 1923.

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B. BREWER, Gen. Mgr.
V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of August, 1923.
W. H. QUIVEY
(Seal) Notary Public.

Money to Loan on Omaha Real Estate
The CONSERVATIVE SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION
1614 Harney

Builders of Omaha



The Woodmen of the World

The 700,000 members of this great fraternal life insurance association held policies aggregating over \$646,000,000 December 31, 1922. The total gross assets of the society exceeded \$110,000,000, of which \$55,000,000 was invested in bonds, mortgages and real estate.

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