

THE MORNING BEE

MORNING-EVENING-SUNDAY
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COME ON FOLKS, THE WATER'S FINE.

That picture of Senator Howell quaffing a beaker of city water should be convincing. As general manager of this public utility, he is in a position to know more about the purity of the water than is anyone else.

Within the city, where the clear flow is to be seen by the mere turning of a faucet, it is apparent enough that the danger anticipated from typhoid has been avoided. The period when this water required boiling is now past, and Omaha actually has a clearer, better water supply than ever before.

It is important that this news should be conveyed to those persons outside the city who look forward each fall to visiting the Ak-Sar-Ben celebration. There has been all along a tendency to exaggerate the temporary breakdown that accompanied the installation of a new pump and filter.

Unless this political sniping, this reiteration of attacks on the management of the municipal utility, is stopped, and stopped immediately, the attendance at Ak-Sar-Ben is bound to suffer. Every merchant will understand what this loss of custom means.

For the benefit of those who do not see through the insidious campaign which holds Omaha's water supply up to suspicion, let it be said that there is not a word of truth in news of this sort. The people of Omaha, 200,000 strong, are drinking the city water, and there is no typhoid in all the city. No one need hesitate for a second over deciding to come to Ak-Sar-Ben.

And let it be understood also, that there is not now another town in the state, or a well on any farm, that has purer water than right here.

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DEAD.

How soon we will find out the full extent of destruction in Japan by the earthquake depends on the restoration of communication and the actual amount of damage. If 100,000 people have died in this catastrophe, it is one of the greatest blows nature ever has dealt. The longer detailed reports are delayed, the more certain it will be that loss of life and property is great.

Enough is known, though, to justify the belief that a dreadful calamity has overtaken the capital, Tokio and Yokohama, a town of half a million population, and one of Japan's principal seaports. These might easily suffer considerably from even a slight earthquake shock, and the conflagration would make a swift race through the buildings of fiber and paper.

All of this will call for aid from outside sources, and the Japanese will find Americans as ready to respond to their call as we have been to the Chinese or any other people afflicted.

Nature's ruthless destruction is here seen at its worst. Nor is man less cruel than nature. In Asia, an earthquake—in Europe, a war. Two nations on the opposite side of the world appear about to set out on a contest as to which can destroy most of the other's lives and property. Nature is terrible in storm or earthquake, but has not brought the business of killing men and wrecking cities to the science man has made for his own uses.

UNREST IN THE BALKANS.

Greece has appealed to the league of nations for protection from Italy, and Mussolini is reported to have notified the Italian delegation at Geneva to refuse any intervention of the league. Here is the ground laid for a clash between the fascist and the powers that make up the league of nations.

Italy and Greece are charter members of that organization, whose constitution provides: "If there should arise between members of the league any dispute likely to lead to a rupture, which is not submitted to arbitration as above, the members of the league agree that they will submit the matter to the council."

Mussolini asserts, with the characteristic indifference to facts that has marked his rise to power, that Italy is seeking only moral reparations from Greece, and has committed no act of war.

In the meantime Italians have occupied Corfu, and have turned back Grecian merchant vessels seeking to enter the port, announcing that the Corfu channel is closed to them. Italian troops have occupied Samos and other outlying islands of the Grecian archipelago, saying their presence is but temporary, yet asserting full sway. What sort of moral suasion would Mussolini have the world think he is pursuing?

Meanwhile, the little entente, which includes Jugo-Slavia, Rumania, Albania and Greece, is being stirred by the action of Italy. This is a combination not to be lightly dealt with. Turkey found it so, and later Bulgaria. Already smarting under the Italian seizure of Fiume, which was to be the Jugo-Slavian "window on the Adriatic," and from the attitude of Mussolini towards any settlement of the issue, the Jugo-Slavs will cheerfully seize any pretext to join with Greece against a common foe.

Mussolini may be prompt in bullying a weaker power, but he will hardly dare face the displeasure of his far stronger allies by openly flouting the league of nations, to which Italy is committed. He may deride the Greeks, but is he sufficiently wrapped up in himself to affront the world by launching another war?

The test is not only for the league of nations, but for the man who has been parading as a leader sincerely devoted to bringing his own country back to tranquility and prosperity. That road does not lead through war, and Mussolini is assuming a heavy responsibility if he now forces a conflict on a weaker nation.

ONE MORE VICTORY FOR PEACE.

On terms of complete friendliness with Mexico once more, the United States enters upon a mission of even greater usefulness than ever in the Americas. A final adjustment of serious difficulties has been attained by the exercise of patience. None can doubt that it would have been possible, long ago, for this nation to have enforced its will on the people below the Rio Grande, and the provocation was strong to do so.

A great deal of friction with Mexico grew out of property rights. On this side an impression has gone out that the United States was holding off to protect big interests. While justice to a big concern is as much a matter of public duty as to a small one, and the corporation deserves protection in its legal rights quite the same as does an individual, the truth is that in the dealings with Mexico the big oil and land corporations were really in second place.

A great many thousands of Americans went into Mexico years ago, at the invitation of the Mexican government, there to establish themselves. Nearly all of these were forced to flee the country by the revolutionists and bandits who ravaged the land for so many years. Some of them lost their lives, and all of them their homes.

Justice for these were asked. Great private holdings were pushed to the front to complicate the settlement, yet all these questions have been adjusted on a fair and equitable basis. Americans were not greatly interested in the dealings of the Mexican government with its own people, the Luiz Terraza family, for example, but did want justice for the many American victims of the revolution. This is obtained. Also, the settlement provides adjustment for the oil interests, and for the other so-called big business enterprises.

The outcome is a triumph for the patience and skill of Secretary Hughes, whose policy has been to deal fairly yet firmly, and who has convinced the Mexicans that we are not enemies, nor seeking to manage their affairs. All the world has been watching for the settlement of this question, the end of which shows that the United States government can deal fairly and squarely with a weaker power, and that our professions are not idle utterances. Washington is indeed a beacon in a world that is in sore need of sane guidance.

START JUST A LITTLE SOONER.

A pretty little Portia successfully pleaded the cause of her boy friend before an Omaha police judge, and secured his release. He had been arrested for speeding, and sentenced to a day in jail. One of the excuses offered in his behalf was that he had promised a girl's mother that he would get her home from the club dance before midnight, and had only a few moments to make good in.

The boy is a "four-letter man" at the Central High school, which means he has attained some prominence by reason of his proficiency in studies, student activities and the like. The girl, not a hero worshiper but a sincere young woman, did not want to see his record spoiled by missing an assignment, and generously offered to serve the day in jail that the boy might go free. Everybody is interested in such unselfish devotedness.

Yet the incident contains a lesson that ought not to be overlooked by anybody. Not many months ago a prominent business man was before the court on a charge of driving too fast. He gave as his excuse that he was hurrying his pastor to a train. In both these cases the fault grew out of the same cause. The start was not made soon enough.

It is not easy to tear away from the charms of the dance or the other social function, where all is joy. At such a time duty does not call very loudly to youth. Duty has a way, though, of asserting itself, and in this instance it took the form of arrest for speeding. Some day, maybe, people will begin to consider this phase of the question, and then the traffic cop will find himself like Othello, his occupation gone.

Another tragic chapter is written in the annals of Arctic adventure, to record the fate of those left on Wrangell island to hold possession until it could be more formally claimed. Steffansson's idea was big, but the outcome was disaster. Nature still has her way of laughing at man.

A Massachusetts woman offered her husband for sale, to call attention to the fact that he is out of a job. Lots of other women get rid of their mates for less cause than that.

An Omaha boy won both cups at the Citizens Military Training camp at Des Moines. If there had been more prizes up he might have done better.

Maybe if Brother Charlie will look a little closer at that senatorial boom, he will not be so profoundly grateful to the promoters.

Hiram Johnson received an enthusiastic welcome home to San Francisco, if that interests the Coolidge or Hoover men.

A league to bring employer and employe together on terms of understanding will find a lot to do in Pennsylvania.

Twenty-four Italians got their citizenship papers just in time to get away from a possible call to the colors.

Chicago's pest of mosquitoes may stimulate activity in the way of draining marshlands where they breed.

Will Jimmy-Auten please tell the world why he thinks Chancellor Avery ought to resign?

Omaha Italians have a sane view of Italy.

Homespun Verse

Love divine, O, whom thou art
Unless the baby in my arms?
The loveliest of living charms
In human heart.
The sweetest of life's dearer things—
That which you are to all—and me—
The babbling baby on my knee
Thy presence brings.

Omaha Bee Revives Days When Men Were Men

From the Editor and Publisher
The alfalfa belt, are pre-eminent for farming and stock raising. Edward Rosewater never left any one long in doubt as to where he stood on any issue worthy an opinion.

In a series of articles republished from the files of the Bee, 806 and 808, The Bee is now refreshing the memory of those strong and stirring days when men were men. Through this daily feature, all Nebraska will be enabled to view the growth and development of their state through the eyes of Edward Rosewater, founder of The Bee.

There is much that is pungent, stinging and caustic in the pieces of pioneer journalism. Much also that is inspiring, enlightening and even amusing. Life was different then, when the four corners of today were being hewn out of rock. The first article of the series is a Rosewater editorial printed first in The Bee in July, 1871, then but a few weeks off the editor's desk, and descended upon the climate and soil of Nebraska, and predicts a future which has in 52 years been fulfilled beyond the widest vision of men of that day.

“The People's Voice”
Editorials from readers of The Morning Bee are invited to send them to the editor for expression on matters of public interest.

Likes the Editorials.
Miller, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I am a reader of your valuable paper. Permit me to say that your editorials are simply wonderful.

What Has Become of the King?
Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: When I came to Nebraska, something over 40 years ago, everybody talked corn. As rapidly as the wild corn was harvested it was planted to corn.

Doesn't the King Tut style of bobbed hair more resemble that worn by "Tarran of the Apex?"—Seward Elsie.

Arthur Brisbane says that California roads are all good and that 10,000 miles. This is over twice the mileage that is secured from good tires in Nebraska.

Here's the best one we've heard on bobbed hair for quite a while, and it is true: A Fremont girl who had a mother who prides herself on being a town, asking permission to have her hair bobbed. The mother wrote her: "Don't do it. Your mother knows you are a nice girl, but other folks don't know that."

Now that a Massachusetts man has swum the English channel all New Englanders will now be making a mad rush for the wild waves to see if they can't swim out to the three-mile limit.—Hastings Tribune.

Who killed the bear, or who lowered the price of gasoline, is in dispute. From our viewpoint the credit is largely due to the governor of South Dakota. The next in line is the Omaha Automobile club, who had bought six cars of the Standard Oil company and arranged with that company to reduce oil to 16 1/2 cents retail. Fear of competition is what did it, and not anything done by Nebraska.—Cosad Local.

Shallenberger, because he was successful in inducing the legislature to vote \$285,000 for tuberculosis eradication over the protest of Governor Bryan, has grown so conceited that he has taken the name of the Standard Oil company and posed as the leader thereof. The probability is that Governor Bryan was right, that this protection is more for the large herd owner than for the farmer, and that it will be administered in a wasteful and ineffective manner. As between Bryan and Shallenberger, the latter, we will take our chances with Bryan.—Aurora Register.

Let's get the king back on his throne.
R. B. WALLACE.

Mexican Recognition.
Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: One doubts seriously when one reads and hears about the recognition of the Mexican republic by the government of the United States, whether or not the outcome will be for the good or bad of both countries concerned.

It is a well known fact that the country of Mexico is as yet an uncivilized and an unruly nation. Is there a Mexican government capable of receiving this great honor at its face value? One wonders if it will not use it as an excuse in order to perpetrate some outrage upon the many citizens of the United States who pass through Mexican territory.

This is indeed a serious step that this great nation is now taking. It is an important one in the eyes of the world at large. But again, what of us can forestall the outcome of this diplomatic victory, or shall we say defeat? The recognition of the Mexican government by the government of the United States is in itself an advantage.

The great question arises, however, will the Mexican government respect the life and personal liberty of the Americans who chance to be within its boundaries? And, again, if willing, is the Mexican government able to protect? We all know that Mexico is mostly hills, which the officials themselves cannot safely go through without courting the risk of life and freedom. If they are unable to protect themselves, are they able to protect others?

Time alone will and can tell the outcome of this venture. Let us hope for the best! H. STANLEY WILSON.

Likes G. R.'s Voice.
Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Just a word in protest to the Daily News unjust criticism of "G. R." The editor's remarks are always appreciated by the radio fans. They bring a lively note to the evening's entertainment, and I am sure that the public enjoys his witicism as much as the numbers on the program.

The News should turn its criticisms in other directions, as "G. R." is deserving of only high praise and commendation. More power to him! MAX GUTTMAN.

HAVE The Omaha Morning Bee or The Evening Bee mailed to you when on your vacation. Phone AT lantic 1000, Circulation Department.



“NO MORE FRANCHISES.”
A proposition has been submitted to the council by certain capitalists and speculators to establish competing gas works in Omaha, provided the city will grant the incorporators a 50-year franchise for erecting and operating gas works.

The conditions under which this franchise is asked are very tempting. The promoters propose to furnish the city of Omaha and the inhabitants thereof gas at a rate not to exceed \$1 per thousand cubic feet, with a reduction of 10 per cent on all bills paid before the 15th of each month. It is an established fact that the supply of gas and water as well as a municipal monopoly, competition is always followed by combination, and the only check to the exactions of these monopolies is the intervention of municipal power.

That a reduction in the price of gas will benefit the public we will concede. But the city council already has the power to reduce the price of gas without granting any new franchise. The charter expressly confers this power upon the city council and makes it its duty to regulate and fix the price of gas from time to time.

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Daily Prayer

O Thou, my God, save Thy servant that trusteth in Thee.—Ps. 86:1.
In Thy mercy and love, O God, we are permitted to greet another day. Thy guardian angels have watched over us when we have not been able to care for ourselves. Sweet sleep has refreshed us, and now we look into another day confident that Thou wilt guide and strengthen.

France Prospers

From the Kansas City Star.
It is gratifying to know that Secretary Mellon and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who have been visiting France, are convinced of that country's prosperity. Their report is revealing, both because we wish France well and because it seems to free the United States of the imputation of having ruined that country.

Many Americans have returned from France with their preconceived ideas unchanged, and had reported that it had been ruined by this country's failure to do something—it has not been generally agreed what that we have been quite disappointed about it. We hated to think our country would grind France down under its heel, but it seemed that is what it was doing by refusing to cancel its debt.

But if Mr. Mellon and Mr. Rockefeller agree that France isn't ruined in spite of all we have done to her, perhaps we will be justified in modifying the poor opinion we have had to hold of our own country. We will be glad to do so, because one likes to think well of one's own country if one can without disappointing too many eminent Americans who insist that France is ruined.

pany, the water company, and the electric lighting company, and it will be so with every corporation that succeeds in fastening itself upon the community with a right of way overhead, on the surface or underground.

Abe Martin



Heinie Moots' uncle, in Germany, wuz killed last week by a pay roll cavin' in on him. Even after hangin' 'round watchin' President Coolidge wind up, th' politicians don't know no more about his style of pitchin' than they did before.

WHITHER HAST THOU FLOWN?

For thee my heart yearns, oh, dear prince of mine!
Yon silver moon droops low while breezes sigh—
I stand here in my garden all alone,
Some clime that's whither—whither, hast thou flown?

Ah, couldst thou find such love as I could give,
My prince, my charming prince, idly of clay?
Perhaps in some far, distant, lone,
Some clime that's whither—whither, hast thou flown?

Throughout the world a wanderer you go,
And cast aside the love of one who cares!
Prince Charming—ah, indeed, a prince to me,
My heart's own jester—thou dost hold the key!

All through the evening hours I pine and sigh,
But when dawn comes no word does come from thee,
Somewhere, in this great universe you are,
Though wandering in distant lands afar.

Close to the earth, perhaps, your breast is pressed,
Or ocean waters rack your troubled sleep—
No matter where you be, my love will burn,
As a great lightning lamp till your return!

—Catherine Elizabeth Hanson

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

Builders of Omaha
A Great University

Creighton University for forty-six years has spread Omaha's fame in this and other states by the high quality of its product—the intelligence and character of its 3,300 graduates.
Creighton University and its 2,000 students support Omaha business by expending over \$1,000,000 each year for supplies and services. In addition, the University has spent \$800,000 since 1916 for new buildings.
Creighton University is a valued customer of The Omaha National Bank and The Omaha Trust Company.
Capital and Surplus Two Million Dollars
The Omaha National Bank
Farnam at 17th St.

NET AVERAGE CIRCULATION for July, 1923, of THE OMAHA BEE
Daily 72,472
Sunday 75,703
Does not include returns, left-overs, samples or papers spoiled in printing and includes an special sales.
B. BREWER, Gen. Mgr.
V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of August, 1923.
W. H. QUIVEY, Notary Public.