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JUSTICE A PUBLIC RIGHT.
Murder is not an uncommon accompaniment of bootlegging. Men who engage in illicit traffic in liquor are outlaws, and seldom hesitate at adding one crime to another. They recognize no law but their own interest, and execute their own decrees in their own way.

Therefore the brutal and shocking crime committed in Omaha in pursuance of a quarrel between rival gangs, or factions of the same gang, is not especially an astonishing affair. Many such murders have taken place in all parts of the country, until they almost may be recorded as commonplace events. If only the bootleggers were concerned, public attention would scarcely be warranted. But something deeper is involved.

The very fact that a bootlegger is engaged in the traffic implies a disrespect for the law that forbids the traffic he fosters. Federal, state, county and city officials are continually in pursuit of him, and he goes about his illegal and nefarious occupation with full knowledge that detection sooner or later will overtake him. Men who take up the business very soon become calloused to a degree that is beyond the comprehension of law-abiding citizens. Even the law of the wolf pack does not prevail among them, and none trusts another. If a common impulse leads them to act together for a time, each understands that any of the others may turn on the rest at such moment as he thinks he will gain anything by his treachery.

Moreover the bootlegger knows that when he is sentenced by his peers, his death is decreed. Such desperate men halt at nothing, least of all the killing of one they regard as a traitor. These facts complicate the business of the officers, but they also lay on the protectors of the law a heavier burden of responsibility.

Even the murder of a bootlegger is a matter for the law to deal with, because of the obvious reason that no form of crime can be looked upon complacently. Unless these men are curbed, there will be no end to the mischief they are capable of doing. Public welfare demands that the officers keep at the job they have so well commenced, and bring home the responsibility for the death of Hank McArdle to the men who so cruelly slew him.

Only when the majesty of the law is completely vindicated by the conviction and the punishment of the murderers will the case be closed and Omaha be able to stand upright and without shame again. So far the case seems to be well handled, but it must not be bungled or neglected in any of the steps that are to be taken yet. Bootleggers must be brought to know that murder is murder in Nebraska.

WIZARDRY OF THE WIRELESS.

Accounts have come from Europe of how airplanes are stopped in flight, automobiles halted in their journeys, and other similar feats performed by wireless. These stories are disputed by experts, but the editor of La Liberté, a Paris newspaper, says he actually witnessed a test that stopped designated taxis and motor cars at the will of the operator, and the mystification of the drivers, and then released to proceed.

It is easy enough to say no to this. Doubters always have the best of the argument, when anything new is presented. Morse, Bell, Edison, Marconi, and others who have astonished first and then served the world by their discoveries and inventions, have met similar objections. Langley died of a broken heart, because a thoughtless world ridiculed him, and yet all over the world today men soar aloft on machines that employ exactly the means by which Langley proposed to prove, and did prove, the possibility of mechanical flight.

Credulity is not to be wondered at when men produce the marvels that soon become commonplace. Few who use the radio ever think deeply as to what it contains, and seldom does anyone look up when the roar of a flying machine assails the ears. We know that those things do work, and we are not ready to say the things proposed can not be done.

Who will set a limit to the achievement of man in the production of wonders? The search for the philosopher's stone and the elixir of life gave birth to the science of chemistry, and unlocked the door to many of nature's secrets. Why will not the electrician be as successful as was the chemist, and continue to do things that were impossible until only he harnessed the mysterious force he deals with to the right point?

WHO WANTS TO BE AN ESQUIMO?

What is behind this sudden outburst of activity in connection with the Arctic regions? If it is a real estate speculation, we incline to the thought that it is not well timed, for July and August would seem a better time to sell building lots in and around the north pole than late November. Folks will soon have all the zero weather needed for ordinary purposes, without going even as far as Medicine Hat, while the December nights are long enough for the man who has to foot the lighting bills.

As far as food is concerned, most folks in this neighborhood are quite content to chew on corned beef or breakfast bacon, garnished with home grown potatoes and the like, or even turkey and cranberry sauce. Whale blubber, train oil, and similar delicacies have not been popularized in these parts, even by the most persuasive of propaganda. All well enough to tell us about the delights of crawling two or three miles over the ice, through puddles of water and the like, to get a shot at a sleeping seal, in order that fresh meat may be had for dinner, but so long as the market is connected with the home by telephone, hunting for game may be left to those who love it or are compelled to do it or go hungry.

Some time, when the United States is as densely populated as India, say, the tide of emigration may turn northward and overflow into the regions where they have 10 months of winter and two months late in the fall. And until the American ceases to be and the Esquimo becomes the physical and intellectual standard of the race, we believe that Nebraska's climate will hold its own against any that is offered north of Point Barrow.

AN OLD TIMER REAPPEARS.

A once familiar friend, in retirement for several years, has again appeared upon the scene of action, and unless all the signs and portents are wrong he is going to be with us numerously and persistently for some time to come.

Everybody will recognize him when his name is mentioned—old John Q. Per Capita. A bit more than 30 years ago he was known to every man, woman and child in the United States. He showed up at every schoolhouse, on every street corner, at every public meeting, wherever two or more men were gathered together. He was discussed and cussed far and away more than any other individual or scene or thing. Then he subsided somewhat and for a number of years sought retirement. To a many of the younger generation he is unknown. But the indications are that before the next national campaign is fairly started old John Q. Per Capita will be flitting hither and thither with his seven-league boots working overtime.

The trouble with old Per Capita is that he is so blooming elusive. Always necessary, he is seldom in one place long enough to be of any real service to a majority of us. He is altogether too prone to linger in vicinities where he is not greatly needed, thereby working a hardship on individuals and communities that must suffer by his absence. Time and again have we longed for close communion with him, only to learn that he was far away and wholly disinclined to come to our rescue. Now that a national campaign approaches there is good ground for believing that he will be less aristocratic in his choice of companions. He is going to be more in the spotlight during the next few months than he has been for some five or six years. His aid and assistance is going to be requisitioned by a lot of office-seekers who are hopeful that if they appeal long and loud enough to old John Q. Per Capita they will have easier sailing into the port of officialdom.

It is really a joy to welcome the old fellow back into public life. But we will sorely miss some of the old-timers who leaned so heavily upon his broad shoulders in the days gone by. By no means the least among those who will be missed is Cyclone Davis, and governor—what is the name of Oklahoma's first governor? Isn't it strange how soon names slip from the memory. But, you know, we have been hearing so much about a very recent governor of Oklahoma that we are to be pardoned for forgetting some who preceded him.

Those who have been fearful lest the approaching campaign be without high lights and welcome diversions, should perk up a bit. Old John Q. Per Capita always enlivens things when he steps down to the political footlights.

FOOTBALL ALSO HELPS THE NATION.

Look over the columns of the sporting page of any paper published in America on Sunday morning, and then ask yourself if college football is a popular game. Big college games were played before throngs that aggregated half a million or more spectators, and to these should be added the dozens of lesser games that drew from 1,000 to a score of thousand attendants. Then take into consideration the other thousands who could not get to the spot, but who watched newspaper bulletin boards or extra editions, eagerly following the fortunes of favorite teams, and you may get some notion of the devotion of Americans to this great sport of the fall season.

Why is this so? Partly because of the innate love of the people for good sport, cleanly played. Americans are venturesome, and therefore keenly interested in contests of any kinds. They have learned that no form of sport so completely embodies the true spirit of competition as a clash between college teams. Boys who wear the colors of the institution at which they are registered among the student body are playing, not for individual prestige, but for the honor and glory of the school, for its traditions of the past and its hope for the future. Each does his utmost, and falters not, even in defeat.

Football is the major sport of our schools. Almost by common consent, it is left to the schools to foster the teams whose prowess is the pride of those who support the school in particular, and nowhere does friendly partisanship run higher than in this regard. It is a splendid tribute to the spirit of our nation that this is so. If Wellington was right, when he said Waterloo was won on the cricket fields of Rugby and Eton, is it not true that the greatness of our nation is made secure by the clashes between Nebraska and Syracuse, or Yale and Harvard, or the Army and Navy, or any of the other contests, in which young men learn discipline, fortitude, and fair play? Anything that disciplines the mind and body, co-ordinating thought and action, and welding a group into such perfect harmony that eleven may act as one, is good, for it develops the chivalric as well as the practical natures of the youth, and its example is not lost on the school nor on the public. Football is a greater agency for good morals than has been generally admitted.

The Washington Star gives us one guess as to the democratic presidential candidate Mr. Bryan would favor. Now who in the world has the Washington Star in mind.

A confirmed bachelor is mean enough to remark that the reason more husbands are staying at home of nights is because more wives are going out to the bridge parties.

South Dakota insists that all presidential candidates shall file a declaration of intentions on or before December 4. That means Mr. Ford must soon get out and crank.

What the farmer would enjoy coming from the railroads would be a little less advice and some substantial concessions on rates.

Some day the road claims will have to be paid, despite any buck passing that is now going on.

Some one ought to tip it off to the governor that the issuance of currency, the power to expand and contract it, the government delegated prerogative to the national banks. The wise farmers smiled, but the governor did not catch on as to what was meant. It was his money plank—it would make Wall Street snicker out loud.

The Fate of An Isle.
Santa Fe, Isle of Pines, Cuba.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Few plays strange pranks with man, few seem the Isle of Pines, whose fate has been hanging in the balance for 20 years, pales them all. At the close of the Spanish-American war, by the treaty of Paris, Spain ceded to the United States all of its island possessions in the West Indies, except the island of Cuba.

Then, in order to carry out the intent of the treaty, to expressly separate the Isle of Pines from Cuba, the Platt amendment was written and accepted by the Cuban constitutional convention, and was passed by an act of congress in 1901. "That the Isle of Pines shall be omitted from the proposed constitutional boundaries of Cuba, the title thereto being left to future adjustment, by treaty." No such treaty adjustment has ever been made.

At the close of the American military government of Cuba in 1902, when the republic was created, the secretary of war instructed that "the military government of the Isle of Pines as a de facto government." This action left the island under American administration and control, there being no other government under which it could remain, than the

"The People's Voice"

Editorials from readers of The Morning Bee are invited to use this column for expression on matters of public interest.

Excess Earnings of Railroads.

Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Whether an adequate system of railway transportation should be maintained and to that end whether the transportation act of 1920 is a valid exercise of congressional power is the question, and whether a particular clause of that act is constitutional when torn from its setting, is decidedly not the question, as presented by the counsel for 19 railroads in the case before the supreme court. The case before the supreme court, Gose Creek Railway company against the United States, deserves some consideration from the people and particularly the shippers of the middle-west.

The appearance of 19 railroads, trunk lines, representing approximately 69,000 miles of railroads, or one-fourth of the total, no longer makes the case one between the Dayton-Goose Creek railway and the government; it is now a case in which practically the entire system of railway transportation in the United States is involved.

The railroads argue that the "recapture clause" violates the 5th and 10th amendments; that it does not assess or levy a tax and that the recapture of the railroads is also, which the quantum of the so-called excess earnings may be recaptured. Thus, these 19 railroads, trunk lines and their counsel embrace readily the case which is presented to the court, and which is accepted as favorable to them. Their argument is that any law which provided that money which the public must pay to the railroads in the form of a tax, is a valid regulation of interstate commerce; but that any limit fixed upon beyond which congress will not go is unconstitutional, even though the returns amount to 100 per cent.

The government says the carriers use the words "income appropriations" in the face of explanatory statements of the railroads. A national committee on interstate commerce and of the opinion of the United States district court, that the excess is never collected by the carrier, but that it is a mere trustee of the excess earnings over fair return which the interstate commerce commission has said for this year is 5 1/2 per cent. Congress never enacted a law in its history in which the sections were so closely interlocked and dependent each upon the other as in the transportation act, and that the "recapture of excess earnings" provisions are torn from the body of the act the whole foundation of the entire legislative scheme falls.

There is a way, the railroad managers and lawyers are crying: "Hands off—with a wink." The principle upon which the recapture clause was founded was not known to our fathers. It is common knowledge that public utilities companies in some of the large cities, such as street car, traction, gas and electric light, turn over to the municipality all earnings in excess of certain amount. Municipal ordinances so providing have frequently been accepted by public utilities.

In Reply to Mr. Otis.
Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: In The Omaha Bee you have written a "People's Voice" column which considerably aroused me, not to agreement with Mr. Otis, but to show him some points he overlooked.

He says that he accepts the Bible absolutely as it is written. Now a person must not take the Old Testament as it stands, but to take it as significant of general happenings, and to believe that the earth and man were made in as short a time as the Bible says. That would defy the laws of nature, which are the laws of God Almighty. Certainly no one would believe that God would violate his own laws. The earth was evolved from the sun as is shown by (a) the course which the earth takes in significant of its once being part of the sun; (b) by the fact that the earth contains many of the elements which the sun contains, as is shown by the spectroscopic.

Now concerning Darwinism. Mr. Otis mentions the fact that Darwin said man came from a monkey. This is not true. Darwin said that man and monkey have come from the same source, and that matter, all vertebrates evolved from the same source. I myself believe that the Bible is the most thorough and splendid book ever given to man to read. Now I believe in his views. I have merely tried to show him in what respects he is wrong. I am not beyond conviction, but a person must not take the arguments of Mr. Otis.

Governor Bryan's Mistake.
Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Governor Bryan, addressing the farmers in session last Tuesday, issued a national platform for the democratic national convention to consider. The first plank reads: "Reverse the present policy of currency deflation until the volume of currency again reaches at least 100 per cent, so as to give the agricultural interests a living price for what they produce."

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LISTENING IN
On the Nebraska Press

Low Shelley of the Fairbury News confesses he would like to see one picture of President Coolidge with his mouth open. This lends some to wonder if Low really sees better with his mouth open.

The York Republican expresses a fear that Nebraska republicans can not take on the added burden of nominating a banker for governor.

The Central City Nonpartisan is either of very inquiring turn of mind or inclined to question the ability of Nebraska's chief executive. Noting that the governor claims that by snapping his fingers he made the mallefactors of great industries set up and beg for mercy, the Nonpartisan wants to know why'n't thunder he doesn't do a little finger snapping and bring to the farmers a larger return for the products of their toil.

The Fairbury News says that the Omaha Chamber of Commerce realizes that it is helping Omaha when it has found out and tries to help the whole state of Nebraska, as, for instance, its getting behind the dairy development movement.

Noting that a New Jersey judge has ruled that a man has the right to rule in his own home, Ole Buck pathetically remarks in the Harvard Courier that a man also has the right to tickle a mule's heels.

The Stromburg Headlight wants to know what has become of the Nebraska headlight law. It must be confessed that the only headlight that continues to shine properly is the one at Stromsburg.

Frank Kimmel of the McCook Tribune, having carefully investigated the situation, ventures the prediction that the most popular legislative performance during the coming year will be that which removes the burdens from the shoulders of the taxpayers.

"What is the oldest known road material in the world?" asks Editor Withrow of the Palmyra Items. According to the best obtainable information it is good intentions.

The Grand Island Herald asserts that putting teeth in the Volstead act will be a red-hot issue when congress meets. Great excitement in certain quarters. Will the issue be as hot as some of the stuff now issued despite the Volstead act.

The Mullen Tribune rejoices and wants all the world to know why. Holders of Hooker county warrants can now go to the bank and get paid in real, honest-to-goodness money.

Adam Breeds of the Hastings Tribune says the news that a Nebraska man has made two heads of cabbage grow on one stalk ought to call forth great rejoicing from the makers of two-for-a-nickle cigars.

There are those who claim that America got nothing out of the world war, but the Grand Island Independent calls attention to the fact that we got a right to erect a telegraph pole on the island of Yap.

After a careful survey of the situation, Jack Kearns announces in the Beatrice Express that one man in every two in all the world is a farmer, and the other man is telling him how to farm.

Ed T. Best, for 38 years editor of the Neligh Leader, died at his home on November 20. The profession loses an outstanding member and the tributes paid to him by the state papers evidence his popularity.

United States military government, which had been in control since January 1, 1899, when Spain withdrew. Then, without any knowledge on the part of the Americans residing on the island, and after having been assured the military government was to be continued, the island was most unceremoniously turned over to Cuba for administration; notwithstanding the act of congress expressly excluding the Isle of Pines from Cuba, also the instructions given the governor general to continue the American military government.

In 1904, the Squieres-De Zaldu treaty was drawn. This treaty relinquishes all rights, and the title to the Isle of Pines in favor of Cuba. Thus the United States would give away to Cuba, after proclaiming through an official bulletin, that the island was and always would be, American territory.

Who in this country knows, that right now, while you are reading this story, there are living on the Isle of Pines, an American colony; the only colony of its kind in the world, band of developing a place of ideal surroundings, on the island advertised by their government as theirs.

These efficient people live under no constitution, not being within the constitutional boundaries of Cuba. They are victims of the Cuban police law, are hauled up for the slightest offenses, and are denied the right of trial by jury.

The treaty will be brought up in the next session of the United States senate. The people of the Isle of Pines will appreciate the opinion of their countrymen.

M. GARDNER FETTER.

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"From State and Nation"

Editorials from Other Newspapers

Around the World in the Air.

From the Washington Star
What a thrilling thought there is in this contemplated journey of four army fliers around the world next March, encompassing, as it proposes, all the globe and touching both "Greenland's icy mountains and India's coral strand." The record of long distance flying up to now is from England to Australia, but now man's ambition and genius is to take him all the way.

The air has been conquered to transcend the human voice, and this trip, if successful, will go far toward further bridling the air to carry the human being and his baggage. Think of the long flights across the seven seas, the airplanes with their pontoons resting between laps upon the water. The longest non-stop passage will be 700 miles. Starting from Washington the flight will be to Seattle, Alaska, the Aleutian islands and thence to Japan, skirting the shores of China, Siam, Burma, across India and the Persian gulf, the route goes through continental Europe to England.

Then "taking-off" for the Faroe Islands, Iceland and Greenland, the fliers will end in the ice and snow of the continent Labrador, and so home across Canada. All hail to the intrepid army officers who will risk their lives in the undertaking—and good luck to them!

No Economic Conference Possible From the New Republic.
A conference of economic experts on Germany's "capacity to pay" is being held in Paris. The French government, while pretending to seek reparations, is wrecking the economic machinery of Germany and is making it morally and physically impossible for Germany to pay anything. It does not require a conference of economic experts to establish this obvious fact. Such a conference would in all probability be held to admit the fact and to emphasize its full significance, for by so doing it would implicitly deny its own competence to contribute anything essential towards the solution of the problem. It would say in effect that German reparations had become a political and moral rather than an economic predicament, and that a way out would be found by acting in the light of relevant political and ethical rather than economic truth.

"O Say, Can You See?" From the Milwaukee Journal.
They're tinkering with the anthem again. Recently an assistant superintendent of New York schools issued a circular requiring the use of a deleted and mutilated version of "The Star Spangled Banner" in their music classes. The entire third stanza was left out, because it talks about the "heroes of war." The battle's confusion" and even uses that terrible word "blood." In other stanzas references to war were stricken out. What monstrous things to have in our national songs!

Now the New York authorities are visited by a delegation of women in protest. They want the anthem sung as it was written and accepted by America. These women are ardent war—most women are, and rightly—but they see the utter futility of trying to bring universal peace by sugar-

Daily Prayer
Praise the Lord, call upon His name.—Isa. 12:4.
Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, in Whom we live and move and have our being, from Thy kind hand comes down every good and perfect gift; and we humbly thank Thee for all Thy loving kindness to us.

Remember graciously the community in which we dwell, in all its interests temporal and spiritual. Prosper Thy Church among us, and give success to its work. Bless our country, and make us that happy people whose God is the Lord. Send out Thy light and Thy truth, and hasten the coming of Thy Kingdom.

In Jesus name, Amen.
THEO. A. W. D.,
Spartanburg, S. C.

NET AVERAGE CIRCULATION for October, 1923, of THE OMAHA BEE
Daily 72,205
Sunday 76,995

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

B. BREWER, Gen. Mgr.
V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of November, 1923.
W. H. QUIVEY,
(Seal) Notary Public

When we heard a widow, whose property is in trust with us, refer to this institution as "Old Faithful" we received a high compliment.

Our trust officers will gladly tell you, who some day will leave a widow, the dependability of service which inspired Mrs. B.—to call us "Old Faithful."

The Omaha Trust Company
Omaha National Bank Building

Abe Martin



We've got 't live in a place a couple of years before we git into a good boardin' house, so how could a congressman size up Europe in a month? Another thing they ought 't teach in college is that th' graduates 'll have 't begin at th' bottom when they get ready 't go 't work. (Copyright, 1923.)

Massachusetts motorists were revoked for cause. At this rate a small army of reckless or incompetent drivers would find themselves deprived of a coveted privilege during the year. For it is to be recognized that driving an automobile on the public streets and highways is only a privilege and not a right. It is one that can be taken away at any time from those who abuse the privilege. If the deprivation were made more frequently there would be far fewer accidents. In Pennsylvania the new motor highway patrol has not yet had an opportunity to prove its value. Perhaps when it gets down to work in earnest our state also will show instead of an increase in automobile fatalities, a gratifying decrease.

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