

Today

About 1,000 Candidates. Shrouds Out of Place. New Arm for Baby. Real Money in Russia. By ARTHUR BRISBANE

How many sturdy Americans willing to serve their country are now planning to be president, do you suppose? There was a general feeling that McAdoo had the democratic nomination unless Al Smith could get it away from him. It seemed certain that Mr. Coolidge had the republican nomination by an overwhelming majority on the first ballot.

But a little oil makes a great difference in the political situation, and now anybody has a right to hope. Many an ambitious American is spending his dollars now, handing them to "political experts" in return for presidential promises. There are probably at the least 1,000 "serious" candidates at this moment.

Many new names are introduced into the interesting oil scandal and many new features.

Everything was breaking loose in Washington yesterday, reputations tumbled down, new names dragged into the light for which they are not at all grateful. Nevertheless, the gentlemen that gamble in stocks did not take the advice of one of their leaders who told them to sell out, because our glorious industries couldn't survive if the senate presumed to investigate them.

Some wise Wall street men seem to think that a little investigating won't do any harm. All people after all are interested in the government, and anything that stops wholesale looting and robbing of the government must, in the long run, be good for all—even Wall street speculators.

At ancient banquets toward the end, it was customary to carry a skull around, to remind guests that all the munching teeth would soon be grinning like the teeth in the skull. What effect it had we don't know. Some probably got indigestion, others said to themselves, "If that's the case, I may as well eat and drink all I can now."

Moderns are more sensitive than those ancient banqueters. In Newark, N. J., John H. Christman, undertaker, is ordered by the court not to hang his shrouds to dry on the clothesline in his backyard. The neighbors said the shrouds gave them the shivers.

It seems impossible to make death really free from unpleasantness. Cremation, which settles everything in a few minutes, seems sensible. But it is hard for the imagination to take the plunge and realize that quick disintegration is better than slow decay. Besides, the earth may need, restored to its bosom, for fertility's sake, the bodies that have been built out of earth's products.

The French have invented a metal arm. Fastened to the crib, it holds a milk bottle at exactly the right angle for the baby to drink. That will interest many busy American mothers. And Americans could make such an arm. The trouble is that the mechanical arm couldn't put the nipple back into the baby's mouth when the baby loses it, nor straighten out the nipple and set it working again when it "goes flat" because the baby chews too hard.

When the bolshevik government started in Russia, it said it was going to make money ridiculous. It succeeded, beyond its wildest hopes.

Since then bolshevism has discovered that making money ridiculous is not such a good plan after all, since ridiculous money won't buy anything from outside countries. Now dispatches say, "Russians have real hard money clinking in their pockets again for the first time."

The government issues silver coins, and is making gold coins. Real money and our civilization seems to go together. Kill the money and civilization suffers. A better civilization may be found some day, but the kind we have now calls for "hard cash."

The street cars of New York carry 2,555,000,000 passengers a year. The income in nickels from that crowd amounts to more than \$100,000,000 a year. That would seem a business big enough to justify the people going into it themselves—especially as they have to supply the cash to build subways and the "private owners" subsequently operate.

Jack Dempsey, champion fighter, is in the hospital, recovering from a surgical operation. To millions of Americans that's more interesting than the fact that the Belgian cabinet is out, that the new British ambassador has arrived, and that some kind of an arrangement for German reparations has been completed—and more important than many other things.

Judges have decided that laws forbidding immigration after the arrival of a certain "quota" do not apply to the wife and children of a man living in America. A resident of the United States may bring in his wife and children, and the authorities can't keep them out.

An effort made to overrule that decision, is not creditable to the United States. A country that has kept its eyes out over "Uncle Tom's Cabin" which shows a father sold into slavery away from his children, is not consistent, refusing to permit father in America to bring his children and the children's mother to this country.

The entire immigration law, keeping out the population that the country needs, the population that would increase prosperity and consume the country's products, is an injury to the United States. (Copyright, 1924.)

Dahlman Softens and Bossie Again May Be on Payroll

Mayor Believes Runaway City Clerk Came to Omaha as Soon as Possible.

Claude F. Bossie, runaway city clerk, who has returned to Omaha with a woman he announces is his third wife, probably will be restored to the good graces of Mayor "Jim" Dahlman.

The mayor's comments on Bossie Thursday morning indicated that his heart is softening toward the man in whom he placed so much trust for years.

When Bossie first came to Omaha about 18 years ago he became aligned with the Dahlman forces. During the last city campaign he was manager for Dahlman and his associates and for that victory Bossie was rewarded with the city clerkship.

The mayor stated Thursday morning that he would not reinstate Bossie as city clerk, but made it clear that none need be surprised to see Bossie working in one of the city departments.

"He's got to live and I read this morning that he needs a job," was the terse way the mayor expressed the situation.

Bossie's unceremonious leave-taking of the \$200 per month position of city clerk caused the mayor to feel bitter for a while, but now he is inclined to forgive and forget, characteristic of Mayor Dahlman.

"I believe Bossie came to Omaha as soon as he could. He has been rather busy since he returned to New York," the mayor added. "I knew he would be here to attend the audit of the city clerk's office. I want Bossie to turn the affairs of the office over in a regular manner, so that there can be no criticism. I believe the accounts will check out correctly."

The mayor has not received any direct message from Bossie, but expects a visit. The audit will be started as soon as Bossie indicates a readiness to be present.

According to his attorney, Bossie intends to locate in Omaha today and will continue to make this his home. There is considerable discussion over the charge of wife abandonment pending against Bossie in district court, and a separate maintenance agreement signed by him and his second wife last September.

Not Court Record. Attorney John D. Wear stated that Maybelle McKean Bossie of this city and Bossie called at his office during the middle of September. Bossie had been insisting on a divorce, according to Mrs. Bossie, who said she would not agree to a divorce. The separate maintenance agreement, according to Attorney Wear, was signed before a witness but was not made a matter of court record.

"In my opinion this agreement which they signed had the same effect as if a suit had been started in court and a decree entered," Wear added. He stated that the agreement stipulated that Bossie should pay his wife 40 per cent of his earnings. Mrs. Bossie said the payments were stopped at the close of last year.

The county attorney's office takes the position that the separate maintenance agreement is no estoppel against prosecution on a charge of wife abandonment.

To Go Over Accounts. "It is good to be back in Omaha again," this was the greeting of Claude F. Bossie when he was brought here from Council Bluffs in charge of deputy sheriffs after his arrest on a charge of wife desertion.

Then he spoke of the more serious side of the problems facing him. "I've got to find a job. This mixup has taken all the money I had. I'm dead broke."

It was not in anger, but with a sort of wistfulness and a faraway look in his eyes as he said, "There has been a lot of fuss stirred up about this. Surely I have had to pay the price, much more than seems right. I wonder if I've really deserved it all. You know I haven't murdered anyone, nor stolen anything."

Mrs. Claude Bossie to Prosecute to Limit

(Continued From Page One.)

interfere with his idea of happiness. "It was only by sheer accident that I was tipped off by his scheme of claiming the Wamsley woman as his wife and sneaking off to Italy. Had he got away with that little scheme, I might never have had a chance. But somebody in Kansas City made

me a blunder and sent me a parcel post package that was intended for the Wamsley woman. I told a reporter of The Omaha Bee about that, and then The Omaha Bee certainly worked fast. It discovered the fact that he claimed to be married to the Wamsley woman, and that they were heading for Italy. Then I got busy over the long distance telephone and communicated with Mr. Eberstein. Through him, the United States authorities acted, and Bossie was nabbed, together with his companion, while they were in France. I certainly am under obligations to The Omaha Bee for its quick work, and to Mr. Eberstein and the other officials of the government.

"Am I going to prosecute? To the limit, and on every available count!" The flashing eyes boded little comfort for Claude Bossie if he should endeavor to get mercy from the little woman.

"Wife desertion, adultery, bigamy, perjury, violation of the Mann act—all of them, one after the other, just as long as I can keep going and can compel the authorities to prosecute," Mrs. Bossie said. He showed me no mercy. He scorned me and abandoned me to take up with that woman. As I have suffered, so he shall suffer. And the woman who wrecked

my home, has she any right to expect from me any more mercy than she showed!

"He may have political pull that

Claude Bossie Under Escort Comes "Home" From "Gay Paree"



Claude F. Bossie, leaving Grand hotel, Council Bluffs, in custody of Deputy Sheriff H. L. Bridwell, who brought the former city clerk to Omaha on a warrant charging wife abandonment. Bossie endeavored to thwart the efforts of the photographers.

my home, has she any right to expect from me any more mercy than she showed!

"He may have political pull that

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will enable him to escape punishment. That is yet to be determined. But if he has, it will be a political pull that should make decent citizens ashamed of political conditions.

"I am not seeking vengeance; I am seeking justice. I want to make such an example of him that other men of his ilk will hesitate before they cast their legal wives aside to indulge their passions, even though they desecrate the holy word by calling it 'love.'"

"It is true that we agreed to separate, and that he agreed to allot me 10 per cent of his salary. But that agreement was abrogated by his own acts, and by his failure to keep his promise of separate maintenance. He kept up the facade to the last minute, and then sought to sneak out of the country and leave me helpless to follow him up and prosecute him.

"I am asking only for fair play. I do not believe that the world will condone his actions, even if the world is so much given to excusing the man and venting its disapproval upon the woman."

Want Ask Divorce. "Would you ask for a divorce from Bossie if you succeeded in having him convicted and punished?"

"I would not."

The answer was instantaneous and emphatic. "As long as I live, or as long as Claude Bossie lives, I will be his legal wife. He cannot legally secure a divorce from me, and I shall never divorce him."

"Is that decision based upon religious grounds?"

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At no time did Mrs. Bossie evidence any vindictiveness. She insists that she simply wants to be vindicated before the world, and see proper punishment meted out to one who she says has wronged her as few women have ever been wronged.

The first charge against Bossie that will be pressed will be the charge of desertion. Then the government will act on the charge of violation of the Mann act, and then, if necessary, or even years later says Mrs. Bossie, the charge of adultery and bigamy. And sandwiched in between, somewhere, will be the charge of false representations to obtain a passport, and that is no small misdemeanor these days.

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