

Today

No Improved Bible, Thanks. In Fewer Words. Hope for Sufferers. Common Sense Terms. By ARTHUR BRISBANE

"Modernist" religious gentlemen propose to broadcast prayers and imitation Bible texts, based on present-day conditions. They believe will be a great improvement on the Bible, which is out of date.

Modernist improvement on the Bible would compare with the old Bible about as well as a badly managed orphan asylum compares with a real mother.

Six verses from the book of Job contain more power and spirit than a million modernist "improvements".

If you don't like the Bible, Mr. Modernist, leave it to those that do like it and want it. Above all, and for heaven's sake, don't "improve" it.

"The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason."

At Geneva, the International Union for Saving Children publishes in 36 different languages a solemn assertion of children's rights on the earth. "Mankind recognizes that it owes to the child the best that it has to give," etc.

It's a message quite long and pretty. Everything in it was said in few words long ago. "Whoso offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea."

While the Union for the Saving of Children, under the auspices of the league of nations, issues pretty messages, and this and other countries call themselves "Christian," millions of children are starving in various parts of the world, while farmers here are wondering what to do with surplus grain and other crops.

Two hundred thousand children die in this country every year because their mothers are neglected in child birth. And most interesting of all, hundreds of thousands of American children are deprived of their only chance in life by the brutality of child labor.

The worst agony in life is not physical. It is a dreadful pain in the hearts of those that watch others—mother, father or child—slowly dying in pain. Doctor Spiller and Doctor Frazier of the University of Pennsylvania, announce an operation to relieve or abolish pain in hopeless cancer cases.

The body has two sets of nerves. One, the "afferent nerves," carry information to the brain. What we call pain, is the nerve telling the brain that something is the matter and should be attended to. Another set, the "efferent nerves," carry information and instruction from the brain to the muscles.

If nerves that carry sensation to the brain are cut off completely, life goes on and the body function pain of "navicular" disease in the operation is called "chordotomy." It consists in severing nerves in the spinal column that carry sensation, and suffering to the brain. The relief is not complete in case minute nerve fibres escape the knife, and the operation is only performed in desperate cases, with which drugs cannot deal adequately. In that cancer announcement, there is hope for sufferers.

A similar operation is familiar to veterinary surgeons. With horses suffering from the excruciating pain of "navicular" disease in the hoof, a nerve is cut out, in the horse's foreleg below the knee. After that it feels no pain, the horse goes "sound," but there is more danger of stumbling.

Pain in child birth might be eliminated if doctors could find a way to deaden temporarily the pain-carrying nerve without interfering with the efferent nerves, and their stimulation of the muscles necessary to labor.

The human body is like a modern building. The skeleton is the steel frame. The lungs are the ventilation, the heart is the power, the nerves represent the wiring system. One of these days men will know how to shut off and turn on their various sets of nerves as easily and as simply as you cut off the bell on your telephone when you don't want it to ring in your bedroom at night.

Mr. Mellon, secretary of the treasury, suggests a surtax on big incomes of 25 per cent. Such a tax, actually collected instead of being evaded by tax-free bonds and various other ingenuities, would supply more money than the nation would need with all the public extravagance, and soon wipe out the public debt besides. It is now proposed to "compromise" by making the surtax 37 1/2 per cent, instead of 25.

Why compromise in a matter of government finance? Mellon understands finance as well as any man in the United States. He declares that the 25 per cent tax will more than supply money needed. Taxes should weigh most heavily upon the most prosperous. The government protects them in the possession of their fortune, and they should pay proportionately for that protection.

But they may pay what it costs and no more. It is foolish to exact excessive taxes when they are not needed. Excessive taxation discourages enterprise; a man will not risk money building up new factories, providing work, giving opportunity if he must stand all the loss, and give up half the profit, when there is a profit.

Koutsky and Butler Clash on Paving Bids

Laughter Greet Paving Men Claiming They Didn't Know Who Called Secret Session by Telephone.

Intimation that Omaha is in the grip of a paving combine so strong that it is not considered "healthy" for an outside contractor to appear in the city hall on the day of a letting, was voiced before the city council committee Monday morning by John B. Keef of Sioux City, Ia., representative of the M. L. Flynn Contracting company, low bidder on certain contracts in 42 paving districts in Omaha, for which bids were opened a week ago Tuesday.

"Why do you think there is something crooked in Omaha?" he was asked.

"I don't care to answer that. If you go to contractors anywhere in Nebraska or southern Iowa, you'll hear about it. They all know you."

He testified that he considers 10 cents a yard a fair profit on paving work. "Did you hear any reports of collusion in Omaha?" "Yes."

"Did you hear about the report that you were in collusion with the Wickham company of Council Bluffs?" "Yes. There's nothing to it."

"Did any Omaha contractors tell you to go back to Sioux City and stay there?" "They intimated as much."

He then testified that before submitting bids, he conferred with Commissioner Koutsky, who told him it would be "all right."

"Well, there might have been something wrong for outsiders."

"When did you submit your bid?" "Shortly before 10 o'clock on the morning of the letting."

"Why didn't you submit it sooner?" "Not unless I wanted the others to know all about it."

"Did you submit it yourself?" "No. I sent a representative. I didn't think it would be healthy for me to appear."

"Why didn't you come in?" "Do you think if I showed up with a bid I would have got any consideration?"

James Hanley, attorney representing a group of citizens, then asked Keef where his asphalt plant is located.

Meeting Adjourns. "Do you think it would be good business for me to tell you that?" was the reply.

"No," Hanley admitted. "Do you expect to remain in Omaha?" "Yes, if the gang will let me."

Mayor Dahman then offered to see to it personally that any contractor who desired to submit a bid on any city work, will be given the same consideration that all contractors receive.

and finance department, of which Mr. Butler is in charge.

Here Mayor James Dahman interposed to say that a charge had been made that certain contractors met to form a combination, and that the meeting was called nominally to investigate this charge.

"I am unable to see, however," he added, "how that can affect these bids, in view of the fact that the low bidder is an outside man, a man who never went near the meeting and probably knew nothing of it. If the low bidder had been one of the alleged ring, that would be different."

Don Johnson, of the contracting firm of Baur & Johnson, testified that he attended a meeting of the contractors at Hotel Fontenelle February 19. He declined to take oath before beginning his testimony.

Good Fellowship Meeting. "It was just a good fellowship meeting," he explained, "to discuss costs and what work was worth. The bids were already made out, before the meeting."

"Who called the meeting?" he was asked. "I don't know. I was called by telephone."

James Parks, another contractor, testified that he attended the meeting. He denied that there was any agreement as to prices or any division of work.

"The council advertised for bids, could you give us any assurance of lower bids?" Commissioner Hummel asked.

"Not on brick."

Ed Baur, the next witness, a member of the firm of Baur & Johnson, was unable to say offhand whether his firm would be able to offer a lower bid.

Assure Lower Bids. "Johnson, his partner, told me they would not," Koutsky offered.

Richard Murphy of the Hugh Murphy Construction company testified that he was called by telephone to attend the contractors' meeting just to "discuss general conditions."

"There was no agreement as to the price to be charged for any kind of work," he said. "There was no division of work."

He added that his firm did not bid on the letting in question.

"Will you assure the council of lower bids if the work is readvertised?" Hopkins asked.

"Yes," Murphy replied. "Have you any connection with John T. Kearns, who submitted bids at this letting and who was reported to be tied up with the Murphy company?" Butler asked.

"No."

Not Even Quoted. Continuing his testimony, he said that a bid of \$2.42 for similar work was a reasonable bid last fall.

Des Moines Shows Way for Omaha

Bee Reporter Found Remarkably Efficient Business-Getting System.

(Continued From Page One.) Des Moines Chamber of Commerce, but in its 17 years of active life, it has done so many times, but very graciously. Some of the chamber's leaders made the best workers of the committee.

There is little friction between the two organizations now. The present secretary of the committee is a former president of the chamber.

Faith in Their City. "We have faith now we can do anything," said Alex Fitzhugh, secretary of the committee. "This has resulted in a steady growth for our city. We always boost; never knock, and keep away from 'reform.' Des Moines with less to go on than any of the large cities of the middle west, is now the 'happiest' city of them all."

The greater Des Moines committee always works with other committees in bringing big gatherings to Des Moines and usually underwrites a certain amount of the money needed to bring a gathering. For example, Bolton claims that Camp Dodge cost the committee only \$11,000; that all the rest of the money spent was obtained through sales of various concessions. They have underwritten conventions for as high as \$50,000 and obtained the money back through popular subscriptions of persons vitally interested and in other ways.

Every member of the Greater Des Moines committee has to work. Fitzhugh said. There is no "dead timber." To be a member of the Greater Des Moines committee is the greatest honor in Des Moines.

The major work of the Greater Des Moines Committee follows: "Selling the People of Omaha."

"We decided early in our life that the people of our city weren't 'sold' on the city and decided to sell them first before starting out to sell the city to the world," said Mr. Bolton. "Through that beginning the committee has become the fountain head of inspiration. It has placed faith and confidence in the hearts of the people of Des Moines. We all know what faith in religion does. It has made persons who never kill each other. We have placed a faith and confidence in our people which has given them the courage to boost and build Des Moines."

"Local money has built Des Moines' biggest buildings. We say claim that some members of the Greater Des Moines committee has taken part in the erection of every building worth over \$100,000, erected in Des Moines during the last 15 years."

"Faith and confidence gives courage and from this comes ambition," continued Bolton. "The Des Moines of today is the result of this stimulated ambition. The people of Des Moines are sold now. They are building homes. They are erecting building buildings. They are contributing their share of finances to help boost the city and make it a larger and better place in which to live."

"In order to win our own people over over to the side of Des Moines, we had factory visiting days and still have them. We showed them that Des Moines had something to start on. We have interested our people also in the scenes and places of Des Moines which have become common because they are always over over to the side of Des Moines."

Selling Des Moines to Iowa. The soil of Iowa is golden. Ralph Bolton and his committee started out to induce that gold to flow to Des Moines. They proceeded to sell Des Moines to the people of their own

Merchant Who Pushes "Greater Omaha Plan"



They conducted several special tours through the state. They distributed thousands of boosting cards, telling of the city. They made every effort and are still doing it, to get state conventions to meet in Des Moines. They appeal to their state neighbors to buy and sell in Des Moines.

Selling Des Moines to the World. The next step we all know. Some of the greatest and most important gatherings in the country have been held in Des Moines. Among them were: the great Camp Dodge; the national Shriners convention; the national W. C. T. U. convention; National Council on Church Work and so on.

Quoting Bolton: "We strive for these conventions and great gatherings because we believe they are milestones in our development. We aim to make of these national and local leaders of thought permanent boosters for Des Moines. That is invaluable in the development of a city. Next comes the publicity from these conventions. It heralds to the world that Des Moines exists and strives and that, if such a lot of noise is made about the city."

For these local and national meetings, Des Moines needed a great meeting hall. The result—the Greater Des Moines Committee built the wonderful Coliseum in 1909. The big conventions and smaller ones are held in this hall.

Under the great gatherings also comes the state fair. The committee has been a great factor in developing this fair until it is one of the most important in America. It made \$50,000 profit this year.

Good Road Building. The Greater Des Moines Committee realized long ago that their neighbors, the tillers of the golden Iowa soil, could not travel to Des Moines unless the roads were improved. They have fostered several "Good Roads Clubs" and have been a big factor in getting the roads in Polk county paved. Within two years, Bolton said, every piece of the 80 miles of road in Polk county will be paved.

"Our aim is hard surface roads everywhere in Iowa," he said. "We want to make it as easy as possible for persons to travel to Des Moines. A paved road from Chicago to Omaha through Des Moines is now the plan of the Greater Des Moines committee. It is called No. 7."

Lower Freight Rates. Des Moines has issued several folders showing how low the freight rates are in and out of that city. In this way the committee has induced many factories to locate there. One of their biggest boasts is that its freight rates are much lower than that of Omaha, any place in Iowa. They publish a folder with a map to show how this is. The average freight rate in Des Moines is 34.5, they claim, and the average freight rate in Omaha is 52.9.

Bringing New Factories. Another booklet tells of the work done to attract industries. Bolton said that Des Moines obtained the camp because of the work of the Greater Des Moines committee. The committee on hearing that the army officers were in St. Paul, went there and talked to the officers before they even reached Omaha.

"We told them to give us the order and we would fill it to the last detail," Bolton said. "We kept in close contact with them during the rest of the journey, until they arrived in Des Moines." On their arrival in that city, Bolton said, two members of the Greater Des Moines committee were assigned to each member of the party. Each member of the Greater Des Moines committee selected for the task was well versed on the subject he was to talk with the army officer to whom he was delegated.

"We spent \$3,000 for data to escort and are still doing it, to get state conventions to meet in Des Moines. They appeal to their state neighbors to buy and sell in Des Moines."

Beatrice Worthless Check Suspect Held at Hastings. Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee. Beatrice, Neb., March 3.—According to information received by Chief of Police Acton, the man who is alleged to have secured about \$30 here Saturday night on a no-fund check is under arrest at Hastings, Neb. The man, garbed as a railroad employe, gave his name as Ralph McDonald here, but is said to have been known at Hastings as Jack Cummings. Officers here say he will be prosecuted at Hastings and then will be brought to Beatrice for trial.

Wymore Farmers Fall Back on "Old Dobbin" for Travel. Wymore, Neb., March 3.—More than 115 farmers of this vicinity were transacting business at the First National bank at Wymore Saturday, the greater number of them arriving during the afternoon, and by the use of "Old Dobbin," on account of road conditions. The unusual influx was caused by the fixing up of new loans, new notes, payments, and new farm leases. There are no farms left unleased in southern face, as far as is known.

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How Omaha Storms Des Moines

When organized the group undoubtedly will be known as "The Greater Omaha committee."

Like the Des Moines committee, there will be a downtown office and secretary.

The Omahans boarded the special car on the Rock Island at the Union station at 9:30 Sunday night; train pulled out of here at 2:40 a. m. Monday morning; arrived in Des Moines at 6:55 a. m., and automobiles were waiting to take them to the Fort Des Moines hotel.

At 8 a. m., "Omaha breakfast" was served at hotel. Morning was spent visiting and walking about downtown section of city.

At noon Omahans were guests of the Greater Des Moines committee at luncheon at Des Moines club. At this time the Greater Des Moines committee was explained and the work related by various speakers, leading businessmen of Des Moines.

The afternoon was spent automobile riding. At 6 o'clock a dinner was served at the Des Moines club. It was followed by entertainment. The return special was on track at Des Moines at 10 o'clock last night. The train was scheduled to leave Des Moines about 3:30 a. m., arriving in Omaha at 8:40 this morning.

Cotner Student First in State Oratorical Meet. Hastings, Neb., March 3.—Leslie R. Smith, Cotner, won first place in the Nebraska Intercollegiate oratorical contest here Saturday night. His subject was "A Right About Face." A. J. Mortsey, Creighton, won second, and Earl Raitt, Wesleyan, third. Eight colleges were represented.

Franklin Pioneer Dies. Franklin, Neb., March 3.—Mrs. E. E. Chitwood, resident of Franklin for nearly 35 years, died here. She would have been 79 on March 12. She leaves one son, Orson Chitwood, and three grandsons, Earl, Hugh and Ray. Funeral services were held Monday, Rev. J. H. Beitel officiating, assisted by Rev. P. J. Thiel.

Widow of Ex-Nebraska Uni Professor Dies

Syracuse, Neb., March 3.—Georgia Talbot Hunt, wife of the late Prof. E. W. Hunt, for many years instructor in the University of Nebraska and at one time editor of the Twentieth Century Farmer, died Sunday in St. Elizabeth hospital, Lincoln.

Since the death of her husband, November 20, 1913, she had made her home on the old homestead northeast of Syracuse, where she lived as a girl. A fortnight ago she was called to Lincoln to care for the family of her daughter, who was ill with appendicitis, and while in Lincoln was stricken with pneumonia.

Mrs. Hunt is survived by her foster son and daughter, Edward I. Hunt who managed the farm, and Mrs. Olive Kelley of Lincoln; one son by her marriage with Mr. Hunt, George Talbot Hunt of the Weeping Water schools, and a brother, Giles Talbot of California.

The body will be taken to Syracuse for burial in the Warner cemetery, beside the body of her husband and her parents.

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Advertisement for Denver Two Daily Trains. Lv. Omaha 4:25 p.m. 12:25 night. Ar. Denver 7:30 a.m. 3:00 p.m. Observation and standard sleeper, free reclining chair cars and diner. Automatic block signals all the way.

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