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MR. M'ADOO AND SOME UNANSWERED QUESTIONS.

Mr. M'Adoo resents vehemently what he calls the dictation of Senator James A. Reed of Missouri. Mr. Reed attacks Mr. M'Adoo because the latter seeks the support of the Missouri democrats for his candidacy.

The public has a deeper concern in Mr. M'Adoo. His name was one of a considerable number brought into notice in connection with the oil scandal. He admits that he was in the employ of Doheny and other concerns whose interests were not those of the public.

To help Doheny in his Mexican oil troubles, in the handling of which he was to appear before the department heads of the democratic administration of which he had so recently been a part.

To secure for Doheny the return of certain ships that had been taken over by the government during the war.

To "straighten out" the income taxes levied against the Republic Iron and Steel company. In the first case M'Adoo has admitted his law firm was to get a contingent fee of \$1,000,000.

Senator Walsh, democrat, of Montana, was most considerate of Mr. M'Adoo, democrat, ex-secretary of the treasury and candidate for the democratic presidential nomination, when the latter was a witness before the senate committee.

There are many questions Mr. Walsh, in his partisan sympathy, no doubt, did not ask Mr. M'Adoo. Many of the things that might have been learned from these missing questions have come out since—but the whole story has not been told.

Many days have elapsed since the announcement of the \$1,000,000 Mexican fee and the \$150,000 tax fee, but Mr. M'Adoo has not been questioned further. But just wait until Uncle Sam sets aside a face powder and lipstick reserve.

Colonel Forbes says he is the victim of a plot. He is, and of a dastardly plot, at that. The colonel shouldn't whine, now that the plot caught him while working in the reverse motion.

Are we approaching the time when a statesman will be defined as one who never dabbled in oil stocks, or at least hasn't been detected at it? Perhaps if the people investigated candidates more before election, there would not be need of so many congressional investigations after election.

Mr. Andersen of Anti-Saloon league fame, is probably regretting that he met up with a mythical King instead of a practical Doheny. Even the rising generation would doubtless have no objection to seeing the oil investigation switched from crude to castor.

If electrocution is proper punishment for murder, what would be the proper punishment to mete out to Colonel Forbes? Senator Brookhart's new committee will provide more opportunities for vociferous vocalization.

"Will you walk into my parlor, said the Spider to the Fly." And the ex-city clerk walked right in. Governor Bryan's neglect of the roads make it harder for him to travel back to a second term. For the sake of brevity we suggest that the Jim-reed platform be: "Whatever is, I'm ag'in."

Perhaps they named it "Teapot" because they could force so much "spout" about it. The bait of public office has lured more than one man into trouble, Mr. Bossie. Powder River at the municipal auditorium. Face, gun or bug—take your choice.

WHAT ARE THE BOSSES COOKING UP? Exactly what is going on behind the scenes in Nebraska democratic councils might be interesting, were it frankly disclosed. Only one real conclusion is warranted by surface indications. That is that the schemers are cooking up some sort of medicine to be administered to the voters before the primaries next month.

Royal G. Copeland, senator from New York and medical adviser to the world at large, falls in line to preserve the pleasant little fiction that Charles W. Bryan is a presidential candidate. Mr. Bryan has coyly declined that honor, and puts himself forward as wishing to succeed himself as governor. Yet, on the basis of courtesy due a favorite son, no democratic aspirant asks for control of the delegation from Nebraska.

Far away in Florida William Jennings Bryan is meeting with some discouragement. His preferred candidate for president has declined to enter the lists. The men who have run Florida politics for generations are not willing to abdicate in favor of the newcomer. So there is some question whether the colonel will control the Florida vote at New York. He may not even be there as a delegate. This has slight yet definite relation to Nebraska.

majority is the main thing needed for a nomination, 16 votes look mighty big at times. However, it is just barely possible that some other of the Nebraska leaders might have ambitions. A considerable influence was put behind the name of M'Adoo, when he was first announced. Whether this has dried up or been smothered under the Doheny oil flood can only be guessed at now. Yet it is certain that the only real point in common between that group and the Bryans is that both are opposed to Underwood.

So there must be something doing under the cover, which will soon have to be lifted to expose the result, whatever it is.

WOUNDED SOLDIERS AND A DISGRACEFUL MESS.

Four indictments, accusing two men of crimes against the government, is not a very imposing array. Yet it is a start on the great job of cleaning up the veterans' bureau. History cannot parallel this unsavory mess. In the generosity of a great nation men disabled while engaged in the defense of that nation were liberally remembered. It was the pride of the American people that soldiers who suffer from disability incurred in the late war should be cared for, and compensated as far as humanly possible for the sacrifices they had made.

A miserable botch was made of the job, through incompetence and mismanagement. That was bad enough. Worse, infinitely worse, was the deliberate debauchery of the man at the head of the whole bureau. He is before the public, charged with accepting bribes, and doing other unlawful things in connection with his administration of the affairs that were in his charge. He had the personal favor of the late president, who trusted him until his unworthiness was disclosed.

Warren G. Harding scorned Charles R. Forbes from his presence with spurned denunciation. A grand jury has now returned indictments in which the least of his offenses are specified. These should be enough to send him to prison. No punishment, however, will be adequate for his far greater crime. He betrayed the crippled, afflicted and destitute soldiers. Under the best of conditions their plight was bad enough, but to have their sufferings augmented while the man in charge connived to defraud the government and to misappropriate the relief funds he was commissioned to administer is an offense so detestable as to be beyond expression. The epithet applied by President Harding to Forbes is mild compared to what he deserved.

What is to be said of the men who plotted with Forbes to rob the veterans? Acting alone, he could accomplish little. With the aid of contractors, buyers, sellers, and others bent on getting a piece of the loot, he could and did do much. Justice will not be satisfied until all of these offenders are dragged into the open and made to assume their full share of the ignominy that rightfully belongs to them.

The public was plundered right and left during the war. That is not yet an entirely closed account. But the harpies who feasted on the public at the cost of the suffering veterans are despicable beyond utterance. A start is now made in the way of clearing up this disgraceful mess. We hope it will be pushed to the end, and not one guilty man go unpunished.

Senator Reed's supporters declare he is the only democratic candidate in sight whose record needs no defense. To date we haven't seen a republican newspaper who has said anything as mean as that about the democratic leaders.

It is just a bit strange that no female politician has called attention to the fact that to date no women have been involved in the oil scandal. But just wait until Uncle Sam sets aside a face powder and lipstick reserve.

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Let's feed the starving German babies first, and talk about reparations later.

Homespun Verse

—By Omaha's Own Poet—
Robert Worthington Davis
WHERE SYMPATHY ENDS.
I have met with mortals cultured.
I have met with mortals wise,
I have met with human beings
That the Devil would despise.

That of America?

By EDWIN G. PINKHAM.
The United States Under the Articles of Confederation

That in the creation of the United States the world had reached one of the turning points in its history, seems at the time to have entered into the thought of not a single European statesman.—John Richard Green, History of the English People.

WHAT were the 13 states which his British majesty, signing at Paris by the hand of David Hartley, acknowledged on September 3, 1783, to be free, sovereign and independent states? In the Declaration of Independence they had been styled the United States of America. In the promulgation of that document congress had appointed a committee "to prepare and digest the form of confederation to be entered into between these states." That committee reported a draft of "articles of confederation and perpetual union" between the states, and it was debated, revised and finally adopted by the congress on November 15, 1777.

It was determined, however, that the articles of confederation should not become effective until ratified by all the states, and this unanimity was not effected until March 1, 1781, when Maryland, the last state to act, gave in its adhesion. The first article of this instrument read, "The style of this confederacy shall be 'The United States of America.'"

"That confederacy existed from 1781 to 1789, and we have now to see what it was and why it was superseded by the government under which we now live." The confederacy, as plainly appears from the articles, did not contemplate a national unity nor a national government for the states. Their union was only a "firm league of friendship." Each state remained sovereign except as to certain specified powers expressly delegated to the congress. These powers chiefly concerned the common defense.

No executive was provided except congress, which body was elected annually by "appointing or electing one member from each state. The articles of confederation, voting in congress was by states, and each state, no matter how many delegates it had, had one vote. The "committee of the states" was provided to exercise the powers of congress when that body was not in session, the committee consisting of one member from each state. The articles of confederation, voting in congress was by states, and each state, no matter how many delegates it had, had one vote.

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This plan of government failed to work from the start, and its defects were no less apparent in peace than in war. The main defects were that congress could raise no revenue, but only ask the states for it, and that it had no power to enforce its laws on the states. The result was that the states complied with or refused requests for revenue, as they chose. Some paid and some didn't. The year the confederacy was formed, for example, congress estimated it would need \$5,000,000 for common purposes and this sum was requisitioned. More than a year later the collection had reached no more than \$500,000.

The treaty of Paris provided that private debts on both sides should be paid, and that the states should raise any impediment to their recovery. But about half the states immediately passed laws violating the article and congress was helpless to do anything about it. The war had created a national debt. Money was not only owing at home and abroad, but to the army; but congress had no power to satisfy the public creditor and even to pay the soldiers. Washington's personal appeal to the latter alone prevented mutiny. In preparing to read a statement of a delegation of the soldiers, the general was obliged to hunt for his spectacles. "You see," he said, "I have even lost my spectacles in your service."

The decided effect of the confederacy was to extend irresponsible state authority and limit that of the general government. The state even paid the salaries of its congressmen, and as they could be recalled and others sent in their places at any time, they felt their responsibilities were wholly to the state rather than to the union. The voting in congress was, moreover, highly unequal, Virginia with a population at the close of the revolution of 532,000, and Massachusetts and Pennsylvania with 330,000 each, having exactly the same voting strength as Delaware with 37,000 people. This inequality and the necessary assent of nine states to public measures made the defeat of what may be called national legislation easy. It was only with difficulty that congress mustered the votes necessary to ratify the treaty of peace.

In New York the assembly, under the leadership of Alexander Hamilton, had passed as early as 1782 a resolution for a convention of the states. Similar action was taken by other states, and in Virginia steps were taken that led in 1786 to a convention at Annapolis where five states were represented. The convention, however, took no action other than to recommend that another convention be called to meet in Philadelphia in 1787. Congress, acting on this recommendation, issued the call, but as there was much opposition and distrust of the proceeding, took pains to specify that the meeting was to be for the sole purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation.

It was this convention at Philadelphia that made the Constitution of the United States a reality. Gladstone to be the most wonderful ever struck off at a given time, by the brain and purpose of man. (Copyright, Kansas City Star.)

Advertisement for Abe Martin featuring a cartoon illustration of a man and a dog, with text: "Hain't it a rare occasion 't have somebody agree with us on a resemblance? We don't know how anything as busy as gossip ever got 'th' reputation for bein' idle." (Copyright, 1924.)

"The People's Voice"

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

Joins Paving Debate. Omaha—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: In the other evening paper a letter appears that is lambasting Joe Koutsky about paving with wooden blocks. He also says that he is experienced in that kind of work and further says that the base should be from 14 to 16 inches thick. Something unheard of in this United States, at least I have never heard of it.

Now in the old country, such as around Rome or Paris where they have crushed rock for a base and from time to time it depreciates into ruts and crevices, those are filled with more crushed rock and the wheels of traffic mash and crush those bones down into those hollows. The same has been done for years, hundreds of years, thousands of years, and from constant replenishing of the same, I have no doubt that you would find from one foot to five or six feet or even more than that. He also says that as one that has done this kind of work, there is too much skimping. I do not know what he means by skimping, in the following a person can get an idea of what he means.

The person who looks after the work in the interest of the state often turns his head the wrong way and puts his hand out to the contractor, that is how the work is skimmed. He also says if you want good roads, get a good honest man who will look after his business and not shake hands with the contractor too often.

Now, I do not know what is the matter with this man, I think he ate too much and has indigestion. I will suggest a remedy. He must take a dose of that world renowned medicine, Mrs. Mielow's Soothing Syrup. I think that will allay his troubled mind and he may be able to do some terrible disease known as the writer's cramp, that is a disease, when it rightly gets a hold, it is hard to get rid of, or it may be in his arm from reading it out behind him, so much that he has no control of it and he himself is not responsible for what his arm does. Maybe in looking over his shoulder too suddenly, he dislocated his arm at the shoulder, which is a terrible disease of itself, and I would have him consult a physician at once. However, I hope that before this reaches him his arm will be whole again and in proper shape to take another fling at it. P. A. BURKE.

Progressive Stays With Republicans. McCook, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: My attention has been called to an article in The Bee which gave an account of a meeting held at Grand Island, by a few citizens affiliating with the so-called progressive party of this state. At this meeting a list of delegates to the national convention of the farmer-labor party, to be held at St. Paul, Minn., this spring, was selected. My name appeared as one of these delegates. Please allow me to make the following statement: My name appears in this list without the slightest authority from me. It was placed there without my knowledge or consent.

I would like to impress on the parties who placed my name before the public in a misrepresenting manner, believing that better results can be accomplished by the progressive republicans in keeping up the fight for progress within the republican party. CHARLES SKALLA.

No Unheard Candidate Will Do. Ascertains Ed Curran in the Greeley Citizen. Noting that a recent crowd hunt at Tilden resulted in a worst declared 3,750 crows, Allan May of the Auburn Herald suggests that they be put in cold storage for the consumption of defeated candidates next November.

Noting that Mr. Bryan has declared his health to be a disease, Editor Pont of the Stanton Register is spending his spare time trying to locate the germ.

Noting that Mr. Bryan still persists in keeping his arms declared that in the ring, Adam Broede of the Hastings Tribune expresses a fear that Dr. Murphy is going to get sunburned for nothing.

Dick Maupin of the Gering Midwest says he never was in a saloon in his life, but that he has heard a lot of the language from fellows who voted for prohibition.

Says Editor Street of the Nebraska City Press: "The man who waved the biggest flag and sang 'Over There' with the most vehemence during the war, is the most vociferous objector to the payment of adjusted compensation to the Objects of His Love in '17 and '18."

Noting that former State Senator Emil Placek of Wahoo has filed for the democratic nomination for congress in the Fourth district, the Schuyler Sun says of him that he "is an energetic cuss."

Advertisement for Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root medicine, describing its benefits for kidney and bladder ailments.

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SUNNY SIDE UP

Take Comfort, nor forget that Sunrise never failed us yet! —Celia Thaxter

NEBRASKA. You may talk of balmy weather at Palm Beach. You may rave of bathing beauties, each a peach. Talk of California sunny As a land of milk and honey, But about a better country I would preach.

While of far off places others loudly sing I arise to let the whole world know, That Nebraska suits me fully, And she never looks so bully As when she begins to blossom forth in spring. How I love her rivers winding to the sea! All her fields that promise harvests to be! How I love her women fair— You can't match them anywhere! Say, in all respects Nebraska just suits me.

Golden sun that beams from out a sky of blue, Friends and neighbors who have hearts so warm and true, Peace and plenty all around— Where the joys of life abound— I have never found a better place. Have you? The palatial new home of the Elks will soon be dedicated. One of the innovations will be a telephone that will automatically say, "No, he is not here," every time the telephone rings and a feminine voice makes inquiry.

We are still living in hopes, although old age is just around the corner and our chances are growing tenuous. But before we are called hence we would like to read about some shoplifter, or divorce, or female companion of an auto thief, who is not "pretty." We did not begin until a comparatively recent date our present task of keeping tally, but up to last Sunday morning we had tallied just 842 cases wherein women were either in the toils of the law or seeking escape from the toils of matrimony, and in 93 of them the woman was described as "pretty" or "attractive."

Said Too Much. A victim of chronic bronchitis called on a doctor to be examined. The doctor, after careful questioning, assured the patient that the ailment would respond readily to treatment. "I suppose you must have had a great deal of experience with this disease," asked the sufferer. The doctor smiled wisely, and replied: "Why, my dear sir, I've had bronchitis myself for over 15 years." —Christian Evangelist.

We are often impelled to wonder after reading the tearful sobs of some professional child saver, what would have become of some of our well-known citizens if there had been so many savers during their boyhood. Perhaps the fact that men like Carl Gray, Byron Clark, J. E. Davidson, George W. Holdrege, E. Buckingham, and a hundred others we might name, were not compelled by law to eliminate their summers away, had something to do with their success.

Our acquaintance with the sugar beet industry in Nebraska began some 25 years ago, and for the 15 years last past we have been in close

personal touch with it. Most of the beet field boys of 15 and 20 years ago are now driving around over the North Platte valley in big automobiles, paying taxes on the best improved farms in the valley, and smiling as they listen to some people who are standing around and whining that "There ain't no chance for a poor man no more."

During these 15 or 20 years we have seen more boys ruined by contracting lazy and shiftless habits than we have boys ruined by being compelled to work too hard in the beet fields. And as for the housing conditions that the professional savers bemoan as prevailing in the beet fields, the real facts are that those who inhabit them prefer them that way. They are far better, as a rule, than the domiciles they denuded us before they left their native land.

Every year we hear this same wail about the poor beet field children. We would feel lost without it. And the beet field children continue to grow up into stalwart, healthy men and women who know how to work, and who are rapidly coming into the ownership of the best farms in irrigated Nebraska. The state doesn't need laws to prevent their working in the beet fields one-half as much as it needs to devise some method of educating them and Americanizing them. WILL M. MAUPIN.

When in Omaha Hotel Conant

Advertisement for Westinghouse Iron Hold-Tight Ironing Board Cover, featuring a price of \$6.75 and a 30-day trial offer.

Advertisement for Westinghouse Iron, describing its features and availability.

Advertisement for American Electric Co. and Nelson Electric Co., listing their addresses in Omaha.

Advertisement for Nebraska Power Co., featuring a logo and company name.