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Omaha Where the West is at its Best

ELECTION IS OVER: LET'S GO.

Omaha voters have returned to office the seven sitting city commissioners, a result that was amply forecast before the election. While the commissioners are entitled to the felicitations of a result that must appear most happy to them, they should accept the election not so much as an approval of past conduct as an incentive to greater effort. During the next three years judgment of the public will not rest on what has been done, but what will be done. The expression of confidence in the integrity and ability of the men who direct the city affairs is, we think, well bestowed, but it is up to them to so conduct their affairs as to demonstrate that confidence is not misplaced. It is a commission that has been handed them, not a license.

* * *

Oldest inhabitants of Omaha can not recall a city election in which so little of rancor was exhibited. This does not mean that Omahans are indifferent as to their city government, but that the issue solely was how best to serve public interests and insure public welfare. Choice between the candidates was narrow, and the election result turned very largely, if not entirely, on the fact that the successful candidates were already holding office, and the voters could see no good reason for turning out a man who had done well merely to give his place to another. Candidates who fell below the mark have nothing to regret, for they are still regarded as worthy to have aspired to the position, and equal to the duties of the office if elected.

On this basis of unity the city has a right to expect a forward-looking administration. Certain practices that have prevailed in the past may well be abandoned. Free and open discussion of all questions, with honest difference of opinion fully respected, should mark the doings of the city council. Personal ambitions nor political preferences should not mar the transaction of public business or interfere with public interest. Divided authority implies divided responsibility, and this must be guarded against. Good service requires that each commissioner have not only control of his department, but that he be held accountable for what is done in his name.

The commissioners may depend upon it that they will be watched as closely as ever, that criticism and frank oversight of their acts will be exercised by the public, and that excuses will not be accepted as reasons where mistakes are made.

* * *

Amendments to the city charter, adopted by overwhelming vote, open the way to an extensive campaign of public improvement. It is not wise to accept this permission as a demand for reckless or extravagant action. Certain needed work has been held up on account of restrictions that were deemed prudent when placed in the charter. Now that the fundamental law of the city will allow steps to be taken that were not possible before, the council can go ahead with work that is needed, but with due regard to the general conditions that surround the situation.

Opening and widening of certain streets, paving of boulevards, and improvements of that nature will be proceeded with, but must not be made burdensome, merely for the sake of doing something. A great deal of this sort of work is necessary, and has been postponed for no other reason than that the conditions under which it might be achieved were all but impossible to meet. Voters have changed this, and given assent to more liberal provisions, out of which may come betterments that will be for the good of all.

Certain other proposed projects, such as the establishment of the Riverside Drive, and the improvements at Carter lake, which were not specifically included in the amendments to the charter, ought to be made part of the general program, and carried into effect with as little delay as possible. Omaha has lagged in these matters, and has allowed some golden opportunities to slip by. Haste will not cure this, but a well directed policy of improvement persistently followed up, will be wise and beneficial.

* * *

For the general Forward Omaha movement the outcome of the election should be encouraging. It denotes a spirit of harmony among the citizens, which is essential to any advance. Affairs of the community are in good condition, and there is reason to look for improvement. With concord prevailing, and all working in harmony, the way ahead is clear, and Omaha's advance was never more definitely assured than it is now.

"Full steam ahead!" is the order. We are on the way to bigger and better things for Omaha.

OMAHA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.

The unselfish efforts of Omaha musicians and music lovers to elevate cultural standards and inculcate a love for better music, deserve the commendation and support of the entire public. Great symphony orchestras are not created over night, nor is it possible to create over night a taste for music of the highest standard. These are matters of gradual growth, and that gradual growth is possible only when unselfish devotion to better things is evidenced by men and women.

An ever increasing group of Omaha music lovers has for years been working devotedly to elevate musical standards in Omaha and the middlewest, and to promote and if possible maintain in Omaha a symphony orchestra that will lift public ideals of what music is to higher levels. What such an organization would mean for the betterment of conditions in Omaha it is impossible to estimate. Music in the public schools has been of great benefit in elevating standards and creating a desire for better things. Surely anything that tends to create a desire for the best in life, whether it be music or art or literature, is to be commended and supported by those who think above the sordid levels.

The earnest men and women who have sacrificed time and money and effort to promote better music and to give Omaha a symphony orchestra, deserve the thanks of the whole people. These thanks may be best expressed by financial support of the organization, and the opportunity so to do is afforded next Friday night, when the Omaha Symphony orchestra gives its initial concert in the Municipal Auditorium. On that occasion the auditorium should be crowded to capacity, not only because of the real merits of the concert to be given, but because it will be an inspiration to those who are working wholeheartedly for the best in music.

CHARLES F. WELLER.

Few men could pass from Omaha's life who would be more profoundly mourned than Charles F. Weller. Identified as he has been for almost two generations with every phase of the community life, he had made for himself such a place as does not ordinarily come to any man.

Head of a great wholesale establishment, his success was built on his personal exertions. When he left the army at the close of the Civil war, he accepted a job as traveling salesman for a drug house at Quincy, Ill., and from that day on he gained unusual prominence. Step by step he advanced until he became the active head of one of the great drug concerns of the United States. In this trade he was highly honored for his ability and integrity. To the end of his life he retained his interest, and his industry was a most inspiring example to the younger men in the trade.

In the community he was a builder. One of the charter members of the old Omaha Board of Trade, which has since become the Chamber of Commerce, he was unremitting in his service to the business interests of Omaha. How extensive was his contributions in this way no man can say, but the measure of his devotion was his opportunity to serve. The same can be said of him in other respects. He was active in church work, and in all good causes for the advancement of the city's general welfare. At no point did he seek the spotlight, modestly remaining in the background, but always depended upon for advice and assistance, and always ready to give.

Such as were admitted to the circle of his close acquaintance knew the charm of a rare character. His "Clean Record Club," a bit of his own pleasantry, was a source of unlimited enjoyment to his friends, although his genial nature and optimistic outlook enabled him to extend the privilege to many who might not have stood the rigid test. It was but the expression of a man who had an unflagging faith in his fellows. "Charley" Weller will be sorrowfully noted for his passing.

FINIS FOR HIRAM JOHNSON.

Calvin Coolidge's pyramid of popularity has received its capstone. California has voted to give him the delegates from that state to the Cleveland convention. This is more of a victory for the president than it is defeat for Hiram Johnson. Californians understood that the vote of the state would hot turn the tide of nomination, and they prefer to be inside with Coolidge rather than outside with Johnson.

Senator Johnson's campaign was a mistake from the first. He sought to blow into a blaze the fire that flamed twelve years ago, and failed. Not a glow could he extort from the dead embers of dissension that once divided the republican party. He scolded, he fumed, criticized and condemned all in vain. Voters heard him, and gave their support to the man against whom the senator devoted his strongest opposition.

There is a lesson in this for all who aspire to public office. The people want a man who is trying to do something, whose efforts are for upbuilding and not for tearing down. Coolidge has a definite program, Johnson had not. As a senator of the United States, Mr. Johnson had an opportunity to serve his country by remaining in the senate and aiding the president in putting through measures for the relief of agriculture, for the reduction of taxes, and for the general improvement of the whole country. These have been defeated so far by factions, by the defection of senators elected as republicans, but preferring to vote as democrats.

Hiram Johnson contributed to this both directly and indirectly. No act of the president met his approval; no policy of the government had his commendation. He was against everything. Long ago he had his chance to withdraw without discredit, and to give assistance to the president. He preferred to persist in his course, and has reaped his reward in California. As a national issue he is extinct.

The Detroit News suggests that statesmen be clothed in uniforms without pockets. We move to amend by including a prohibition of black satchels.

One advantage to having the state conventions meet on the same day is that the democrats get the benefits of republican weather.

The navy wants money to observe an eclipse. In other words, if the appropriation fails, the naval observatory will be eclipsed.

But why develop Nebraska waterpowers when a gubernatorial internal combustion gas engine is running on high all the time?

"Where did man start?" inquires an eastern professor. We are not interested. It is man's finish that concerns us.

Our idea of a great discovery would be to devise some method of making the odor of the onion popular.

Homespun Verse

—By Omaha's Own Poet—
Robert Worthington Davie

A COMMON AND CONTENTED MAN.

His humble home was dear to him though it was crude and small;
He loved the woodbine climbing up the rustic garden wall,
He loved the trellis and the gate—he loved them truly, all.

And God was kind to give him flowers; the flowers were kinder still
To grow upon the barren spots, and showers were glad to fill
The thirsting mouths of violet and rose and daffodil.

The sun was glad to share the balm so requisite to life,
And fate was kind to shield him from both sordidness and strife,
And love was kind and gave to him a faithful, loyal wife.

His friends were faithful unto him as true to them was he,
And he was rich in richer things than gold and filigree;
He sought for naught, but took the gifts the world gave glad and free.

Letters From Our Readers

All letters must be signed, but name will be withheld upon request. Communications of 200 words and less will be given preference.

England and Our Navy.

Winnipeg, Man.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: If Americans will take a few minutes to look at their navy they will find a most remarkable situation; one which shows the powerful influence which England has over the affairs of the United States. It may be said that England has no colony in its whole empire over which it can direct the legislation as easily as it can the "land of the free." Take this elevation of navy guns as one illustration.

Over a year ago the United States congress voted over $6,000,000 for the purpose of elevating its naval guns so they would range as far as those on the ships of the British battleships. From its inception the bill was bitterly fought, but in a congress more devoted to reason and deference of its country than the present secession of congress, it got through. Then the British war lords, headed, of course, by Lord Curzon, started a campaign against it, appealing to everyone he could to stop it. But once again he found an airtight cabinet which was upheld, and properly so, by President Harding. Particularly strong in their resisance was Denby.

Now any one with a lick of sense knows that if two battleships are fighting and one has a longer range than the other all the long range ship has to do is to step out of the other's short range and pepper the daylights out of the less fortunate opponent. That is about as clear a proposition as one would wish to examine. Now these brilliant War Lords of England maintained the Washington arms parley allowed Britain to have this advantage. If the Washington parley allowed any such advantage then there is some one in the United States who has proved either a traitor to their country or else they are so weak above the ears they should be found out and sent to an old woman's sewing circle. Surely to goodness no one on earth is going to consent to such a program, yet such is what the British claimed.

Now Curzon could only find two places where he received any sort of a hearing. One was with young Roosevelt, a young man handicapped by being the son of a famous man and thereby subjected to the influence of flattery which these foreign diplomats know how to spread on, and the other was Hughes who has always had a sort of a slobbering affection for everything British. Well by working both of these influences hard they finally succeeded in getting the $6,000,000 appropriation and the election of the guns put off for a year or so. So far so good.

After that events happen very quickly. Harding dies rather suddenly and shortly after the present session of congress gets itself into a back yard garbage throwing battle in which they plaster swill all over their dead president and every member of the cabinet except two, Roosevelt and Hughes. It is not going to be a very pretty story for young America to read when history records what these insurgents did to a man like Andrew Mellon. In fact the whole thing stinks so badly just now that people on the outside have to turn their backs, but kindly winds may blow a good deal of it away, but it will never blow away what the "progressive" senators have done to your secretary of the treasury, a man whose character is as unblemished as the driven snow. However that is another picture. When the swill contest had cleared away to some extent it was found that Denby, the man who resisted the foreign invasion, had been yanked out of his seat in the Navy saddle and another was now in his place. Among the first things the new man does is to kill the elevating of the gun project and the $6,000,000 is given to the purpose of building some little match boxes to scoot around the water like water spiders in search of bootleggers. That has a tinge of irony in it because England is just about to give up the "water route" for her booze and Canada is building more airships. The modern method of bootlegging, as soon as the $6,000,000 match box fleet is completed, will be by air from Canada and Mexico. In addition to that it would not be surprising if when the rum fleet was completed the rum war would not be over and the United States had passed some amendment to their constitution which will place this $6,000,000 rum fleet alongside the billion dollar merchant marine now rusting in many United States harbors. However that is for the future.

Now Englishmen care not one bit about causes or means or methods, all they look to is results and so in this case they smile as they look at the result of their effort to keep the United States navy ships as out of date as sail boats.

But there is a new angle to this affair. The United States now want to turn their 12-knot coal burners into oil burners, apparently under the impression that if a warship cannot stand and fight on account of its short range guns then surely it should be permitted to run away. But in this once more the British steam roller has started and they are opposing it upon the very self same bunk. They say the Arms parley will not permit it. Congress will undoubtedly pass the bill but the chances are 1,000 to 1, the money is never spent. Perhaps, after a long campaign, it will be used to build huge nets to catch the bootlegging airships.

There must be some reason given by these War Lords for their desire to "rule the waves" by superior gun range and superior speed. There is. Let us see what it is. They say they are a country surrounded by water and that their war ships are for defence while all the others are built for the purpose of destruction. It is not known how much longer this line of bunkum will be swallowed by such men as Hughes and others, well meaning no doubt but unable to examine the facts. Let us see how these long range guns were used in the last war. When Germany started out on its world cruise did England plant its battle ships around the island in defense? Not at all. It used them as a blockade in the North sea so that Germany would be starved into submission. Were the shorter ranged guns and slower ships of Germany able to get out. They were not able to move a stroke and made just one feeble effort to come and remove the strangle hold which the British fleet had upon its harbors. But they were instantly driven back. Now what would happen if a similar condition applied to the states. History has a nasty way of repeating itself. Why these longer ranged guns would do the very same thing. They would keep the old fashioned American battleships bottled up no matter where they happened to be.

But say the weak kneed Pacifics there is not the slightest chance of England and the United States ever fighting again. Isn't there? We had a splendid illustration as to how close all nations are traveling, in this greedy world, to war every hour of every day. It only took two little simple words like "grave consequences" to come so close to a fight that there was no fun in it. All that was needed was for some one to lose their shirt for about three minutes and we would all be selecting our sizes in army trousers. Now if Japan and the United States went to war where would England stand? It has long been a friend of Japan; its alliance was only recently terminated and no matter how lovely the language may be by Sir Esme Howard and others, these crafty Britishers have a way of getting on the side of the nation that will give them the greatest return and Japan has little to offer in the way of new territory or cancellation of debts to justify its going in on that side. If it decided to remain neutral it would be about as bad because Japanese war ships are as effective as those of the British.

So there is the pretty little story of the elevation of the United States naval gun. The second chapter about the conversion of these out of date battleships into oil burners has just started. What will be the ending? Will it be the same reading matter and the same ending as the former one? Who knows? The influence in this present secession of congress is all powerful, and there are no craftier diplomats than they. They know every man jack in public life from the ground up.

ONE WHO KNOWS.

Abe Martin

What's become o' th' ole-fashioned girl that used t' bust in th' door all out o' breath an' complain that she'd been followed? Mrs. Tipton Bud has a pustal card from her sister sayin' they're all well, 'cept th' fern is turnin' yeller.

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V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of April, 1924.
W. H. QUIVEY,
(Seal) Notary Public

"From State and Nation"

Religious Liberty.

From the York Republican.

The deepest feelings of the human heart center about religion. Nothing offends so deeply or permanently as thrusts of ridicule or censure at one's religious beliefs. It takes monumental forbearance to forgive the real or fancied aspersions of one's religious good judgment or sincerity. For this reason the public criticisms of religious systems is to bedecried and regretted. They cannot result in good. In America we hold to the free exercise of religious convictions, free speech and free assemblage. No good citizen will want these rights curtailed. But it is unfortunate that every good thing has its complement of ill, and so free speech allows things to be said in public that engender animosities and promote religious intolerance, open or concealed. The good citizen, whatever his church affiliation or lack of it, will hold to the clear course of according to every other citizen the right to his own religious experience and will refrain from ridiculing or censuring him for his convictions. Only in this way can the diversely religious people of this land dwell together in peace and safety and only in this way can the safety of American institutions be guaranteed.

Spreading Al Smith's Boom.

From the New York Sun.

The "rainbow committee" which it is proposed to organize in the interest of Al Smith's presidential candidacy, is a picturesque political move. It should be easy to form a group containing 47 or more democratic residents of New York state who have come here from other parts of the union and who would be useful as liaison officers to communicate the Smith enthusiasm of the Empire state democrats to the folk back home.

Not that the governor is a stranger to many states. His victory in the Wisconsin primaries a week ago, and the good showing he made in Massachusetts, Missouri and Maryland this week are evidences that his popularity among democrats is more than state-wide. But the far west does not know him well and Mr. McAdoo has the advantage of an early and carefully planned campaign in both the south and the west; so in these sections the Smith supporters have fields to conquer.

The governor's friends apparently are anxious to make it known that Mr. Smith, while a Tammany man, is more than a Tammany candidate. Hence the expressed intention to call for aid upon democrats nationally known and not associated with Fourteenth street in the minds of the voters. Men like Franklin D. Roosevelt, Bainbridge Colby and Frank L. Polk should be helpful to the governor's chances. They were loyal supporters of Woodrow Wilson, whose memory must still be of potency in the councils of the democratic party. And Mr. Roosevelt, who has accepted the chairmanship of the Smith committee, is familiar to democrats everywhere as the running mate of Mr. Cox in 1920.

Of course the people of this state know this, as governor, Mr. Smith has risen far above the level of Tammany organization methods without becoming any the less a loyal Tammany man. But the democrats of all the other states do not know it. That is why, if the independent democrats of New York wish to see Smith nominated, they must show their enthusiasm for him to their fellow democrats of the west and south.

It's All Right.

"Now we want to establish our university in a town which might have a suitable college atmosphere."

"What's the matter with Rahway?"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Center Shots

Some upstart families pretend to be prominent, when not a single member has been indicted for 10 years.—New York Telegram.

A friend of ours is both a doctor of medicine and an attorney-at-law, being equally qualified to cut a man's leg off or pull it.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

New York plants a bridge costing $250,000,000 to connect Manhattan with New Jersey. New Yorkers highly appreciate a chance to get out.—Chicago News.

The fate of prohibition in Norway hangs in the legislative balance. No "land of the midnight son" can be permanently dry.—New York Herald-Tribune.

An idealist is one who hopes to keep politics out of politics.—Boston Transcript.

The War department has ruled that there shall be no more honorary colonels in the United States army, but one may still attain that rank by taking up a temporary residence in Kentucky.—Columbus Dispatch.

An old-timer is one who can remember when a hostess was considered rather daring if she invited a grass widow.—Jersey City Journal.

When in Omaha
Hotel Conant
250 Rooms—250 Baths—Rates $2 to $3

A Western Furnace for Western Fuels.
NESBIT STANDARD SERIES FURNACE
MOIST HEAT

Absolutely Pure imported
POMPEIAN OLIVE OIL
Makes the most delicious mayonnaise and French dressing

SUNNY SIDE UP

Take Comfort, nor forget
That sunrise never failed us yet
Celia Thaxter

GOODBY, HI!

Goodby, Hi; take keer o' yerself!
Looks t' me like a long, hard spell
F'r them that's thinkin' th' schemes o' pelf
Is headin' this country straight f'r hell.
You done yer best fer t' save us, Hi,
An' it ain't yer fault, I will allow,
That California jus' passed you by.
G'by, Hi; good luck anyhow!

Goodby, Hi; an' take good keer
O' yerself, f'r it may be fate
Has figgered it out that it's your year
In nineteen hundred and twenty-eight.
Can't never tell, you know, ol' pal,
But what you'll make 'er by and by.
We're a choosin' four more years o' Cal,
So take keer o' yerself, an' goodby, Hi!

A lay friend writes us to the effect that while profanity may not be justifiable, it is very often excusable.

Simply Atrocious.

There was a loose nut in O'Neill
Who wrote up an awful O'Speill.
Sent it in to The Bee,
And 'twas printed, b'gee!
'Twas enough to make people O'Squeill.
—B. I. A., Decatur, Neb.

Incidentally the "Men Who Are Making Omaha" are not the landlords who are exacting exorbitant rents for ramshackle buildings.

Were it not that we are opposed to pernicious punning we would suggest something to the effect that the work of park and boulevard development will now Hummelong as usual.

Six was the point, but up came seven.

Among other topics to be discussed at the convention of the National Electric Light association in Omaha is "What Is Super-Power?" We are ignorant as to what it really is, but convinced that it is what Hi Johnson, Billy Gibbs McAdoo and Tom Heflin are not.

About the only thing left in North Platte to remind the old-timer of the early days is the once famous wooden theater building. No longer does it resound to the plaudits of the multitudes, for it is now a garage and a storage warehouse and various other things. But some famous actors and actresses have walked its stage. In it Will Cody made his debut as an actor in a wild and woolly western play written by Ned Buntline. Maggie Mitchell, Kate Claxton, Booth and Barrett and many others of histrionic fame, strutted their brief hour upon its stage.

Just about the time we make up our minds to condemn the dear girls who paint their lips, we recall the number of men who are forever painting their noses, and then manage to restrain ourself.

WILL M. MAUPIN.

LINCOLN LADY GIVES FACTS IN HER CASE

Tells How She Overcame Stomach Trouble and Nervousness; Gives Tanlac Full Credit.

"If I could, I would personally tell every weak, run-down person in the land about Tanlac," is the enthusiastic statement of Mrs. J. Buettgenbach, 509 South Ninth St., Lincoln, Nebraska.

"Before I took Tanlac, stomach trouble and nervousness had terribly undermined my strength. I could hardly digest a thing and I had spells of nervousness, dizziness and weakness that were almost unbearable. Finally my digestion and nerves just seemed to go back on me entirely and I was almost exhausted from weakness and suffering.

"But Tanlac has changed everything for me. It gave me such a wonderful appetite that I laughingly told my husband he wouldn't be able to feed me. And I now have a fine digestion, too; in fact, Tanlac has ended these troubles and brought me good health and I can't say too much for it. My husband and brother-in-law have also taken Tanlac with splendid results."

Tanlac is for sale by all good druggists. Accept no substitute. Over 40 million bottles sold.

Tanlac Vegetable Pills, for constipation, made and recommended by the manufacturers of Tanlac.—Advertisement.

George Washington's Will
—and Wills of Today

WASHINGTON'S will was written in his own hand-writing. It disposed of lands and buildings at Mount Vernon, various personal effects, and other property, principally lands, in total a large estate for those days.

The problems involved in settling the estates of Washington's time were comparatively simple. The complexities of modern industrialism make estate administration today a vastly different matter.

A man may leave assets greatly diversified in character. He may leave bonds, stocks, mortgages; he may leave real estate in various cities and states; he may leave unfinished contracts; patents, options, and other rights.

Estate administration has, therefore, become a business, which the modern trust company is organized and especially equipped to handle. Its staff includes experts in many lines, men trained in fiduciary service. Its experience, knowledge, and responsibility are a protection to both the estate and beneficiaries.

To insure that the varied assets of your estate will be realized upon to the best advantage and safeguarded for your beneficiaries, appoint a trust company in your will.

A booklet published by the Trust Company Division of the American Bankers Association, entitled "Safeguarding Your Family's Future," gives definite reasons why you should make a will and name a trust company as your executor-trustee. Ask one of the undersigned trust companies for a copy.

U. S. Trust Co. — Omaha Trust Co.
First Trust Co. — Peters Trust Co.

Members American Bankers Association