## THE OMAHA BEE

MORNING-EVENING-SUNDAY

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Business Manage

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## Omaha-Where the West is at its Best

#### WONDER WORKERS ON FINANCE.

When Alice stepped through the looking glass, she discovered a wonderland indeed, but the things she met as she moved about with the Mad Hatter and the March Hare were simple compared to some that are now being displayed by wizards who are straightening out the tangle into which the world has fallen.

Hon. Victor L. Berger of Wisconsin proposes, for example, that a simple way of securing money to pay the bonus is to compel France to pay her war debt to the United States. As an alternative to paying any debts to anybody, the Berlin Vossische Zeitung proposes that gold be demonetized. This will destroy at once the supremacy of the dollar, and bring the war debts of all nations down to nothing, because there will be nothing to measure them by In the absence of a standard, the finances of the world will come to the same state of affairs as prevailed in Russia or Germany, or Poland, where money meant absolutely nothing so far as value is con-

The experience of the former resident of Omaha who went to Germany at the close of the war, and found that the price of the home he sold here has heen reduced to about a nickle in real money through the magic of the printing press ought to teach something.

Mr. Berger overlooks the fact that the French debt owing to this country is carried as an asset to offset an equivalent portion of the general bonded indebtedness of the United States. One of the reasons for not forgiving that debt is that it represents money loaned to the people of France by the people of the United States. It was not loaned on any pledge of German reparations, or security other than the honor of the French people. A confident belief that the money will in time be repaid still exists, and this belief is supported by the unwillingness of the French to forego anything that is due them, not from Germany alone, but from Russia, where extensive loans were made before and during the war.

What policy the new socialist government of France may adopt is yet to be disclosed. All that has developed so far is that the left-wingers, who are new in power, are not agreed among themselves, and their advent simply brings promise of further dispute and debate over what to do. Nothing in sight gives support to the thought that any change will occur in the American attitude, which is that France will be required to pay.

Yet it would be an unwise step for congress to make any appropriation for any purpose against the French debt. France tried that policy, issuing paper notes against the expected payment of reparations, and has come to a very serious pass as a result. The Berger proposal, carried on to its logical end would bring about a similar state of affairs in the United States. No matter how sound our financial founda-

tion, it will not be improved by any such experiment.

. . .

The proposal of the Vossische Zeitung, that an international agreement to demonetize be made at once is, according to that paper, directed at the dollar and the pound sterling. With no fixation of the exchange rate in gold, the metal will depreciate as did silver at the time of its demonetization. Thus argues the Zeitung, whose editor has learned nothing from the recent experience of Germany. His plan is not to pull the mark back, but to bring down the dollar and the pound. How that will help may be discovered from what has just taken place. With the gold standard set aside, gold will no longer be needed for money, and there will be no international standard of value. The world will be back to the wildcat days, when a dollar issued by the bank at Florence wasn't worth anything in Council Bluffs, and vice versa. The age of periwinkles or cowrie shells will be restored. Credit will disappear, for there will be nothing to rest it on. Debts will disappear, for there will be nothing to pay them with. International commerce will go back to the Phoenician days, when goods were exchanged for kind, and barter was the rule.

The people of the United States have twice had some such experience. " "Not worth a continental" reminds us of the time when the currency issued by the Continental congress had reached the stage where it stood as the symbol of nothing at all when it came to value. Greenbacks, issued during the Civil war, went nearly as bad at one time, when it was seen that there was no gold and might be no government behind the issue. Other nations have tried similar experiments, and with similar results.

Fortunately, there is little likelihood of these wonder workers getting hold of international finance. Germany will proceed under the Dawes plan, which includes the establishment of a central bank of issue. its currency resting on gold. France will revive and pay the debts she owes as well as collecting what is coming to her. And over it all and under it all will he the stability proceeding from the dollar, which represents the power of the greatest people in the world today. Only on such foundation can any enduring prosperity rest, and Americans are not ready to abandon it, because it involves everything they have, liberty included.

A Georgia negro aged 82 has just been sentenced to 99 years' imprisonment for a murder committed in 1882. Presumably he will know better than to do it again after he serves his full term.

Botulinus is a dangerous bird, but succumbs to at. Cook your canned stuff thoroughly, and be

#### TIMID TROTZKY IS WORRIED AGAIN.

Tavarisch Trotzky is alarmed. He admits it. In an address to the comrades of red Russia he says, referring to the ambitions of the United States: "No one knows in what dreams the bourgeoisie of America is indulging." He means no one but Leon Trotzky. He knows, every time, unerringly. This time it is poison gas, whereby all good tavarischky are to be overwhelmed, and the loathsome brand of the boozhwah is to be once more imprinted upon their simple lives. Maybe, it will be on their backs, or their necks, but Trotzky knows what we are scheming for over here, behind our smoke screen of smug pretense of friendliness.

However, if Tavarisch Trotzky will only penetrate a little deeper into the arcana of America, he will find the bourgeoisie over here so much engased in their own affairs that most of them have forgotten that anything like soviet Russia exists. It is only when some well meaning but over zealous person arises to tell us of what is being done by the emancipated millions of the old Muscovite empire that we recall there is or was any such thing. Sufficient unto the average American is his own trouble. Between coal in winter and ice in summer, the ever present need for gas, to income tax and such other incidentals as go to make up modern life, our bourgeoise citizenry, sleek and fat and not much given to uprisings or the like, find plenty of

A little first-hand knowledge of America would not hurt Russia, nor the other way round. Trotzky and his like thrive on keeping one afraid of the other. The bolsheviki have nothing to fear from America, and America has little to fear from the bolsheviki. Else were made a great mistake in tetting William J. Burns go. He was the man who could unmask Trotzky in this country, just as Trotzky has unmasked us at Moscow.

#### DEFINING A DEMOCRAT.

Now, speaking about this matter of trademarks s applied to political parties, just how would you go about to classify a democrat? Is he one who wears the good old "16-to-1" brand, that William Jennings Bryan had registered in the herd book back in 1895? Or does he wear the "Bar-X-Bottle" under which Tom Taggart gathered his hosts? Is it the old 'Pluto" sign, or the "XX" that was handed to Alton B. Parker? Is a democrat one who shouted for Jud Harmon, or yelled his head off for James M. Cox? Does Oscar Underwood symbolize the party today, or William Gibbs McAdoo? Will he nestle under the wing of Jake Thomas, who shouts for free trade in Nebraska, or John B. Kendrick, whose protected sheep graze on the highlands of Wyoming?

If every party presented the appearance of a crazy-quilt or a hodge-podge, it is the democratic party of today. It has but one idea, one animating purpose, and that is to get back into power by hook or crook. It will be wet in New York, Boston, Philadelphia and San Francisco, and dry as Sahara in Omaha or Atlanta. It will favor the tariff in Alabama and oppose it in Nebraska. Locally, it will follow Arthur Mullen and vote for Charley Bryan.

Never in all its history has the party exhibited as many facets as it does at this time. Old Mokanna's philosophy never found better illustration: "That prophet ill befits his holy call

Who finds not heavens to suit the wants of all." In the democratic bag of tricks are all sorts of heaven's but the one they hope to reach, that being the possession of power in the government once these days is a difficult task for anybody. We pass.

#### SOLUTION OF A SERIOUS PROBLEM.

Whether the crow is a blessing or a curse is a moot question these days. A powder company has issued a brochure, "The Truth About the Crow," and therein asserts that the crow is a curse to the farmer and little else than a menace to civilization.

On the other hand, the United States Department of Agriculture issues a brochure on "The Crow in Its Relation to Agriculture," and insists that the bird is a blessing, a devourer of insect pests and a terror

Reading the powder company's pamphlet we feel like rushing out and demanding a liberal bounty on crow scalps. We presume that crows have scalps. Reading the government's pamphlet we feel like campaigning for a subsidy for crows. As it is, we have worried about the matter greatly, losing considerable sleep and spending weary daylight hours trying to devise the Right Thing to Do.

Comes now the New York Herald-Tribune with a solution so clear, concise and common sense that we wonder it was not conceived and brought forth long

It being generally admitted that the crow's worst fault is a voracious appetite that is immense in its liversity, the Herald-Tribune suggests that we prohibit the crow by statute from eating what it should

Simple indeed, and doubtless efficacious. Just enact the law and trust to luck for enforcement. That has been the plan with regard to other evils that menace. It ought to work as well in the case of the crows as it has in most of the others.

A Nebraska newspaper is printing verses of scripture under the caption, "Moments With the Bible." That's the trouble—moments with the Bible, and the hours with jazz orchestras and automobiles parked along lonely country roads.

Hat dealers have decided upon the date that straw hats may be worn. Presumably they have also decided the price the wearers must pay.

Very careless of the republican state committee not to adopt the program outlined by the democratic

#### Homespun Verse -By Omaha's Own Poet-Robert Worthington Davie

### THE OLD HOME TOWN.

Who lives and does not cherish The old home town, and keep The haunts that were familiar In mem'ry's vision deep?

Who lives and does not linger With retrospection fine, While in the mental mirror The old town street lamps shine

Who lives without close keeping To heart the old town scenes-The pleasant evenings yonder-The fervid, joyous 'teens?-Years when was wrought the futur As youth went swiftly on,

Time can not dim the picture. Nor still the echoes. Age Reveals the mellow beauty Of life's lost heritage;-And while the sun moves westward, And dews of dusk come down, Who lives and does not wander

Back to the old home town?

Years fading fast and faster Until play days were gone. What Every Head of the House Can Appreciate.



## Letters From Our Readers All letters must be signed, but name will be withheld upon request. Com-munications of 200 words and less will be given preference.

Why Not Pay the Teacher?

school place has been regarded as of a financial plum by the college in writers have been agitating and if their increases in salary since the war had not greatly helped them, and put them in the class of self-respecting because adequately paid wage earners.

The Argus-Leader has always been opposed to price-fixing measures in general, knowing that past experience

April 24 of School gives the answer. dangerous, but in view

war tables makes us better understand the present position and the justice this by dumping the surplus abroad. It is moreover so complicated that school teacher. Competent men and competent women will not continue the bill cannot be at all sure it will indefinitely to teach only for teach. One of the first things to which Pres. In view of these figures, all the fuss ident Coolidge is likely to object if being constantly made as to what and what not and how much the child what not and how much the child shall study and when, conduces to \$200,000,000 to put the scheme into In the last analysis, the Mark of everything possible to cut Hopkins figure on the end of the log s and always will be the school. Why bother about the quality or the quantity of the current, if it is merely going to run up against a non-con-ductor? Why so carefully prepare a product and at the same time know-ingly wreck the transportation system? Why not pay the teacher? S. F. SEARS.

# Such a little while

Are we here; A little work, A little play Friends-a few To cheer you. A little joy, A little sorrow Always-there's tomorrow Oftentimes glad Sometimes sad. Such a little while

-H. F. Gilbert.

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V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of May, 1924. W. M. QUIVEY, Notary Public

## "From State and Nation"

effort and which promises so much for the future. Dumping of our surplus

The McNary-Haugen Bill, m the Sloux Falls Argus Leader.

Massachusetts Institute of Tech- around in congress the McNary-Haunology-To the Editor of The Omaha sen agricultural export bill is finally Bee: In a previously published news. due to come up for a vote in the paper letter, the present writer pre- house in the next few days. It is to dicted conditions in colleges similar be said of this bill that it has aroused to those existing now in secondary more attention than any other farm schools—an exodus of men teachers relief scheme that has been proposed. and a deterioration of the teaching it has won strong support from many staff. And he indicated, as one of the chief contributory causes, poor agricultural organizations and leaders pay. As for this poor pay, he knew and equally pronounced opposition from from personal experience how poor it others. The division of opinion extends can be and is in institutions of coleven to the president's cabinet, where legiate grade. And he knew how it is endorsed on the one hand by poor it is said to be in secondary Secretary of Agriculture Wallace and schools. But, knowing how the high opposed by Markey II. But, knowing how the high opposed by Herbert Hoover, secretary place has been regarded as of commerce. Many agricultural structor, your correspondent was in-clined to wonder if the high school Pierce, publisher of the Iowa Hometeachers were really as badly off as stead, have gone so far as to declare they have been represented to be, that they never heard of "a more cum-

An article in the number issued has proved them to be unsound and Referring to a recent research bulle-tin of the National Education associa- Haugen bill this paper refrained from taking a positive stand against it at the outset, hoping that the objections teachers' salaries with the salaries of that had been advanced against it government employes of a comparable might be met hefore the bill came up years six, seven and eight because unessential and for space saving).

High School Government Teachers' Employes. Average one \$1,000 1,700 ears six, seven and eight because ed on certain points, particularly with

In view of the fact that government price of wheat and other farm prodemployes are considered to be far ucts monthly on a basis which would from overpaid, a study of these post. this by dumping the surplus abroad. still is the fact that it does not settle the farmers' problems, only postpones the day of such a settlement since it is proposed only as an emergency relater date. And when that day came it would only make matters worse instead of better, since by fixing a price on wheat it would have stimulated overproduction instead of promoting diversification. Moreover is ADVERTISEMENT

### RECIPE TO DARKEN **GRAY HAIR**

You Can Make a Better Gray Hair Remedy Than You Can Buy.

Gray, streaked or faded hair is not only unbecoming, but unnecessary. Anyone can prepare a simple mixure at home that will darken gray hair, and make it sofe and glossy. To a half-pint of water add 1 ounce of bay rum, a small box of Barbo Compound and 1-4 ounce of glycerine. These ingredients can be bought at any drug store at very little cost, or the druggist will put it up for you. Apply to the hair twice a week until the desired shade is obtained. This will make a gray-haired person twenty years younger. It is easy to use, does not color the scalp is not sticky or greasy and does not rub off.

MANAWA PARK **Opens** Saturday, May 24

# Take Comfort, nor forget That sunrise never failed us yet Colia Thaiter

MUSIC.

Loud above the gloomy chorus and the pessimistic groans, Fairly drowning out the blue notes of calamity's deep moans. Sounds the clicking of the planters starting out at early morn O'er Nebraska's fertile acres that will soon be fields of corn. Sweetest music, sounding louder under May sun mounting high Till it echoes in a cadence from the blue vault of the sky; And I vision glad time coming when each broad Nebraska field Calls the harvester to gather for mankind its golden yield.

Clicking-clicking down the furrows, early morn till dewy night, Dropping, dropping gleaming kernels hidden for a time from

Then to burst in green-robed splendor, waving in the breezes

With the promise of plenty in the harvests soon to be.
So I tune my ears to hear it, music sweet upon the air
O'er the mouning and the wailing of apostles of despair. And gives promise of the favor soon to pour from Plenty's horn When we've gathered in the harvest from Nebraska's fields

The report that this country uses 2,000,000 tons of soap annually will be greeted with derision by the average small boy. He knows that he alone is forced to use more than that.

the jungles of British Guiana have discovered a species of bright red frog possessing a tremendous voice. Boy, page Mr. Vol-stead. He's needed down there.

Another Law Needed.

The men who kick about the state of weather, or growl about their business being punk, I'd like to put them in a cart to-gether and wheel them off to one who deals in junk. The men who spend their time in loud complaining, and never turn their hands to better things, I'd like to put them in a pot containing some boiling oil and other stuff, b'jings!

I'm weary, O so weary, of crape hanging, and yearn to meet the men who wear a smile. I'm weary of this pessimistic clanging, and yearn to hear some boosting for a while. I hope to greet a glad new day tomorrow when prophets of deep gloom are stricken dumb. It wouldn't give me one heart throb of sorrow to Pass a Law and Put Them on

"Why not," queries Ol Doc Bixby, "come to a dead stop at the grade crossing and look about a little before proceeding?" The very idea! When one is in a hurry to get no one knows where, wasting time by hesitating at the crossing is little short of criminal. We suggest something better. Let us Pass a Law making it impossible to kill anybody but the fool driver.

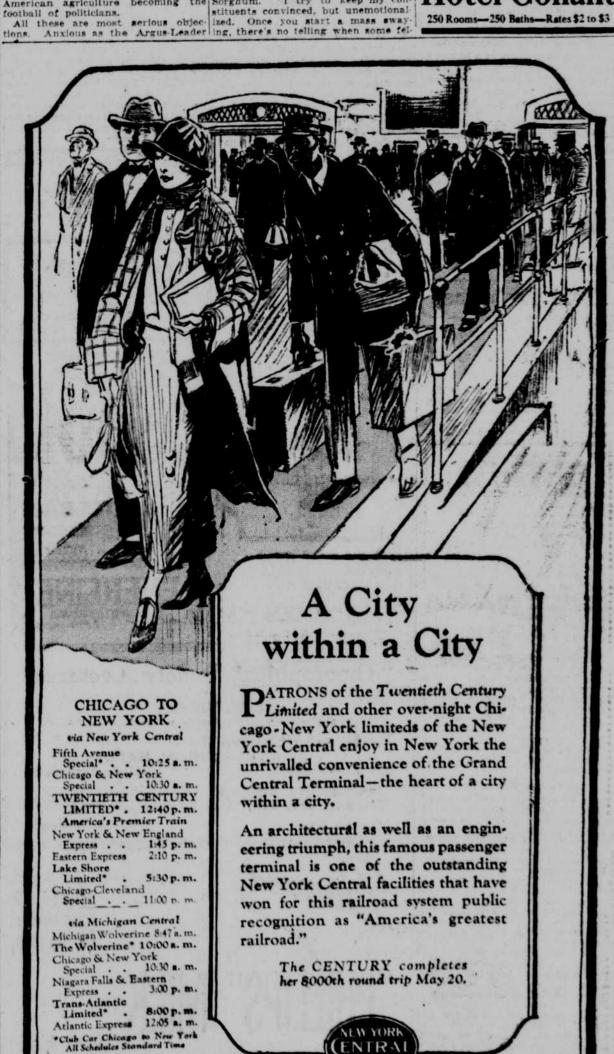
A great many reformers lose interest as soon as the salary ment disappear. Others lose interest as soon as something comes along that promises ready money. We wish that one or two purported political reformers down Lincoln way would be retained in a law suit, thus relieving them of their self-im-posed task of saving the rest of us from our political foolishness. WILL M. MAUPIN.

s to see everything possible done to low will come along with a punch threatens to destroy the agricultural promote the best interests of agriculture, it therefore cannot support this developed as the result of so much effort and which promises so much for the future. Dumning of our surplus

abroad would be likely also to provoke retaliation by other countries and result in commercial warfare. Last but sway the masses." "You used to be a spellbinder and not least, it would definitely result in "I've quit that," answered Senator American agriculture becoming the Sorghum. "I try to keep my confootball of politicians.

stituents convinced, but unemotional.

When in Omaha



NEW YORK CENTRAL

OMAHA OFFICE: 808 Woodmen of World Bldg.