THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., Publisher
N. B. UPDIKE, President
JOY M. HACKLER,
Editor in Chief Business Manag MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The Omaha Bee is a member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations, the recognized authority on circulation audits, and The Omaha Bee's circulation is regularly audited by their organizations.

Entered as second-class matter May 28, 1908, at Omaha postoffice under act of March 3, 1879.

Private Branch Exchange. Ask for AT lantic 1000 the Department or Person Wanted.

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WHAT THE FIGURES REALLY SHOW.

A correspondent writes us: "I refer you to the records, from which you will find it is a fact that he masses of the people have been growing poorer and poorer each year." He neglects to tell us where o get these records. Those to which we have acess show a different state of affairs.

The records of the United States Internal Revnue bureau give the most accurate index of the ncome of the people of the United States available nywhere. They deal entirely with taxable income. From that, however, one may obtain with little effort a fairly good notion of the real state of affairs. It is true not all who should do so make returns. It is also true that the greater number of these fall nto the lower brackets of the schedule. Allowance for any inaccuracy because of the known fact that here are many tax shirkers may be offset by the aurther fact that those who do report income afford fair cross section of the nation. A full report from everybody would not greatly modify the analysis, however it might affect the total. . . .

In the years 1921 and 1922, the latest reported on in detail by the bureau we find the following:

Number reporting income of

\$5,000 or under..... 6,136,570 6,193,276 The total number of returns increased 125,305. The total number of those with incomes between 53,000 and \$5,000 increased, however, by 117,969. The number of those making returns of \$1,000 or under increased by only 227. Those between \$1,000 and \$2,000 increased by 30,637, and those between \$2,000 and \$3,000 decreased by 92,103. This makes a net increase in the number reporting income of \$5,000 or under of 56,706. The total income of this group was \$13,532,190,582 in 1922, and \$13,-215,434,211 in 1921, an increase of \$316,756,371. If this were distributed between the 56,730 addiional reports made, it would show an average income of \$5,621. As a matter of fact, the average axable income for the year 1922 in the group of 5,000 or less was \$2,168.83, and for the year 1921 t was \$2,153.55.

The great outstanding fact is that the income of the wage earning groups did show an increase for 1922 over 1921. We will show at another time that the savings of these groups also increased. That the end of the year did not find them worse off than the beginning. Wages were higher, and more workers were employed. It would seem that ndustrial workers do not find it increasingly difficult to make a living. Wages have increased, hours of toil have been shortened, and the condition of the worker in every material way has been improved.

We have every sympathy for the man who reaches out continually for something better. "The man who fights for bread today will fight for pie tomorrow." For the whiner, the shirker, the skulker, the man who wastes his effort in envious contemplation of the possessions of the man who works, we have no sympathy. He is not helping, for he is not doing his share.

ARE THEY EVER TOO OLD?

Ezra Meeker, hero of the Oregon Trail, is 94 years old, or young if you like it. What is more he is now a candidate for the legislature up in Washington. He is matched by General Isaac Shorwood of Toledo, who has again entered the race for congress, and he is 90.

General Sherwod is a veteran, for this will make his tenth campaign for congress. His first office was that of probate judge of Lucas county, Ohio, to which he was elected in 1860. He went out at Lincoln's first call for troops, enlisting as a private. In 1865 he was mustered out as brigadier general. He has held many offices since then, as well as serving in congress.

Ezra Meeker is a novice in politics, despite his years. He knows as much as anyone can learn about an ox team and life on the trail, but he has some new thrills awaiting him along the trail upon which he is just setting out. He has a particular object in his campaign, it being to oppose the building of a state highway through Chinook pass. Meeker favors Naches pass, as that is the one he used when breaking into Washington in the pioneer days. If he carries his point, it will be a personal triumph for the veteran.

What an inspiration it should be for the younger men, who are inclined to avoid public service, to see the activities of these venerable leaders. They are not seeking to satisfy personal ambition, but to serve the public. Sherwood wanted to retire, but his supporters would not listen to his wishes. Meeker wants to get a road built where he thinks it will do the most good for everybody. Three of the signers of the Declaration of Independence lived to over 90; ten lived longer than 80. They never get too old in America.

FOOLS AND FATAL FUN.

A New Jersey boy worked in the afternoon one day last week, cleaning cars in a village garage. The next morning his dead body lay in the village morgue, while the authorities rounded up a group of men who had "played a practical joke" on the boy. One of them persuaded him that a lonely woman

loved him and longed for his companionship. He was to call at 4 o'clock in the morning at a house that stood just outside the town limits. Flattered

and persuaded, the boy kept the appointment. Fourteen men leaped from the darkness and welcomed the lad with shots and shouts. It was great sport. The boy was so frightened he did not run, he did not even call out. He just fell on his face and remained quiet. Then the men went out to tell him the whole affair was just a joke. It was tragedy for the boy. A bullet had pierced his heart.

Fourteen grown up men, experienced and tried in the affairs of the world, sought sport at the expense of a callow lad. They traded on his susceptibility, his lack of knowledge, and lured him to what they had intended should only be shame and humiliation. Somebody bungled, and the fun proved

What sort of punishment the law can mete to these "comedians" is not clear, but it certainly is not adequate. Some one of them will very likely be tried for manslaughter. The others will be tried as accessories, but all may escape any severe penalty. Each and every one should be made to face the court on a charge that would include the cruelty of their fun.

Horseplay or jokes that depend for their "fun" on the suffering or humiliation of another are commonly indulged. Many men see in the practice only innocent amusement. When it becomes dangerous those who indulge should get the full benefit of their fun in some fashion.

"UNTO THE LEAST OF THESE."

Milk is not only food for babies, it is their very life. Mother's milk is best, for it is the provision of nature for the sustenance of the little one. Not always is mother's milk available, and then comes the search for a substitute. Good rich cow's milk is the nearest to anything like mother's milk man

If we are going to get our babies through the first and second summers of their existence, we must feed them properly. This means that milk is the essential article of diet. To keep that milk sweet and pure, it must be kept cool, and that is where ice comes in.

Many mothers in Omaha can not by themselves provide milk and ice for their babies. They must have assistance. Here is where The Omaha Bee Free Milk and Ice Fund connects up with the general program for making the city a nice place for baby. The Omaha Bee is simply the agency for the collection of this money. Funds are receipted for and acknowledged, and promptly turned over to the Visiting Nurse association. Expert nurses investigate all cases reported, decide on what is best to be done, and then see that it is done.

The service is 100 per cent free, without money and without price, to those who benefit by it. Hundreds of strong young men and women are alive today because this work was commenced years ago and has been faithfully carried on. Each year sees the Free Milk and Ice Fund on the job, carrying health and strength to little ones who, without it, would be doomed.

Your contribution is solicited. An instance of how the fund is regarded is furnished by "Threein-One," who has just come in with an annual donation of \$100. Such modest charity, that lets not one hand know what the other is doing, surely will be rewarded. At any rate it is blessed. Not all can give that much, but "even a cup of water to a little child in My name," is blessed, and no one need hesitate to give because the amount is small.

GEORGIA REGISTERS PROSPERITY.

Again the calamity howler is out of luck. Up from the southland comes a tale that just knocks the everlasting spots off the assertion that no farmer is doing well or will do well until either John W. Davis, or "Fighting Bob" La Follette, or Duncan McDonald, or W. Z. Foster, or some other accredited agent of good fortune is elected president. Here is what we find on the market page of an esteemed democratic contemporary:

"Atlanta, Ga., July 14.—Retail and wholesale business has been stimulated by receipt so far this season of between \$15,000,000 and \$20,000,000 by Georgia fruit and truck growers. Jobbers report active buying of fall lines + rural stores. The morale of the farmer is higher . day than at any time since the advent of the boll weevil, since the prospect is for a million-bale cotton crop for the state with an estimated value of \$175,000,000, including seed. Growers are cultivating actively and seem to be waging a winning fight against the weevil. The State College of Agriculture estimates that Georgia livestock and farm products will yield half a billion dollars this year, an increase of \$55,000,000 in farmer purchasing power in the last 12 months.

Now, whoever would have thought it of Georgia, of all states, to turn out this way? Just when the campaign is about to start, and the hope of all who oppose Coolidge is based on the misfortunes of the

The first car of the Nebraska wheat crop of 1924 sold in Omaha for \$1.13, and the outlook is for a fair crop of wheat, some 40,000,000 bushels, thank you. Corn is up, cotton is up, wool, hogs, cattle, sheep, hay, everything the farmer has to sell is advancing. Liberty bonds, all issues, are above par.

It is not at all easy for a spellbinder to look at an audience and sing the blues about depression and oppression, when he knows anyone can prove him a liar by turning to the market page of any news-

Telegraphic advices from the effete east show that Brother Charlie's presence there was not without result. Gasoline has dropped from 24 to 12 cents at Albany, and all over New England the Standard, Sinclair and other companies have announced reduction. Just see what effect that onepump station at Sixth and South street has had. And the first news the governor got when he re-turned from the New York quest was that his "store" had sold several hundred gallons during the three weeks he was away.

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

MUD ROADS.

There is mud upon the highway, there are autos plow-

There are thoughts of brick and asphalt, there are bold assertions, too. There are many exclamations unconventional but true. Shall we patch up roads forever while they wash to

Shall we never shout our vengeance to the gumbo for the last; Shall we ever be contented with the customs of the

Shall each year find us at ebb-tide with our preclous pennies gone: Shall a road complete at evining be a gutted bog at

And a great material burden as the centuries roll on? Nations can not save their dollars like the man who wields the hoe; They must borrow on the future and by obligation

They must bind toemselves to Progress and make pay ments as they go.

The Great Question



Letters From Our Readers and again.

Source of True Salvation.

a typewriter, viz, "Now is the time two I thought every one was going caused such havoc? Regardless of for all good men to come to the aid of their party," I feel that a new slogan should be adopted which reads: possible. I should say nearly every one to take Honest Abe's advice and not swap horses in the middle of the men to come to the aid of their country."

The little Sign

sary to save the country from ruina-tion. We shall hear how monopolies, came upon an inhabited settlement. trusts, tariffs, big businesses and Evidences of prosperity were upon octopus-like combinations have their every hand. Comfortable, though cotopus-like combinations have their every hand. Comfortable, though hands, claws and tentacles at our modest homes, well kept outbuildings well throats. What rot! What demand sleek livestock in the pastures.

There was a time in my youth when I was just as eager to swallow said with a grin, "and it do beat hall the bunk in the batch as some of our hungry ones today. Older men But I found later that there was the view. They have. Not only that, but I have learned to spot a designing demagogue as soon as he hoves in sight. I boldly pronounce them as the greatest curse that ever was upon the common people. They go among the people breeding discontent, collecting toll here and there from the unwary, and, having no practical legislation, or spend their time listen-

Abe Martin

Miss Tawney Apple's toes wuz

run over this mornin' as she wuz

tryin' t' smile an auto t' a stop.
"Love and let live," wouldn' be a
bad slogan fer th' women folks.

(Copyright, 1924.)

NET AVERAGE

PAID CIRCULATION

for June, 1924, of

THE OMAHA BEE

Daily74,616

Does not include returns, left-overs, samples or papers spoiled in printing and includes no special sales or free circulation of any kind.

V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of July, 1924.

W. H. QUIVEY,

(Seal) Notary Public

Omaha Bee: The writer read your splendid editorial, "Not a Poverty Many years ago the writer spent a the results? It is all well enough to play politics and try to attach the first thing we learned to pick out of hard times. For the first week or gave us the financial system that has

From now until the last ballot is I drove out from the town of Ober-

throats. What rot! What demagogism!
But, lest I am accused of being a
tool of Wall street or a backer of
Pierpont Morgan, allow me to exlimit the pastures. Script.
Not a sunflower-ridden field to be seen. I turned to the driver who had detected my amazement and asked him what magic had wrought the change.

Even Up.
Things even up. Europe has finer art galleries, but she can't compare with us in the matter of billboards.—
What rot! What demanot a sunflower-ridden field to be seen. I turned to the driver who had detected my amazement and asked him what magic had wrought the change.

"It's a Bohemian settlement." he our hungry ones today. Older men told me that time and experience would broaden the vision and expand the same soil, the same sunshine, the and there and the control of the con Abe Martin

The next greatest curse is expound wild theories for so much per expound. They simply got busy, each and every one, and grasped avery available opportunity which the region afforded, but sparingly. By their continued efforts and untiring the continued efforts and untiring the next blossom.

not with sunflowers), but like the Now, I am a democrat, rather disgusted and disappointed one this year, I must confess, but after 60 years of this life, two-thirds of it in Nebraska, I cannot be convinced that Rebraska, I cannot be convinced that Bob La Follette, or John Davis, or Charley Bryan, or Roy Harrop, or Calvin Coolidge, or "Hel'n'Mariar" Dawes can begin to make successes out of failures. If the people must have a savior it must be themselves. , for one, am tired of these calamity howling demagogues. I listened to them too long for my own good.

zeal they made the desert blosson

ope the American people are not to e fooled by their sophistries again

I, for one, believe that just now w should let well enough alone. This is discontentment, and the greatest all the experimentation during the O'Neill, Neb.—To the Editor of The curse is the most responsible for it. or administration, but where is the curse is the most responsible for it. or administration, but where is the curse of the curse is the curse is the curse is the curse is the curse in the curse in the curse in the curse in the curse is the curse in the curs

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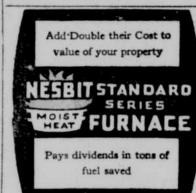
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Infallible Sign.

cast in November we are going to be lin, in Decatur county. For many Another way to tell the newest given a large variety of theories of miles we passed nothing but deserted members of the business men's lunch-Each partisan organiza- homesteads, buildings going to ruin eon club is by noting which ones are tion will declare that the election of its candidate will be absolutely necestary to save the country from ruinal looked sickly. All of a sudden we Star.

Well Used to It. After all, the democratic party is well used to splits.-Boston Tran-

Medford Mail-Tribune.



Coming to Omaha? HOTEL ROME

INVITES YOU

Rooms: \$1.50 to \$3.50 HOME OF THE FAMOUS ROME CAFETERIA "Open 24 Hours Every Day"

SUNNY SIDE UP Pake Comfort, nor forget That sunrise never failed us yet Coha Thailer Picking up one of our favorite exchanges this morning we are confronted with the question, framed in bold type, "How Are Your Garters This Morning?" We deem this the proper

time to make protest against this growing intimacy. There must be a few things left to privacy. Our garters are our own, and their condition is nobody's business but our own. If we determine to pin our hose up with a safety pin, who

We are looking for a barber shop of a certain kind. There may be such in existence, but to date we have not found it. What we want is to find out where we can enter, await our turn, get into the chair, state definitely what we want, and then get it without being asked if we want a shine, a shampoo some tonic on our hair, a face massage or any one of a dozen things not requested at the beginning. Incidentally we would not object if the tonsorial artist, after wrapping our visage in a hot towel, would not selze the opportunity to discuss the outcome of the day's races at Hawthorne, or the merits of divers and sundry stars of the big leagues.

Having wearied of about all of the political issues advanced in recent years, and becoming thoroughly disgusted with Peerless Leaders who veer with every shifting wind to fill their sails with the breath of wild-eyed clamor, we have decided to form a Fourth Party. We shall have no platform and only one candidate, and he is to run upon one outstanding quality of keen judgment and courage to express his opinion. For President of the United States, the Kentucky judge who recently decided that the great American indoor pastime was not a game of chance but a game of skill.

Harmony-Yielding everything and claiming nothing.

Progressive-Me. Reactionary-You.

Platform—Synonym for bunk, piffle, bushwa. Wall Street—A bogyman.

In politics we long since discovered that there is precious little difference between being a really big man and having a really big man's ways.

A growing tendency to obesity has given us the privilege of giving to the waiting world the real reason why the Wan-

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6% INTEREST NO COMMISSION

The Conservative Savings & Loan Ass'n

1614 Harney Street

NO COMMISSION

SUMMER FARES EAST

to Sept. 30, return limit Oct. 31st. Liberal stop-overs. Here are some of the round trip rates FROM OMAHA to:

Atlantic City, N. J. 83.96 Digby, Nova Scotia 93.95 Halifax, Nova Scotia 96.15 Montreal, Que. Montpelier, Vt. Newport, R. I. Niagara Falls, N. Y. Norfolk, Va. 80.45 Fortland, Me. SS.94

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Chicago Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway

ANNOUNCEMENT

Covering a long period of time, it has been inconvenient and at times impossible to reach our main office and yard at 4500 Dodge street with an auto.

We are pleased to announce that the repairs to this section of Dodge street have at last been completed and you can drive up to our door on a new smooth pavement.

We wish to extend to our many customers and friends an invitation to again get into the habit of calling at our office and yard in person. We will extend to you a cordial WELCOME.

"It Is Our Bu siness to Serve You"

UPDIKE LUMBER AND COAL COMPANY

Main Office 4500 Dodge Street

"I'm Happy," Says Peterson Here is another letter that makes me happy," says Peterson. "One that

I would rather have than a thousand

"Money isn't everything in this world. There is many a big-hearted rich man who would give all he has on earth to be able to produce a remedy with such mighty healing

power as Peterson's Ointment. "Read this letter by Mrs. Albert Southcott. It seems like a miracle but it is true, every word of it. "Is it any wonder I am happy!" Dear Sirs:

"I was a sufferer from an old running sore and ulcer. I had tried most everything without any relief from pain. A friend told me of your wonderful ointment, and the first box took away the pain that had not left me before in years, and after using just nine dollars worth I am cured. The ulcer was 9 inches by 6 1.2 inches, is all healed and I can walk. Never, never will I be without Peterson's Olniment.

"You may use this to recommend your ointment if you wish. I cannot say enough to praise it." Yours truly, Mrs. Albert Southcott, Lyndonville, N. Y. Price, She Adv.

is there to say us nay? If we determine to let them roll as they see fit, what boots it to others? Were we to fail in our bounden duty to protest against this growing evil of peering into our purely private affairs, the first thing we know we will be greeted with inquiries as to the condition of other articles not intended for public view or explanation. Never shall we

submit to explaining why we refuse to wear ruffles on the extremities of certain unmentionables, nor why we refrain from wearing a cute little colored ribbon at the upper extremity. We draw the line, and the time to draw it is right here.

Political Definitions.

Predatory Interest-A term of reproach applied to success. Often referred to as "money devil," (See Wall Street.)

dering Jew continues to wander on century after century. He engaged in a vain search for a shirt that will stay put.

WILL M. MAUPIN

MO

MIS

S

ON

6%

REAL ESTATE LOANS

Easy Repayments