## THE OMAHA BEE

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## Omaha-Where the West is at its Best

LOOK AT THIS SQUARELY.

On September 12, the sixth anniversary of Pershing's victory at San Mihiel, one of the most brilliant and successful major operations of the world war, a little experiment will be tried by the War department. It will be a sort of make-believe mobilization. Everybody and everything that is included in the general scheme for the defense of the country will be theoretically called upon to do his or its stuff. A sort of "Drawer 32," as von Moltke is reported to have answered in 1870, when told that Napoleon III was on the march. No fighting, no marching, just a gesture to show that all is

Against this a deluge of protests is pouring in on Secretary Weeks of the War department. Well intentioned individuals and organizations who deplore war are equally opposed to the country ever being ready for war. Who wants to fight? Mighty few in this country. None of our military men do; the real champions of peace are to be found in the army and navy. They know what fighting means. Secretary Weeks knows, too.

Can we always get along without fighting? Let us hope so. But just a day or two ago an American vice consul, a native of this land, was cruelly beaten to death by a mob in Teheran. Rebels at Sao Paulo have so conducted themselves as to put American lives and property in danger. A Japanese fanatic tore down the American flag and rent it to bits. We have just served notice on a rebellious group at Honduras that they are not to expect recognition from our government as anything but rebels.

These are just a few of the things that might lead to a situation where the United States will need both an army and a navy. In June, 1914, peace was prefound throughout the world. A Serbian fanatic fired two shots and straightway the world blazed up. Many millions of lives and hundreds of billions of treasure were swallowed up. The end is not yet. The United States was not ready to defend against the attack, and was forced to hurriedly prepare at a tremendous cost. Whenever the waste of the first year of our participation in the war is mentioned, the excuse is that it was needed, for we had to hurry and even to experiment.

Do we want to go through with all of that again? Or, will we learn comething from our own experience? In 1898 we learned more about the importonce of sanitation in camps than we knew before. Applying that lesson in 1917-18, many lives were saved and much suffering spared. If we take home the lesson taught us by the World War, we may save other lives and much money. This can be done without exalting the military or invoking the war spirit. It will simply be the round the good housekeeper makes, to see that everything is safe for the night, or that the larder is filled before the grocers and butchers go on a picnic.

America's genius is for peace. For pleasant relations with all the world. But America has had to defend that genius by arms. It may have to defend it again. We should be as ready. Ready as is the householder to ward off the danger of fire or the intrusion of thieves. "Defense test day," as it is designated, does not tend to exhibit national hypocrisy, as is alleged. It will show national prudence and common sense in caring for the great and universal interest of everyone who lives under the flag of our government.

## MEASURED BY AUTOMOBILES.

At the end of 1923 13,464,000 Americans owned automobiles. This was exclusive of motor truck operators. The number of cars going into service during that year was 4,086,997, an increase of 53 per cent over 1922. Total number of registrations for 1923 was 15,092,177. Over 4,000,000 cars were made in the United States and Canada last

year. Production this year will exceed that. This signifies, if anything, that the capacity of our people for absorbing the output of the factories has not been reached. At any rate, the automobile manufacturers are satisfied that it has not. These men are careful as well as foresighted. They base their calculations on the most exact knowledge obtainable, and this means they have estimated very closely the capacity of their market.

Most impressive of their calculations rests on accurate knowledge of the income of the people of the United States. In 1920 the census found 41,-614,248 Americans engaged in gainful occupations. These the automobile makers have analyzed and classified. They have divided the 13,464,000 individual car owners into groups according to income. To the group receiving incomes above \$4,000 a year, they assign 1,521,000 individuals. Down to \$1,400 a year they locate 12,310,600, and here for the moment they draw the line on car owners. Below this they find a potential market for more cars than now

are owned in the country. For our prupose, it is not so important that the automobile makers see a huge field unsupplied with cars, as it is that they have discovered more than 12,000,000 Americans with incomes ranging from \$1,400 to \$4,000 a year. The Internal Revenue bureau had returns from only half that number. Either way, the fact is established that Ameri-

they are at the beginning. The presence of 13,-464,000 passenger cars in the United States is not an argument in support of allegations of general poverty. Nor is the fact that in Nebraska we had at the end of 1923 213 passenger cars for each 1,000

#### NO CUT IN GRAIN RATES.

A year ago a special request was made from the Omaha Chamber of Commerce to the railroads, asking for an emergency rate on wheat and wheat products intended for export. This was denied. About the same time Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, North and South Dakota, Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri and Louisiana, joined in a petition for a general reduction in rates on all grains. This has just been denied by the Interstate Commerce commission, in an opinion supported by a majority of one. Five of the eleven commissioners dissent from

The reason given by the majority commissioners, that the advancing prices to the farmer removes the necessity for the reduction, is not in itself convincing. Rates should rest on a sounder foundation. If freight rates are too high at one time, they are at another. Unless there be a definite provision for a sliding scale, the real standard should be the fair cost of service, not what the traffic will bear.

A reduction made in the early part of 1922 at the request of the complaining states stood as a concession to agriculture. Later is was made more general and applied to all commodities. This wass an admission that the original rates were too high. Experience of 1923 was such as to warrant the belief that rates on farm products still were too high. The I. C. C. now says, however, they will not be

A general belief exists that freight rates on heavy goods, such as farm products, livestock, lumber, and other bulk shipment stuff are too high. It was for this reason that President Coolidge said to

"Competent authorities agree that an entire reorganization of the rate structure for freight is necessary. This should be ordered at once by con-

Congress, however, did not order any such reconstruction. Neither did it effect relief in any other way. Congress left the railroad situation just where it was before the president made his recommendation. Now the I. C. C. has by 6 to 5 refused to afford that relief to which the farmers believe they are entitled. As a result we may expect that even greater pressure will be brought on congress to order the step the president recommends. It would seem that only through that course can the agricultural and livestock industry get what it needs in the way of better rates for its output.

#### PIFFLE IS HIS PARAMOUNT ISSUE.

Governor Bryan has made his gubernatorial campaign to date on the price of gasoline. He insists that his successor on the state ticket shall be a man who will carry out his policies.

Even admitting that the governor has actually caused a reduction in the price of gasoline, which is admitting what every sensible voter knows is not true, what is that trifling saving when compared with what might have been saved by tackling some real problems? He says he has saved the people of Nebraska \$10,000,000 in the price of gasoline. If he speaks truly then the people of Nebraska spend more than \$75,000,000 a year for gasoline.

But he does not speak truly, and the people of Nebraska do not spend \$75,000,000 a year for

Not a single constructive idea about government,

about finance, about diplomacy-just gasoline. Not a single constructive idea about relief from excessive freight rates, high interest charges, tax free securities or world relations-just gasoline.

Not a single constructive idea about marketing problems, co-operative problems, social problemsjust gasoline.

All his talk about being a progressive, all his talk about being a rescuer of the dear people, all his talk about standing between the dear pee-pul and those who would exploit them resolves itself into a dinky little filling station at Sixth and South streets, Lincoln-just gasoline.

The personification of political piffle, he would have us believe that our ultimate salvation, socially, politically, economically and morally, is dependent upon a matter of 2 or 3 cents in the price of gasoine, 60 per cent or more of which is a luxury.

This is the measure of the statesmanship of the man selected by the democrats of the nation as their candidate for vice president-just gasoline.

Naturally Chairman Sackett favors giving the voters every opportunity to register their choice. That is good republican doctrine. Its reverse is seen only in democratic states south of the old Mason-Dixon line.

At this writing both Bryans are candidates for vice president in Nebraska. It is not believed, however, that this will strain their friendly relations to the breaking point or disrupt their mutual admiration society.

Senator Wheeler of Montana bolts the nomination of Davis. Too bad! He has no brother, hence there seems no way whereby he may be pacified and induced to return to the fold. Countess Salm von Hoogstraten has lost a \$2,500

diamond, but she can not blame the count this time. He is in Europe while she is at Newport. Judging by the length of the platforms the builders must have thought they were constructing

"No Factions Left Among Democrats!" shouts a headline. Just wait till the hospital list is pub-

Judge Woodrough gave Furlong two years. In

other words, Furlong goes 16 to reach the wire. There are ample reasons for referring to him as 'Flighting Bob" La Follette.

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

AS WE GROW OLD.

As we grow old the petty things perturb us less and And year by year we higher gaze for greater happi-

Our faith grows stronger as we live and prudently discern. Our hearts grow kinder as we give and with our living

The half-hallucinative joy of youth is changed to bliss As comprehension shows to us the beautiful of this Sun-warmed, sun-nourished universe; appreciation grows As age makes friends more faithful and reveals the good of foes.

As we grow old gratulty and intuition sweep The dust of adolescence far into the whirling deep, And we become the great machines of heart and mind

and soul. cans are not poorer at the end of each year than | And greater grow as on we go to the celestial goal. The Counter Invasion



# Take Comfort, nor forget That sunrise nover failed us yet come Thatter

Most of the traveling public are not accustomed to travel. These get their impressions of railroad management from the employes with whom they come in contact, and a grouchy, discourteous employe can do more harm in a minute than the head officials can overcome in a month. When one knows a thing or two about human nature and watches Mr. McLellan or Mr. Nelson patiently explaining to the harassed and harried mother of a small flock, looking after some foreigner unacquainted with our language and customs and frightened stiff, or answering questions from all sides and never losing their good nature, he knows that these two courteous gentle-men are making friends for the Burlington. These friends will always remember their treatment by the gateman.

We hope the Burlington's managers appreciate that sort of service. It is doing for the system what mere money will not do. And we further express the hope that "Mac" and Nelson will be on the job for many years to come, and that we may be permitted to happen along occasionally during those years to exchange friendly greetings with them.

Met Emerson Purcell of Broken Bow on the street the other day. He was just finishing the last lap of a 5,000-mile auto trip. He declares that he didn't have a bit of car trouble on the entire journey. That permits us to continue as holder of a world's record. We are the only man alive who ever took an extended auto trip and had to buy from three to five new tires, have the motor block repaired, a new differential put in purchase new springs, have a connecting rod adjusted, valves ground, radiator soldered, brakes relined, lighting system renovated and a few other things of similar nature. Sometimes we think it is due to the fact that we always insist on talling we think it is due to the fact that we always insist on telling the truth about our car.

> Miss Marvann Mabel McKeen Is so fat she's a sight to be seen. She has tried to reduce, But has found it no use So she'll marry a man named McLean.

Speaking again of auto travel, of which we have enjoyed much and expect to enjoy more, we are going to organize a Society for the Boycotting of Scenery Defacing Advertisers. After seeing a huge sign painted upon a giant rock in Cheyenne Canyon, "Wear Squeezem's Shoes." we wouldn't buy a pair of Squeezem's shoes to win a bet. While feasting our eyes upon a rural scene of rare beauty, to have that view cut off by a gaudy billboard advertising "Shoddyman's For Clothing" simply many that we'd war was before Shoddyman solvers. ply means that we'd wear rags before Shoddyman sold us anything. Were we told that we are hovering on the brink of eternity, we'd still refuse to take "Dosem's Dope for What Ails You" because Dosem's gaudy signs repeatedly shut off our view of some wonderful scenery while we were autoing through the western hills and mountains.

And, being just human, we never approach a hamlet of 150 or 200 people to be greeted with "Speed Limit 8 Miles an Hour," without feeling a powerful impulse to hit the old boat up to top speed just to show why we believe it to be a hamlet

When the question, "Have I filled my job today?" takes precedence over the question, "Where can I park my car?" business and industrial world will swing along in much be shape.

WILL M. MAUPIN.

## Letters From Our Readers

Another Look at the "Hole." | wheat in the year 1923 was \$1.24 and

lation has consistently increased from a time much farther back than the two particular years you refer to in your editorial, and, in fact, your figures showing an increase in the number of persons reporting incomes of \$5,000 or under is evidence substantiating what I said about the masses of the people growing poorer. It is no more than natural that there should be a slight increase in the number of small incomes by reason of the powers that we should the masses should be a slight increase in the number of small incomes by reason of the powers that be.

The same process. But, the a referendum of war, except in case homesteads are all gone now and the purple with the pu number of small incomes by reason of the increase in the population and that we should thank the small incomes by reason of the increase in the population and the wealth of the country. (I am not arguing that the sum total of wealth is not becoming greater, but that it is drifting into the hands of the few or at a feater rate.)

Lincoin and that we should thank treaty. It barters legitimate American rights and betrays Armenia for the Chester oil concessions. We favor the protection of American rights in Turkey and the fulfillment of President Wilson's arbitral award concerning the farmer and labor-ing Armenia."

1.5 per cent during the same period. and the big end of the stakes still go ers who had conquered Turkey to Wall Street.

The increase you note in the mem—

The United States had no part in

street? Or more than labor? You admit, then, that some one has really mit, then, that some one days of grow the Milwaukes Journal, suffered during these golden days of True courtesy is founded on little True courtesy is founded on little suffered during these golden days of republicanism. But that is directly antithetical to the theme you have set upon. You state that the value of farm property has increased from \$20,000,000,000 in 1920, as evidence that the farmer is becoming better off. But give us figures on this. What about the rate at which farms all over the middle west are being foreclosed. What about the actual financial condition of the farmer at the present time? The Department of Agriculture has issued its survey of 1924 and it makes interest. survey of 1924 and it makes interest-ing reading. One of the outstanding hat and bundles on your desk, with revelations is the fact that the aver- out apology and regardless of the age cost of producing a bushel of work you have lying on it? Or on a

Abe Martin

"Don't repeat this, fer I promised my barber I wouldn' tell a soul, but he says th' Bud's hain't hap-py," we heard Mrs. Em Moots say

home from th' dimmycratic conven-

tion boastin' about his New York

(Copyright, 1924.)

Delegate Art Smiley is

crowded road watch the driver who tight place and then edges head, just to gain one place in the These are little things, of course oo small to make an outcry about at the time. But they sometimes make us wonder when we shall reach the oint of full respect for the rights of

A Little of Everything. Guest-I see you have six of my avorite dishes on today. Which do Walter-Take the stew, sir, and have the lot !- Sondags Nisse, Stock

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# -Editorials from Other Newspapers-

of the average person. But the from again on the same process. But, the a referendum of war, except in case From the Toronto Globe.

It is a grand old game of poker, concerning Armenia cannot be Using your own figures, there was an increase of about 1.5 per cent in growing in size as the nation grows in wealth. The rules are the same as ulation increased 1,500,000, or about when it was only a penny ante affair made at the request of the allied pow-Another thing that must be taken to wait street.

The into consideration is the generally accepted fact that there were less small bership of the loan and building as-

cepted fact that there were less small income tax dodgers in 1922 than in 1921.

I agree with you that "agriculture suffered more than any other" as stated in your paper today. But, more than that? More than Wall street? Or more than labor? You admit the bership of the loan and building associations is not indicative of an improved situation any more than is the increase in the membership of the loan and building associations is not indicative of an improved situation any more than is the increase in the membership of the loan and building associations is not indicative of an improved situation any more than is the increase in the membership of the sociations is not indicative of an improved situation any more than is the increase in the membership of the sultan's representatives, was never ratified. It was displaced eventually by the Lausanne treaty, now in effect, in which Turkish sovereignty was recognized over now in effect, in which a very ereignty was recognized over a very large portion of the territory assigned to Armenia by Mr. Wilson. How can we enforce the Wilson settlement unless we send armies to Asia Minor seize this territory and bestow it or Armenia? If ever a war of aggres-sion was authorized it is authorized

in this fantastic plank.

The treaty of Lausanne, which the convention condemned, is not the al-

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THE OMAHA BEE

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Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of July, 1924. W. H. QUIVEY, (Seal) Notary Public

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NO COMMISSION

"From State and Nation"

Against War, Yet for It.

Another Look at the "Hole."

Omaha.— To the Editor of The Bee: Now that you have replied to may letter through te editorial columns of The Omaha Bee, let me call your attention to some of the state-ments you make.

Your editorial was chiefly concerns and with a sells for 99 cents.

I know it is hard for the republican of the state-ment and with my statement to the effect.

Weat in the year 1923 was \$1.24 and the average price received per bushel the average price received per bushel

President Wilson's arbitral aware were trying to make peace with her

lied treaty of peace with Turkey, but

for June, 1924, of

Daily ..........74,616 

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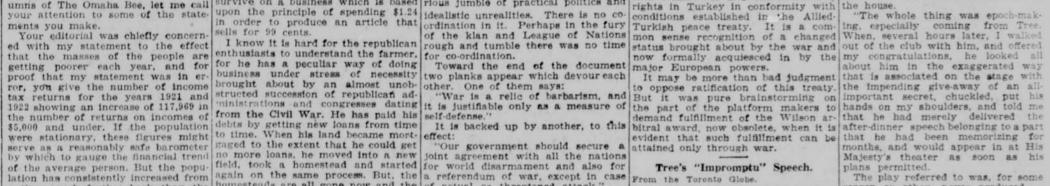
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literary club dinner. Instead of de- lington Star

ting up and delivering a brilliant ad dress. "In delivery, manner and point it was perfect. It brought forth roar after roar of laughter at its witty turns of phrase. His satirical refer-

dining, he amazed his friends by get-

our own commercial treaty, similarly of that time raised several bursts of



VOUR spirits rise high in Col-I orado. The bracing sunny atmosphere and the glorious beauty all about you revive both body and mind. All sports have here a new thrill, you enjoy them with renewed zest-golf, tennis, fishing, hunting, motoring or hiking or horseback up the high moun-

tain trails.

