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MORNING-EVENING-SUNDAY

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Omaha Where the West is at its Best

GOOD ROADS AT FIVE CENTS AN ACRE.

Is a system of hard-surfaced highways worth a nickel an acre to the Nebraska farmer?

Sounds like a lot of money. It is a big sum, but it will bring big benefits to the state, to every resident of the state, and especially to the farmer, who has more real occasion to use the highways of the state than anybody else.

Appropriated by legislature, \$1,500,000 a year for six years..... \$ 9,000,000

Fifty per cent of automobile licenses will provide \$1,500,000 a year for the counties to defray cost of maintaining highways.

On the 1923 valuation of the state, a levy of one-half of 1 mill will produce \$1,599,316.49, from farms and town lots alone.

How will this affect the property owners? Four counties, selected at random, give this result:

Table with 4 columns: County, Value, Tax, Per Acre. Rows include Adams, Co. Max, Cumine, Dodge.

The calculations are made in round numbers, decimals being dropped and totals brought to the nearest even figures.

WATER IN THE BOILER.

We print a letter from a correspondent who is inclined to view the expressions of both President Coolidge and Mr. Davis on capital as being directed against agriculture and labor alike.

Agriculture employs enormous sums of capital. Not only the permanently invested capital, which in 1920 amounted to \$74,924,100,338, but the liquid capital that is employed in the production and marketing of the crops.

Labor in itself is a form of capital, which is merely wealth that is available for the production of more wealth. Human labor has been declared to be not a commodity to be bought or sold in the market, yet it is the prime factor in the creation of any form of wealth.

To generate power by the release of energy latent in coal and water, a boiler is needed. A continual supply of water must be fed to the boiler so long as the engine is in operation, or disaster will follow.

This is what is generally overlooked by the wizards who disregard the element of capital in their consideration of economic problems.

HOW DO THEY GET THAT WAY?

On Sunday night the democratic sagamores professed to be confident not only of electing a governor of Maine, but of gaining a United States senator and a congressman.

Conceding Mr. Spelacy's mathematics, that the vote in Maine may mean a reduction of popular pluralities, there yet remains something of a margin. Harding had 7,000,000 more votes than Cox.

This can be reduced 50 per cent, and still leave a respectable preponderance for Coolidge.

Clem Shaver gets inspiration from the Maine results, and is out with a statement in which he gives John W. Davis 204 electoral votes and Coolidge 138.

It would be a shame to wake up either of these ardent dreamers. As they got great consolation out of contemplating a victory in Maine, so let them enjoy the prospect of sweeping the United States. It will come to about the same end.

DEFLATING THE FARMER.

One delusion certain Nebraska democrats persist in hugging is that the slump in prices in 1920 was due to the republican party.

"We pledge ourselves to a carefully planned readjustment to a peace-time basis and to a policy of rigid economy, to a better co-ordination of departmental activities, to the elimination of unnecessary officials and employees and to the raising of the standard of individual efficiency."

"The burden of taxation imposed upon the American people is staggering, but in presenting a true statement of the situation we must face the fact that, while the character of the taxes can and should be changed, an early reduction of the amount of revenue to be raised is not to be expected."

"Almost up to the present time, the practices of the federal board as to credit control have been frankly dominated by the convenience of the treasurer. The results have been greatly increased war costs, a serious loss to the millions of people who in good faith bought Liberty bonds and Victory notes at par, and extensive post-war speculation, followed today by a restricted credit for legitimate industrial expansion.

This is what the republican platform of 1920 said. It promises to check extravagance, to lower the cost of government, to reduce taxes, to discourage speculation. To encourage production—and thus increase employment. Each promise has been redeemed.

What follows is old straw. It has been threshed over many times. In June, 1919, a warning had been issued to the public to cut out speculation. Instead, the orgy increased. Between July 1 and December 31, 1919, the asset currency circulation of the Federal Reserve bank was increased by almost \$1,000,000,000. And then the brakes were set.

A Philadelphia man who spanked his 19-year-old daughter has been placed under a peace bond. The physical application of the father was more evaded than the magisterial application of justice.

The Minneapolis Journal covers the subject in one brief paragraph: "If you wish to put the supreme court down alongside the interstate commerce commission, vote for La Follette."

The winner of the Atlantic City bathing beauty contest has been announced. There are 10,000 or more prettier women teaching school in Nebraska right now.

Cole Blease will warm up the senate again after March 4, 1925, he having full approval of the South Carolina democrats. Surely, there is no accounting for tastes.

We are informed that the prince of Wales wears his hat tipped lightly to one side. Probably not quite so much so, however, as the average Maine republican.

The La Follette press bureau admits it was "mistaken" as to Brookhart. Events will show other places where the press bureau guessed wrong.

Governor Hunt of Arizona, having been nominated for the fifth time, might be justified in asking the voters to make it for life or good behavior.

A federal court having halted further grand jury probing into the Fall oil deals, there yet may be a chance for the senate committee.

The Literary Digest is now engaged in taking a straw vote for president. More interest might be shown were it a rye straw vote.

The New York Times says the republicans in Maine had their backs to the wall. They also had their eyes on the democrats.

Ak-Sar-Ben races are getting their share of attention, but the real race is between King Corn and Jack Frost.

Douglas county republican women are moving in the right direction, and with the enthusiasm that brings success.

If Mr. High keeps on, he will become low at the state house.

Maine went as usual.

Homespun Verse

—By Omaha's Own Poet— Robert Worthington Davie

THE TREND OF THINGS.

Not long ago my kin and I Were farmers, one and all; In spring we sowed our wheat and rye, We threshed them in the fall.

Considering All the Strange Help We Have in the Kitchen, It Might Not Be a Bad Idea



Letters From Our Readers

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

How Does This Touch the Farmer?

Omaha.—To the Editor of the Omaha Bee: All the candidates for president and vice president are posing as friends of the farmer and the laborer and are saying some mighty nice things about the farmer and the laborer during the campaign.

The following is from an address by John W. Davis of March 31, 1924: "I have a fine list of clients. What lawyer wouldn't want them? I am proud of them—Big business has made this country what it is."

The following is from an address by Charles G. Dawes at Chicago Union League club, February 22, 1923: "That form of government which history has proved most futile and disastrous is a democracy. Steps taken of recent years towards the principles of free democracy are leading in the direction of tyrannical mob rule under evil rulers."

I have been unable to find anything from the utterances of La Follette, Wheeler and Bryan as derogatory against agriculture and labor, but possibly some one else will be able to dig up something.

Abe Martin



What gits us is how th' wife that scrambles eggs for her husband's all-night poker party knows 'he's gint' 'n' win. By th' time a feller earns enough money honestly 'n' breathe easy his children are grown 'an' usin' th' car ever' time he wants it.

NET AVERAGE PAID CIRCULATION for July, 1924, of THE OMAHA BEE Daily 74,010 Sunday 74,792

SUNNY SIDE UP

Take comfort, nor forget That sunrise never failed us yet

We sometimes wonder how the poets live who write the kind of verse selected for the "current poetry" page of the Literary Digest.

It is not for us to criticize the sentence pronounced by Judge Caswell. We did not hear the evidence, and we refused to waste time reading that portion of it that was printable.

We have several lusty children of our own, and we are beginning to feel the weight of accumulating years. But we expect never to grow so feeble physically that we can not knock the block off n any one of them who refers to us in our presence as "the old man."

Preliminary symptoms as observed in the front office indicate that the business manager is feeling the urge to fare forth and garner in the ducks. We announce here and now that our acceptance of an invitation to a duck dinner is contingent upon a complete understanding about divers and sundry things.

At this time we desire to call the attention of the health and police authorities to the "Saints and Sinners" table at the Athletic club. Our insistence that the younger generation be taught to show some respect to its elders can never make proper headway in the face of the example set at the aforesaid table during the luncheon hour.

The first chilly night in September impresses upon the mind of this native Misourian that a gas log is a bum substitute for the old-fashioned fireplace of youthful days.

We indignantly deny that our recent visit to Columbus resulted in the charges laid against the proprietors of a beverage company in that city. In the first place, we knew nothing of the product, and in the second place, had we known that the beverage produced was such as charged by the prohibition authorities we would have concealed the information from even our most intimate friends.

Now comes the wight, alack, alas, Who spent his summer wage for gas; And midst a great travail of soul Asks credit for his winter's coal.

We have hopes. We have progressed thus far through the winter season without witnessing a spectacle of Lottie Clifford up to her elbows in watermelon rind pickles. But we are apprehensive, just the same.

WILL M. MAUPIN.

heard was the hand playing a very popular dance tune, "Sleep." What did that signify?

This morning on reading the election news from the state of Maine I am inclined to say, "John, here's your hat—what's your hurry?"

There will be plenty of time to sleep after a certain Tuesday in November. I. W. ONDER.

Suppress the Billboards. Omaha.—To the Editor of the Omaha Bee: Please advise me where I can join the society for "prevention of cruelty to county roads," namely, the organization for the suppression of billboard advertising in the county.

Germany hasn't seen anything but dotted lines since the old Hindenburg line broke—Toledo Blade.

FRANK J. CAREY.

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