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N. B. UPDIKE, President
RALLARD DUNN, Editor in Chief
JOY M. HACKLER, Business Manager

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medicine men are vigilant, though, and expect to prevent an epidemic.

Plague or no plague, the rat should be doomed. He is not native of America, and is the most obnoxious immigrant ever brought to the land. Vigorous, prolific, a great traveler, capable of eating a hole in a concrete wall, the rat offers one of the toughest jobs the public has yet taken up.

Some way may be found to evade this costly, wasteful and dangerous guest of the American public. One good way is suggested by the city health officer, Dr. Pinto. Let each citizen kill a rat. Every day, and keep it up. Soon the rats will be gone. Those who have the opportunity may exceed the limit, and kill as many as they wish any day. But the slogan should be, "The rat must go!"

OMAHA GOING STRAIGHT AHEAD.

Voters of Omaha have approved certain improvement projects by giving assent to three bond issues. One for the extension of the public school plant, one for the erection of a branch of the public library on the north side of town, and one for the creation of the Riverside Drive as part of the boulevard and park system.

Naturally, there was a division of opinion and opposition to the bonds. Whatever the basis for objection to the proposals, it was not sufficient to overcome the sentiment in favor and the bonds will be issued. The sign is a good one. Just as the citizens show their confidence in the future by the authorization of extensive public improvements, so will individuals feel encouraged to go ahead with betterments on private property.

Omaha is going straight ahead, along the road that leads to greater and more permanent prosperity. It would be amazing if the impetus that is felt throughout the land had no favorable reaction here. Shake off the lethargy and get into line, and help to make the city where you live all that you dreamed it should become when you cast your lot here. This is the clear call to every citizen, and should be heeded.

CURTAINS FOR MR. BROOKHART.

Iowa voters seem to have preserved a sense of the high dignity and personal probity that made the Hawkeye state a power in the councils of the nation from the first. They have handed Smith Wildman Brookhart his walking papers. In all the annals of party history no act of political treachery exceeds his conduct in turning on the ticket nominated by the party whose candidate he was.

No question is raised as to the right of Mr. Brookhart to give his personal support to La Follette and Wheeler. It was indecent of him to try to drag along with him the republican party by clinging to a nomination given him as a member of that party. He did declare his opposition to President Coolidge before the primary, but he did not then intimate that he would not support the party's choice for president and vice president. Had he boldly declared his determination not to act in harmony with the party before he was nominated, he might not have been so honored.

He selected his own course, followed his own counsel, and has been repudiated by the voters of Iowa. If he is game to follow his own ideas with regard to "lame ducks," it might not be out of place for him to resign at once, and let Governor Kendall send to Washington a man who actually will represent the people of Iowa for the remainder of the Sixty-eighth congress.

THE WORK AHEAD.

What has been perhaps the most curious political campaign in the country's history has just closed. With that out of the way there comes opportunity to consider carefully some of the things that need to be done to make a better Omaha and a better Nebraska.

In the city there is need for more community centers, more improvement clubs and a better knowledge of the city's great industrial life.

In the state there is need for better roads, better marketing facilities and improved school conditions. Most of all there is need for a better knowledge of Nebraska, its opportunities, its possibilities and its people. We need less worry about European conditions and more attention to the development of Nebraska resources. There is need for a publicity bureau that will not only tell the world about Nebraska resources and invite capital to develop them, but will also acquaint Nebraskans with the "acres of diamonds" at their very doors.

There is an immense amount of constructive work to interest Nebraskans and keep them busy.

Now what a mere trifle like electing a president is out of the way, let us give a considerable part of our attention to the absorbing question: "Will Nebraska beat Notre Dame?"

Uncle Sam credited Germany with \$2,000,000 when the ZR-3 was turned over to him. As usual a gas was most of what Uncle Sam received.

Europe will not worry about the refusal of the United States to enter the League of Nations so long as it is foremost in the Loan to Nations.

If President Coolidge really believes in reciprocity he will now inform us about the merits of a certain make of car.

Charles Hose of Chicago conducts a rubber works, and the only Stocking we know is a banker.

A lot of gas money burned last summer would look good invested in coal right now.

Good morning! Have you snagged your rat?

Homespun Verse

By Omaha's Own Poet—Robert Worthington Davis

EVOLUTION.

Farming, clerking, traveling—in search of needed wealth, of exercise, amusement and incessant rugged health.

Diversity and learnedness and logic straight and plain. And dignity and reverence—and necessary gain.

From manhood to the labyrinth in yonder, mystic deep, Through changes and perplexity like meteors we sweep. In sunshine and in shade our ways half consciously we wind

Into the rainbow's beauty and life's migratory end. It matters none where'er we dwell, nor what we choose to be.

Nor what we prize, nor what we seek to offer destiny— There is a single winding way that leads us straight— way on

Unto the end of earth's brief day and break of Heaven's dawn.

Well, Anyway, They Still Have the Wagon



"From State and Nation"

Stones From the Sky.

From the London Mail.

The earth is a target for many kinds of celestial missiles. Astronomers estimate more than 20,000,000 meteorites enter our atmosphere every 24 hours. They vary from microscopic particles to huge masses of several hundredweight. Most of them, however, are so small the friction they encounter as they rush through the air sets them on fire. They are entirely consumed before they reach the earth's surface.

Some, however, are massive enough to survive the passage through the air and are afterwards recovered. In 1492 a meteorite fell at Ensisheim, in Alsace. A terrific noise drew attention to its fall. It was found in a hole, having penetrated three feet into the ground. It was deposited in the church and drew large crowds to see it. The mass weighed originally 260 pounds. A fragment is preserved in South Kensington.

A meteorite fell on Mount Valsou, in Provence, in 1637. It was about the size and shape of a man's head, and weighed 54 pounds.

Another small meteorite fell at Milan in 1654. It struck and killed a Franciscan.

The first recorded English meteorite fell at Wold Cottage, in Yorkshire, in 1795. Now in South Kensington it weighs 56 pounds.

A shower of stones fell at L'Aigle, in Normandy, in 1803. A brilliant meteor was seen moving with great rapidity. Then a violent explosion was heard and masses were seen to fall. The largest weighed 7 1/2 pounds.

The "Batsura" meteorite fell in India in 1861. A loud explosion was heard and fragments of stone fell over a wide area. When recovered they fitted together, though pieces still wanting. Another instance of shattering is recorded in 1864. A fireball, apparently as large as the full moon, was seen from Argueil, in France. It exploded, and more than a hundred fragments were found. Originally, this must have been an enormous one. A mass of nearly one ton fell at Rowton, Shropshire, in 1876. It weighed 7 1/2 pounds.

In 1914 a mass weighing 33 pounds fell near Wigan, while in 1917 a stone weighing 38 pounds fell at Perth, Scotland. This was broken into four pieces.

The famous stone in the Kaaba, Mecca, which Mohammedan worship, is a meteorite.

No Time for Politics.

"Who are you supporting this year?" asked the man interested in politics.

"A wife, three children, six poor relations and a car," growled the man who wasn't.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Another Tramp Story.

"But I gave you a dime only yesterday, my good man."

"That was for food. Now I need money for a dispensary tablet for over-eating."—Battle Creek Visitor.

Abe Martin

It's just about got so th' only thing we kin be without a cash fund is a pallbearer. Who remembers when a feller shook your hand 'cause he wuz glad ' see you? (Copyright, 1924.)

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.

Hopes for the Future.

Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I wish to congratulate The Omaha Bee, its editors and its partisans in the contest of the past week upon their smashing victory. I sincerely hope that the greater confidence which they had in the patriotism, wisdom and efficiency of the Coolidge administration and its advisers is not misplaced and that my own impressions were erroneous and my fears unfounded.

I regard the American Ballot as the real Supreme Court, as does Robert La Follette. This court has now given a verdict in favor of the defendant, and I, as one of the plaintiffs, accept the verdict, and not only agree to, but regret, so far as I am a part of public opinion, upon the reins being left in the hands of the advisers of Coolidge.

I shall give the coming government my best wishes and would discourage all heckling and obstructing tactics. It will either manage things better than we expected or it will exploit the people so badly that they will be sufficiently outraged not only to take the power from its leaders but also in one way or another to take away from them again the resources they will steal from them.

Our comfort lies in the fact that in a democracy composed of fairly well educated people any oppression and exploitation of the masses must have its limits; the pendulum will swing only so far; swollen fortunes will gradually, by the force of public opinion, through taxation, control of corporations and in other ways, be reduced in the interest of the mass of the people. Let us hope that the stand-pat republican leadership will recognize this political law.

ALBERT KUHN.

A Smart Bobber.

"For the love of Mike! Officer, what's the excitement? Is there a riot?" asked the passerby.

"No," grumbled the cop, who was trying to keep the mob back; "that fool barber advertised bobbing for 45 cents and these are the long-haired women all rushing to take advantage of the bargain price."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

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AMENDMENT DEFEATED.

Most important of all the subsidiary matters submitted to the people was the Sorensen amendment to destroy party organizations. This was emphatically rejected by the voters. Its dangerous character, insidiously concealed behind a pretense to preserve the direct primary, brought on such disapproval as should be a rebuke to the marplots who are working always under cover to gain control in the state. Nebraska will hold to the party system of government. Its voters have found that institution amply responsive to their needs at all times. They will not discard it, even though they may from time to time give support to new party movements. On this fact we also congratulate the voters, because they have thus shown in high degree intelligent capacity to manage their own affairs, and not to submit to dictation, no matter who the dictator may be at the moment.

AMERICA'S STAR BOARDER.

A "star boarder" is one who eats and never pays. Who does nothing but consume food. Americans who long entertained a star boarder. If somebody down at Washington were to take \$100,000,000 from the Treasury each year and throw it into the Potomac river, we would hear loud and prompt protest. Yet that sum of money is just about what the people of the United States pay each year to feed the rats of the country.

In San Francisco, New Orleans and certain other seaports efforts have been made to exterminate the rat, but the movement has not generally spread. Not for lack of urging, for the health officials of the land have brought the matter forward many times, but with little effect. Another anti-rat crusade is about to get under way. It is stimulated by the appearance of a serious scourge of disease from the Pacific coast. Rat-borne, the plague has reached Los Angeles, and may get further. The

SUNNY SIDE UP

Take Comfort, nor forget, That Sunrise never failed us yet. Cella Haxter

SMILE.

When you think life's not worth while, Sit straight up and force a smile. Smile and shake your fist at fate: Hit the line, don't hesitate. Smile and say, "World, howdy do: Here's a looking straight at you!" Shake yourself and force a smile. You'll see clear sky after a while.

When you meet a brother, smile: Grasp his hand; walk double file. Smile and say, "Hello, old chum: Cheer up! Don't be sad and glum." Smile, and every time you do It pays interest to you. Waste of time salt tears to shed— Smile, and keep on straight ahead.

In the crowded market place Keep a glad smile on your face. Frown, and you give birth to doubt— Smile, and every time you do, Smile and say, "Things coming fine. Only carload lots in mine." Waste of time to sigh and sob— Smile, and stick tight to your job.

In a day or two we purpose indicating a few comments to a Norfolk weekly publication whose editor cast some aspersions on some recent political correspondence written by us and published in the news columns of The Omaha Bee. We'll not confine ourself to saying, "I told you so," either.

Just to satisfy the insistent demand of the Colonel, who sits at our left and between us and the window, we pause long enough to remark that the country enjoyed republican weather last Tuesday.

We admit that our knowledge of transportation problems is limited, and we would know more. But now and then we see something that bids us pause and wonder if there is any use trying to solve them. On a recent trip we stopped at Harvard for a few hours. While there an eastbound freight train whizzed through with four cars of fat hogs thereon. A few minutes later a westbound freight train whizzed through with four cars of fat hogs thereon. Then and there it struck us that it would have been a good idea to trade hogs before shipping, thus avoiding the payment of so much freight.

During the last three weeks of the campaign we personally urged 125,000 people to go to the polls and vote. It would seem that every one followed the advice, bringing five or six others with them.

Members of the We Knew Him When Club will show along on the bench and make room for Col. Griff Thomas of Harvard. We kicked a job press in his Courier office at Harvard nearly 40 years ago, and remember what a howl of derision went up when Colonel Thomas and his son, Harrie, installed the first linotype put into a weekly newspaper office in Nebraska. We old hand-pickers knew that father and son were crazy. Both are out of the newspaper game now, although Thomas, Sr., still carries a key to Ole Buck's Courier office and now and then writes a few bright thoughts for publication. Well along on the sundown side of life, Colonel Thomas still plays snare drum in the Harvard band, enjoys good health and, as always, looks out on life with a sunny smile.

For several weeks we have missed something. There was a hiatus in things that we could not define, hence worry and fretting. This morning it dawned upon us that here we are with the best pulling and topping season two-thirds gone and not a single sob or wail in Collier's Weekly about the poor little children with frozen fingers in the beet fields of Nebraska. Has Collier's been so busy saving the nation that it overlooked a subject that it has been whinging away at for years? WILL M. MAUPIN.

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