THE OMAHA BEE MORNING-EVENING-SUNDAY

THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., Publisher N. B. UPDIKE, President

BALLARD DUNN.

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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. BEE TELEPHONES

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RESTORING THE FORESTS.

Americans are rapidly waking up to the fact that forest trees are being used more rapidly than they are being reproduced. Not the use alone, but the waste as well. The last year was notable for an unusual number of terribly destructive forest fires. It is stated on authority that an area equal to a strip 10 miles wide and stretching from New York to Denver was devastated by fire during the year. Add to this the millions of acres denuded for commercial and industrial purposes, and the dwindling timber resources of the nation must give cause for thought.

Efforts to offset the effect are being made. Many states have established forestry bureaus, devoted to the preservation and propagation of forest trees. Much hard work has been needed to bring this to pass. Advocates of forestry have labored long and earnestly to arouse the public interest to a point where action might be had. Idealism has marched alongside practicability in this, for beauty is so closely interwoven with utility in forestry that it is not easy to separate the two.

Charles Lothrop Pack, for many years head of the American Forestry association, and now connected with the Tree Growers, has just issued a survey of forest events for 1924 and plans for 1925, from which we take this summary:

In New York, the biggest drive ever directed by the state conservation commission has just been completed. Almost 10,000,000 trees have been sent Farmers and private landowners took nearly 5,000,000, while industrial concerns absorbed nearly 2.000,000. Municipalities adopting the town forest idea took 2,000,000 more.

In Pennsylvania, whose very name indicates what relation the woods once bore to the region, the need of reforestation has reached such a stage of public realization that the state forestry association expects to obtain in the coming year the passage of a bill authorizing a loan of \$25,000,000 for the purchase of wild lands for a forest preserve.

Wisconsin has voted an amendment to its con stitution to permit the state to reforest waste lands. Governor Groesbeck of Michigan has asked for data on which to base a two-year program of re-

During 1924, Pack Foundation prizes for the best papers on forestry aimed to rouse popular interest in the subject were established at Yale. Penn State College of Forestry, New York State College of Forstry, Cornell university and the Universities of Michigan, California, Wisconsin, Washington and Minnesota, while a demonstration forest of 1,000 acres was given by Mr. Pack to the New York State College of Forestry.

Vermont is now planting 900,000 trees a year, and the first town forest of 1925 will be started in Bratleboro, that state, with 10,000 red pines.

Nebraska has lagged behind in this work. And this is the state that gave the nation Arbor day. Our people have won the title of "Tree Planters," but we have no department or bureau of forestry in connection with our state government. Nor any serviceable regulation regarding the planting or propagation of forest trees, or control and direction of those that are planted. Many times the legislature has been approached on this point, and several fragmentary plans have been adopted. Never has any comprehensive, satisfactory law been written on the book. The last three sessions have considered such a measure, and the attempt to pass a comprehensive law will be renewed. No state in the union offers a better field for the work of a forester than does Nebraska. Trees are needed here for many reasons, and their planting under the proper direction and for a definite purpose of use as well as beauty should be taken seriously by the people. A state bureau of forestry has long been needed and the legislature will have the opportunity of setting

WHAT YOUTH READS AND WHY.

A survey made at Columbia university disclosed the fact that the students there go in for very light literature to a large degree. It is love interest and "wild west" romance that predominate. Whereupon the investigators take occasion to deplore what they have discovered. Less trash and more substance, they say, is needed.

If the sole aim of life were what the Grandgrind school of pedagogy contemplates, the Columbia survey is disappointing. But there is another side to the question. "Man cannot live by bread alone," nor is his mind given a symmetrical development by being nurtured on solids exclusively. To grow properly, it must have its periods of rest, and just as the doctor advises one to eat spinach occasionally, so it is good to read a penny-dreadful now and then. Brain-dusters they are, and as such they are very useful. Relaxation, even recuperation, is possible

under the influence of the "shilling-shocker." Students at Columbia or any other institution of the sort get all the solid reading they need in connection with their studies. The mind gets weary at times, and demands diversion, just as does the body. The best form of play is a change of occupation. So the student turns from the text book or the erudite work on the subject he has in hand, and for a little while luxuriates in the frothy foam of the

consational. Time enough, when he gets out of school, to follow the learned. Even they will be found now and again, taking refuge and getting rest in a printed page they would not think of giving permanent place

on the library shelf. Light literature does not find its way exclusively into the hands of the "low

MAKING THE IDLE WATERS WORK.

A lot of talk is being heard about the power that is to be extracted from the water that now idly ushes down hill to the ocean. It is to be harnessed, and compelled to work for its living. To produce stuff to make plants grow, wheels whirl, and all that sort of thing. Very good. The sooner that talk is translated into action, the quicker the world will get a benefit from what is now making nothing but trouble.

Very little is said about something else water can do. Water in lakes and rivers. It can be made to carry commerce. Haul wheat to market. Bring coal from the mines to the consumers. All such stunts as that. Henry Ford recently sent a shipload of automobiles and accessories from Detroit to Buenos Aires in five weeks. All the way by water. The steamer was loaded at the Ford dock and not a thing was left to do but keep the screw moving in the water until the dock at far-off Buenos Aires, more than half way around the world from north to south, had been reached.

This steamer made its way across Lakes Erie and Ontario after "navigation closed" had been hung up. Went down the channel of the St. Lawrence along with chunks of ice, and out onto the Atlantic. Just another bit of accumulating evidence that the lakes-to-ocean plan is feasible, entirely practical. Yet, when an effort is made to get action on plans that will make the waste water of the big rivers, like the Missouri, available for commerce, the cry of "Pork!" goes up.

The house showed a little sign of reason, when it refused to cut out an appropriation to establish the Inland Waterways corporation. This will bring the government into the St. Lawrence canal scheme as an active participant. The rivers and harbors committee is resisting a demand to cut the appropriation from \$53,000,000 to \$35,000,000. Economy is desirable, but commerce will gain when the rivers are made to carry their share of what now

SERVING THE PUBLIC.

Two events of the week have passed with but scant notice in Omaha. One was the reorganization and annual election of officers of the Omaha Board of Education. The other was the same process in connection with the directors of the Metropolitan Utilities district. Each has for its executive head a man to hire whom the city would be required to exceed the salary limit fixed by law for public officials. Ralph Van Orsdel is president of the Board of Education, and Frank J. Burkley chairman of the Utilities board. The one is a busy and successful lawyer, the other the head of a manufacturing concern whose affairs give him full occupation.

Yet these men will devote a great deal of their time during the coming year to the service of the public. Surely not for the money there is in the jobs. Mr. Van Orsdel serves without salary. Mr. Burkley takes down the magnificent sum of \$50 per

What induces them, then, to take on arduous duties and grave responsibility? Nothing, but the recognition of the fact that they are engaged in public service. Doing a job for the good of all the people. With no selfish thought for themselves, sacrificing leisure for the benefit of the community. It is the spirit that has made the republic what it has become, that sustains the city in its steady progress.

Serving the public is not always a matter of salary. Something far finer than can be measured in oney is involved. And the men and women who make up the school board and directory of the Utilities district are giving something beyond price. Loyal devotion to the good and welfare of Omaha is their contribution.

Omaha is looming up a little better as a milling center, with an output of more than a million dollars' worth of flour a month. Could be a lot bigger, without exhausting the wheat supply of the state.

Nebraska's credit is mighty high with the War Finance corporation, as well as elsewhere. Less than \$300 loss out of \$13,000,000 loaned is a most encouraging report.

Unfilled orders for steel increased by almost 800,000 tons in the month of December. Prophecies of better business were not unfounded, if steel is a

Fire alarm whistle over in Illinois froze and the town nearly burned up. Must be a moral in this

A Wisconsin professor tells us kisses have lost heir kick. He is kissing the wrong girl-that's evi-

Governors' sons may be as embarrassing at times ministers' sons.

Decks have been cleared at Lincoln. Now watch he wheels go around.

The Kansas klan lost its battle with the supreme ourt. Sometimes the Jayhawkers do things well.

Sugar has heard the call, and is coming down.

Homespun Verse -By Omaha's Own Poet-

Robert Worthington Davie

COUNTRY FOLKS.

It's different in the country than it down here in town, There aren't any strangers 'way out there; They all know one another, and you never see them

You never know you're burdened down with care.

Folks visit like they liked to-like they weren't in a Away out in the hills from whence I came:

They have a way of acting that will make a sick man And all the year around they're just the same. They're what we count as common and straightforward

and worth while. They're closest to the primal virtues, too; Their hearts just seem to open when they talk to you and smile. And something makes you know that they are true

They're good folks, and they're doing things of worth They're kind folks with the finest home life known;

Their hopes are in the open where their daily toil is And where their splendid promises are grown.

They're plain folks, having comforts that they know, they can afford;

They sort of fit themselves to every year; Whatever is their fortune, 'tis to them a just reward-They're kinda proud of all that's offered here,

The Daily Grind in Washington



Letters From Our Readers

your Public Pulse.

The writer of the answer to Father Judge does not follow the reasoning of Father Judge. We all know that we have splendid public schools, but it is apparent that even in that system we have know from for invariant and care. Intelligent police officials in the larger cities have the way have know from for invariant and care. Intelligent police officials in the larger cities have the way have known from for invariant and care. Intelligent police officials in the larger cities have the way have known from for invariant and care. Intelligent police officials in the larger cities have the police of the care way and the companies of the care way and the care way a what are superior intellects.

It is not my desire to slander the the ward of the government up to thing is "very satisfactory" along the age of 18, and even between the prohibitory lines! other" of my education, and they say Father Judge is too good a man to slander any good institution. Those who have the privilege of equaintance know. Father Judge has

wrong. The Catholic parent provides for the education of his own child. When he does that he has performed his complete moral duty both to God ery and state. However, under the pres-ent arrangement the Catholic parent must pay equal school tax for educating the children of other parents. ublic schools are not free. Parochnd Catholics are obliged to pay extra for their schools plus the public school tax. Both schools are needed to make everybody satisfied, but why give public approbation to a moral wrote, which is double taxation.

PAUL I. MANHART.

Omaha Bee: It is a popular conception in this country that, in a material way, we lead lives filled with a greater share of happiness and prosperity than do the peoples of other perity than do the peoples of other

when we hear our most esteemed land owners and industrial magnates

tion before any public forum?

another decade.

which allow such exploitation

Mr. Ward Dissents.

Hartington, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Apropos to the con-

plaint entered against Federal Officer

Samardick and others, your leading editorial says, "We hold that a law officer has no right in the attempt to

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TOM MATTHEWS,

4801 Seward Street.

which I wish to comment through nently, and all at the taxpayers' ex-

About the Amendment.

It therefore seems a bit strange

notion, that the child labor amendment to the constitution will "inter-fere with the rights of the children."

Abe Martin



Th' Bear Wallow Bank has locked water, and gargle throat thoroughly s doors an' adopted th' mail order plan t' tide it over th' crime wave, Bayer Tablets of Aspirin, market It's beginnin' t' look like puttin' woman ca th' same basis as man with Bayer Cross, which can be had in tin boxes of twelve tablets for few has set 'cm both back.

Restrain of the law should be even more strict on the officer than on the unofficial citizen." Sure!
A man should not rush into a burning building to rescue his wife and

Wants School Tax Divided.
Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Eee: A letter appeared in the January 3 issue of the World-Herald written by "Long Live the Public Schools," which is in answer to the New Year's article by Father Judge of Sacred Heart school, on which I wish to comment through children, because he might run up

it is apparent that even in that system we have room for improvement. We realize there is something lacking. This is shown in one way by the failure of the public school childer own against those of other schools, and Father Judge is correct in stating that competition in place is a fair test for determining what are superior intellects. place is a fair test for determining education and care, is regarded as with the smiling assurance that every

ages of 18 and 20 certain protective Could anything be more ludicrous regulations are enforced with regard than the late report by the Nebraska o night work and hazardous occupa- director, or throw a better light on hittons.

"Conditions New Year" "Conditions New Year acquaintance know. Father Judge has the temerity to give us a few facts on equal privilege and practical justice. We do not needed a law requiring Catholics to attend parochial schools. The law requiring them to attend some school is sufficient.

To unjustly enrich yourself at the law required the content of actions from Russia" and "interference with states rights," although the content of positive law eare so afraid lest we be contaminated with progressive measures such as the child labor amendment that we great majority whom for the agents are disposed to brand them as "important the child labor amendment that we personal safety and tenure of office it is not well to insult, belabor or ference with states rights," although shock down, and in places where any student of political developments slugging and profanity are not comin this country knows that states fortably indulged in, even by the bray rights, as such, have long ceased to est and most expert slugger. Truly, exist. They died with chattel slav- of the W. C. T. U.?

I wonder why the opponents of the child labor amendment are dodging the Nebraska prohibition agent, the the challenges issued by defenders, who are willing to debate the question before any mubils from the control of the most successful for liquor specific the control of the most successful for liquor specific the control of the contr liquor sleuths since the passage of Public schools are not free. Parochial or private schools are not free. We are taxed extra for public schools; and Catholics are obliged to pay extra most reactionary interests in the constitution of the volstead act—more violators of liquor laws arrested, prosecuted, etc., and Catholics are obliged to pay extra most reactionary interests in the constitution of the volstead act—more violators of liquor laws arrested, prosecuted, etc., and catholics are obliged to pay extra most reactionary interests in the constitution of the volstead act—more violators of liquor laws arrested, prosecuted, etc., and catholics are obliged to pay extra most reactionary interests in the constitution of the volstead act—more violators of liquor laws arrested, prosecuted, etc., and catholics are obliged to pay extra most reactionary interests in the constitution of the volstead act—more violators of liquor laws arrested, prosecuted, etc., and catholics are obliged to pay extra most reactionary interests in the constitution of the volstead act—more violators of liquor laws arrested, prosecuted, etc., and catholics are obliged to pay extra most reactionary interests in the constitution of the volstead act—more violators of liquor laws arrested, prosecuted, etc., and catholics are obliged to pay extra most reaction are constituted in the volstead act—more violators of liquor laws arrested, prosecuted, etc., and catholics are obliged to pay extra most reaction are constituted at the volstead act—more violators of liquor laws arrested. country?

That home of the slave-ridden textile industry, Massachusetts, has already shown its middle-age spirit by refusing to ratify the child labor amendment. Every state which tolerates such forms of exploitation can be expected to take similar action.

If the child labor amendment is to be ratified, it means that 26 state leg islatures.

of these states act as Massachusetts then child labor exploitation will be tolerated in this country for at least

Nebraska has a child labor law. The linged than the movies," "and half of the knocks arise through ratification of the amendment by Ne-braska will help to place its indus-ignorance. One of the most comtries on a plane of equality with those charges laid against a picture is: Oh, that would never happen in real of other states. State regulation of child labor means discrimination in

favor of industries in those states "A girl came to Los Angeles re cently to go into pictures. She failed landed at the Santa Fe depot, and approached a nice-looking man and



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SUNNY SIDE UP

Jake Comfort nor forget. That Sunrise never failed us yet

Owing to our inability to suppress our emotions at times, we are experiencing difficulty in restraining our language while preparing some of our Uplift Bills. This is especially true of r B.H for a Law to Suppress Sob Squads. We want to draw the bill in chaste and moderate language, but when we think of some of the things that brought about the desire to secure the contemplated law we feel like using language calculated to shock the Truly Good.

Recently the Sob Squadders secured the pardon of a man whose only offense was that he killed a man. Since he was sent to the pen he has learned to read music and perform upon This was considered ample reason for turning the saxophone. We hope he takes that saxophone and serenades those Sob Squadders from 11 p. m. to 1:30 a. m. every night

Down in Missouri a convict has been playing the plano, and playing it pretty well, we admit. We've heard 10,000 better plano players who never saw the inside of a prison. But this con ivory pounder has made a hit with the Sob Squadders and he has been given thousands of dollars, while honest men outside have sought in vain for work to support their families. He has also been given an automobile, while we have to walk, and we don't play the plane and we have never been a prisoner. and we don't play the plane and we have never been a prisoner in the penitentiary.

Up in northern Nebraska a man was convicted of a particularly atrocious crime, and the Sob Squadders have managed to stave off his execution from time to time. All a man has to do to get flowers and candy and the patting sympathy of a lot of Sob Squatters is to commit some crime, and the more heinous it is the more flowers be will receive. Now that is the sort of thing we are trying to Pass a Law against. What we want is a little less sympathy for thugs and thieves and murderers; fewer flowers for rapists and garroters, and more sympathy and flowers for honest men and women who plug along, day by day, doing the very best they can,

A penitentiary sentence these days is quite a pleasant vacation, with assurance of plenty of Sob Squadders of flock around with fruits and flowers and proffers of assistance to do enough sobbing before the authorities to secure a parole if not a pardon. Human life will be cheap and crime rampant until we succeed in Passing a Law to Suppress Sob Squadders. We are willing to donate our time to an effort to secure the law's enactment, but we are financially unable to maintain a lobby at We are considering the proposition to open a Bureau of Sensible Uplift and receive contributions.

During the last couple of weeks our work has been such as to keep us looking about the two leading hotels of Lincoln Speaking of the University of Nebraska, we'll say that it is turning out some of the best fox trotters, flappers and shelks that ever pranced around a ballroom. More than one Nebraska father is compelled to work in a pair of one-gallus overalls in order to permit a son to wear bell-bottomed pants and a Toxedo at a party house function.

> Mother Goose Up to Date. Old Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard, To partake of a morsel of gin: But when she got there the cupboard was bare, And Daughter was wiping her chin.
>
> — Nebraska City Press.

But when she got there the cupboard was bare, Father Goose lugged it off on his hip. Ole Buck says that in these degenerate days when a man cenches for his hip you don't know whether he is going to shoot you or treat you. Conditions are such that we are willing to

Old Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard

To take for herself a wee nip:

WILL M. MAUPIN.

asked him to direct her to the Y. W. ly she returned.

"The man looked at her an smiled. "She's nearly ready." she reported, "she's just walling on her eyebrows."—Boston Transcript.

Little Bessie admitted her sister's caller and after entertaining him few moments went upstairs. Present

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