

THE OMAHA BEE

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Omaha-Where the West is at its Best

AMERICA'S FINEST MANHOOD.

A face that shines with clearer glory as the passing years dispel the mists will greet Americans today with majesty and calm strength. Abraham Lincoln, born 115 years ago, in humble situation but to a high destiny, is cherished as the finest product of American manhood.

It is good to look at Lincoln today. Not merely to consider the story of his rise from obscurity to everlasting fame. Not to examine into any particular act or part of his life. Just to consider him as a man, walking among men. Sharing the perplexities and tribulations of those about him.

His love of liberty, his devotion to the rights of man, have been the theme of many an orator or poet. But no tribute paid him in words, spoken or written, equals that evoked in every heart when the name of Lincoln is mentioned.

PAROLE LAW SHOULD BE PRESERVED.

We congratulate the house at Lincoln for having laid to rest the measure designed to repeal the pardon and parole law. Familiar with the abuses that have been practiced under the law, and frequently as exasperated as any by these miscarriages, we yet feel the law is good.

Unless there is some method for extending clemency under proper circumstances, the object of all law against crime is defeated. Many times it has been stated that the purpose of the law is dual. Reformation of the culprit is secondary, and yet it is also an end to be accomplished through proper treatment.

To make a law absolutely rigid, assessing definite penalties with no regard for the factors that should be considered, would defeat the aim of the county attorneys who backed the bill to repeal the parole system.

If judges and pardon boards are too lenient, that is not the fault of the law. A stronger moral fiber will be encouraged, not by making the law more terrible, but by making it more certain. Human law, finally, reflects human weakness.

CHEER UP; IT ISN'T SO!

Adam Breede, who is seemingly afraid to assume the responsibility, because he has never married, declares that "a man marries because he is not afraid to assume the responsibility of raising a family, and then he hands the job over to his wife."

Adam, like all the rest of us, knows a great many things that aren't so. Likewise, and also like the rest of us, he does not know a great many things that are so. Firstly, men seldom consider the responsibility of a family when they marry.

Men who accept the responsibility of raising families are the men who have made this country what it is, and with the help of the good women who have accepted equal responsibility.

The great trouble with Editor Breede's assertion is that it isn't so. It is only now and then that men shirk responsibility for the families that have been given into their care.

Raising a family is a partnership enterprise, Adam. There is equal responsibility that is very

generally cheerfully assumed. Were Adam to enter upon such a partnership and in time be charged with family responsibility, he doubtless would look upon life differently. We admit, however, that the view taken by his partner is wholly conjectural.

LEGISLATION BY CONFERENCE.

Out of the welter of confusion that attends the goings on in congress two little gleams shine. Postal employes may get their raise in pay, and the Muscle Shoals matter may be settled.

In the house the Kelly postal rate increase bill was passed and sent over to the senate on Tuesday. It contains provisions for increasing postal revenues by \$61,000,000, with additional pay provisions amounting to \$68,000,000.

Most of the important legislation is now done in conference committees at Washington. Senators and representatives might harmonize their views in some other way, but this appears to offer a satisfactory way out of tight places.

GOING TO THE AUTO SHOW?

Next week the Omaha Automobile show will open its doors again. If past experience is repeated, six hectic days and nights are ahead of the dealers. Omaha is as much of a wonder city when it comes to the automobile as any in the land.

To these must be added the visitors who will come in from all the country around. In the early days of the industry a local dealer frequently got a shock. Some man dressed in overalls or the equivalent would look over a high-priced car, fitted out with all the appurtenances and fancy doodads, and casually inquire the cost.

The chief clerk of the house of representatives returns to the treasury of the United States \$63,406.19, unexpended balance of the legislative appropriation for last year. Who says the members were not too busy playing politics to attend to business?

If taxpayers would pay as much attention to the way their money is spent as they do to complaining about the amount they pay, they might secure needed relief.

James Joyce is now regaling us with a discussion of "the ineluctable modality of the invisible." He must be referring to the Monday morning remnant of our Saturday pay check.

A San Francisco judge has held that a husband is responsible if his wife breaks the law. Something like a decision made back in the Garden of Eden.

Appropriation of \$400,000 for the Omaha Indians is described as a "Godsend" to the tribe. Even Henry Ford would not ignore the item.

The boom of dynamite along the Platte river is just an indication that the Union Pacific is trying to anticipate the spring break-up.

Heat in the council chamber over the tramway will not help. That is a business deal and should be calmly considered.

Eighty millions in bonds were sold in 30 minutes by the city of New York. It will take much longer to redeem them.

The house did not need to pass the "pint" bill. In Omaha for a long time the limit has been but half a pint.

Another missing link skull has been found in Africa. But why go that far?

Everybody who uses the roads ought to be willing to pay for them.

Homespun Verse

By Omaha's Own Poet— Robert Worthington Davie

MOTHER AND GRANDMA TOO. She used to sign her letters—"From Mother"—long ago; They were such kindly missives,— So cheerful, and aglow With sentiment authentic, With tidings rich and fine— There was a jewel gleaming From every written line.

Long years have passed,—her letters Come frequently today; The home to which they journey Has changed, I'm glad to say,— And there are children playing About incessantly— They, too, her letters welcome With honest ecstasy.

Her words are just as genial, Her thoughts are just as kind As when of yore "from Mother"— Her messages were signed— But now she adds a little— As she seems fain to do— Her letters close: "From Mother, And your Grandpa too."

Got the Whole Family Stumped



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.

Child Labor. Council Bluffs, Ia.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Mrs. William Brown Meloney, editor of the Delineator, says in furtherance of the proposed child labor amendment that in the rice fields of the south children of tender age work knee deep in water, deprived of necessary schooling and protected surroundings.

Too Many Laws. Stanton, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I vote no. Our taxes now are almost unbearable. And that condition has been brought about in the last 20 years through new laws. It has created an endless and useless lot of offices and salaries, and the people are not benefited any, but are more restless and discontented on account of this avalanche of "isms" that have been put on our statutes.

Suggestion to Legislature. Octavia, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: There is nothing that we as a state are more dependent on than transportation, which is in the hands or reach of the railroads, except the weather. And now, with the present prosperity that the roads now enjoy, and likely to, will enjoy, would it not be well for our legislature to ask our representative men from the entire state, with the aid of the governor, to ask a reduction in freight rates in a friendly way, and now, without any political excitement, would likely be listened to and come to a better understanding.

Art Exhibit. "Have you seen the Hungarian prints?" "No, where is he? I didn't know there was to be any royalty at this affair."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

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Modern Miracles. Valentine, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: The Texas minister whom you mention in last Sunday's editorial evidently needs a mental shampoo. Have pity on the poor man, he may have heard "the call of the wild." If he wants to wear a "Mother Hubbard" in his pulpit and deny his manhood, that is his business.

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SUNNY SIDE UP

Take comfort, nor forget, That Sunrise never failed us yet.

Only now and then does he drop in—not nearly often enough—and then we throw off our loads of care and live happily some of the old days. It isn't a good thing to do that all the time, but an occasional memory excursion is as refreshing as a June shower.

"The Ancient and Honorable Old-Time Newspaper Men of Omaha" are going to get another square meal at the other fellow's expense. A couple of months ago Tom Blackburn provided the feast. On February 23 Tom Fitzmorris acts as host. We acknowledge the invitation, and providence permitting, we'll be there with bells on and our fast-graying hair properly braided, or bobbed. The invitation reminds us of Ben King's famous poem, "If I Should Die Tonight." We'd do like the subject of that poem did when the friend offered to return the ten. We'd raise right up and respond to Tom's invitation.

The grave suspicion lurks in the back of our mind that those politicians who are down in Lincoln and worrying over that "word of mouth" law, are not worrying about the kind of voters quite so much as they are about the number of voters who may be properly handed.

Among the men whom we admire is Col. Wadsworth McAtee. When we relate a funny yarn He always says "that's new to me." —Law Shelley in Fairbury News.

Another man I do admire is my old comrade, Billy Peck. When we together sit and dine He always says, "I'll take the check."

"A Farm Girl" near Palmer, Neb., writes in to inform us that as a February gardener we are not so much. "One day last week," she writes, "you told us about your garden, but you aren't any gardener at all. I picked beans one day last week, and dug parsnips today, and waded in the snow to do it. That's what I call a real garden for this time of year." We'll say it is. But we'd like to have a mess of the parsnips for proof. Not that we are doubting the word of the "Farm Girl," but long association with politicians makes us a bit suspicious.

They are reopening King Tut's tomb. At that he is fortunate. Just suppose'n they were exploring for his appendix.

It seems strange to us that to date no genius has invented a smokeless flashlight powder.

And, by the way, apropos of nothing at all what has become of all those kindly old gentlemen who always chewed fine-cut tobacco? WILL M. MAUPIN.

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NEARLY INSANE AT TIMES Mrs. Saunders Tells how Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound Relieved Troubles of Change of Life Knoxville, Tenn. "I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound while going through the Change of Life. I was very nervous, could not sleep and had melancholy spells. In fact, I was nearly insane at times and my memory was almost a blank. I was so weak I could not do my housework half of the time and suffered dreadfully with my back. My doctor said I would have to worry it out and I went through this for three years before I began taking the Vegetable Compound which I saw advertised. I think it was eight bottles that I took. It has been two years since I took any and I haven't had a doctor since for that trouble. I do all my washing and ironing and I have gained from 116 to 138 pounds. I advise all women who suffer physically and mentally as I do to give the Vegetable Compound a fair trial. I hope it will do as much for them as it did for me." — Mrs. T. A. SAUNDERS, 711 E. Depot Street, Knoxville, Tennessee.

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