

THE OMAHA BEE MORNING-EVENING-SUNDAY THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., Publisher N. B. UFDIKE, President BALLARD DUNN, Editor in Chief JOY M. HACKLER, Business Manager

to defeat the nominees of the party, nominees chosen by the people themselves. The rebuke administered in November is to be mildly echoed in the reorganization of the senate.

AN AMERICAN PRINCESS. "My family has been American in all its branches, both direct and collateral, for many generations." So wrote Ulysses S. Grant in the opening sentence of his memoirs.

American history presents few pictures more noble than that of the old warrior, sitting on the front porch of his home overlooking the Hudson, expending his last conscious effort to complete his life story.

With her father she spent many months at the brilliant Austrian court, going to school with the daughters and playing with the sons of the proudest nobility of the world.

Michael Cantacuzene was not a play noble. He managed a great estate in the Ukraine, took part in the business of the empire, and when the war came on went to the front with his regiment.

His wife, who is as well Princess Esterhazy as Countess Cantacuzene, has given Americans a lively picture of life at the czar's court as well as the early days of the war and the revolution up to the hour when she was forced to flee with her children to escape the ravages of the reds.

Something not altogether encouraging may be noted in the efforts of certain zealous advocates of particular brands of religion. In one great weekly review we read the editor's opinion that a notably successful football team was helped to its victories because most of its members attended a religious ceremony each day.

Long ago Tom Moore, one of the sweetest of Irish singers, wrote of the sentiment: "Not Perish the heart and the cause that would try Love, valor or friendship by a standard like this."

In all the history of the United States no religious test has ever been set up as a standard to measure men by. Under God our people have exercised to the fullest that dearest of all rights, to worship according to their conscience.

Eighty-seven more names have been added to the citizenship roll in Omaha, and that many more foreign-born are ready to take their full share in carrying the republic to its destiny.

After listening to Vice President Dawes for a few minutes the senators proceeded to stage an inaugural brawl of their own.

"Ev" Buckingham did not leave much worldly gear, but he did bequeath a name that could not be hought with much riches.

Chicago is awarded a flood of water from Lake Michigan, but it will not be used for beverage purposes.

March 14 will be a red-letter day at the postoffice all over the land. Clerks will then get their back pay.

General Mitchell is gone, but he will not soon be forgotten.

All voters should look alike under the Nebraska law.

Homespun Verse By Omaha's Own Poet—Robert Worthington Davis

THE JAZZ AFFLICTION. I have demurred With other "birds" Upon the jazz affliction; I have agreed for That there's a need For more or less restriction;

Almost Broke Up the Tea Party



Letters From Our Readers On the Nebraska Press

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

Forward for Omaha. Omaha—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I wish to endorse your splendid editorial in this morning's Bee in regard to the M. E. Smith & Co. sale.

Do it pay to squander \$50,000 on a convention lasting a few days, where the value of permanent results are decidedly questionable—I might say negligible—or would this money do Omaha more good as an investment in an industry that has every natural advantage here?

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LISTENING IN On the Nebraska Press

"They say," chorles Fletch Merwin of the Beaver City Times-Tribune, "that even Maiden Blush apples are hand-picked."

Editor Harris of the Harvard Courier covers a lot of territory when he says the 10-day marriage law was the most foolish law ever put on the statute books.

Noting that the legislature has gone on record against sun tanning, Editor Sweet of the Nebraska City Press expresses the hope that Nebraska women will obey the law.

Adam Bredes of the Hastings Tribune features an article "Advice to the Fair but Plump." But what difference does it make to that old bachelorette whether they be plump or fair, or both?

Bob Rice of the Central City Republican asserts that the burning issue today is whether California or Florida is the land of greatest promise. Well, it's purt night a tie on the promise thing, isn't it, Bob?

Speaking of optimists, Allan May of the Auburn Herald tells of a mother in that burg who had her little boy listen in on the inaugural ceremonies so he would get some idea of what would happen when he was inaugurated.

Dale Krebs of the Scotia Register says some people will never be satisfied until they get a job that permits a six-months' vacation twice a year.

Charley Best of the Neligh Leader ventures the opinion that Nick and Alice Longworth are giving Dr. Pinto the merry ha ha.

Do Something Quickly. Omaha—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Is Omaha going back so fast that we will have to replace our downtown streets with hitching posts, gas lights and possibly tear up the streets, return to mud lanes and old Dobbin and the shay?

Why not organize a real Chamber of Commerce which will work for the betterment and enlargement of the city instead of being dominated by a few or is it "the few"?

Pot Likker and the Future. Omaha—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Darn that editor and his "Pot Likker!" I thought I'd just about gotten over being homesick.

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SUNNY SIDE UP Take comfort, nor forget, That Sunrise never failed us yet. Celia Thaxter Thoughts on a Sunday afternoon jaunt about Omaha: Ak-Sar-Ben den. Remember when the high-wheel bicycle riders were making things hum around its oval.

Omaha—Where the West is at its Best

AUTEN WRITES A "MOUTHFUL."

One day, after the patriarch had been more than usually tried by the windy arguments of his friends, he ejaculated: "Oh . . . that mine adversary had written a book;" James Auten, who sits as one of the democratic representatives in the Nebraska legislature, has written a letter which will do as well as any book.

Writing to the editor of the North Bend Eagle, Representative Auten expresses his views on the proposed tax on gasoline. His first appeal is to class prejudice:

"To illustrate. A large property owner pays quite a heavy road and bridge tax and he conceives the idea of a gas tax to make the poor flivver owner build good roads to enhance the value of his land holdings but not its productive powers."

Then he tackles it from another angle, although just how this applies to the problem as he sees it is not plain:

"We are asked to build many long lines of gravelled highway and then tax ourselves to put in a great system of public parks so the people will have some place to go. You know P. T. Barnum said there was one born every minute."

Finally, Brother Auten admits that the gas tax will "all be used on trunk lines of roads that the farmers haul their crops to market over." How that can possibly harm the farmer is beyond understanding.

He gives a remote inkling of what he is driving at when he says that \$1,500,000,000 of property in Nebraska escapes taxation, and that \$600,000,000,000 of tax free bonds also exist.

Admitting the truth of these figures, which at best are conjectural, how can it materially help in solving the road problem? Unless a direct tax is laid, and on whom will such a tax fall heaviest? On the farmers, whose unorganized condition Mr. Auten bemoans as follows:

"The Chambers of Commerce, commercial clubs, Lions clubs and Cubs are organized and they work as a unit for what they want and they usually get it. In fact all classes are organized except the farmers and the inmates of the asylum."

He concludes his plea with an adjuration to all that they remember the gasoline tax is one more ruse of the wealthy to shift the tax from wealth to labor. That part of it sounds like something coming from a soap-bob. If labor drives the automobiles that now go flitting over the highways of Nebraska to the tune of something like 300,000, not to speak of the thousands of "visiting" cars that use the roads every day in the year, then labor ought to pay the tax.

The fallacious quality of the Auten arguments are made clear from his own expressions. The gasoline tax rests only on those who use the roads. It will be expended to build and maintain roads. Only one way to escape the direct tax is to levy the indirect. Or else abandon the idea of goods roads. And to that point the Auten plea tends.

REAPING THE WHIRLWIND. Those senators who were elected as republicans, but who gaily wandered away in pursuit of fancies outside the pale of party discipline, are about to gain their reward. In the reorganization of the senate the element of party regularity is to control. This is made more certain by the evinced disposition of the democrats to abstain from participation in what they regard as a republican family affair.

Two years ago the democrats, acting as partisans, aided in electing Smith of South Carolina to be chairman of the Interstate Commerce committee. This course will not be repeated.

Only two so-called republicans are to be severely disciplined. La Follette, who boldly undertook to encompass the defeat of the party's candidate for the presidency, will forfeit his standing completely. His long career in the senate will conclude with the position of leader of a small group of adherents, none of whom professes allegiance to either of the old parties, unless the label lightly worn by Brookhart, Ladd and Frazier may be regarded as connecting them with the republicans.

Brookhart, who blatantly assailed the candidates of his party, faces a contest for his seat, which is not prominent in any of the committees, however he may attract attention from the floor. Ladd will doubtless be removed from the chairmanship of the public lands and surveys committee. Frazier will be set aside in like manner. Each of these three recalcitrants voted with the republican majority in the election of Moses to be president pro tempore.

We do not believe that this will end "insurgency" within the republican party. It will do much to establish order. However, so long as men of independent mind, like Norris and Howell of Nebraska, for example, sit in the senate, that long will there be from time to time opposition to purely partisan programs. Indeed, it is well that this is so. The republican party is not an oligarchy, despotically wielding power over its adherents. Yet it has an undoubted right to cast out of its membership those who flagrantly offend. Such as the men who sought

Accomplished. "What did you learn at the business college?" asked the boss of the fair young applicant for a position as stenographer. "I learned many things," she answered, "one that good spelling is essential to a stenographer. "Very good," said the boss with a chuckle, "and now let me hear you spell essential." For just a second the fair one hesitated. "There are three ways of spelling it," she replied; "which one do you prefer?"—London Weekly Telegraph.

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MAJESTIC LUMP Arkansas Semi-Anthracite Harder and hotter than the kind you have been using. - - ASK FOR IT! Lump Size \$13.50 Mine Run \$11.50 PDIKE LUMBER & COAL CO. Your Choice of Truck or Team for Delivery See Samples of This Coal at Hayden's Grocery Dept.

Abe Martin The surest sign of spring is when a woman wears her best winter hat 't' th' grocery. "We're goin' t' eat down-town t'night, fer I'm hungry fer somethin' warm," phoned Mrs. Lufe Bud, t' her husband t'day. (Copyright, 1923.)