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Omaha—Where the West is at its Best

SUPER-POWER AND THE PUBLIC.

Senator Norris entertained an audience at Washington Sunday with his vision of the power plant of the future. Before him stretches a view of great central generating stations turning water power into electricity. Distributed by means of a comprehensive system of connecting wires, this power will be available to all communities, and will serve humanity in so many ways that it will be a blessing to all.

Many other able men have had the senator's vision, and in time it will come to pass. Some demonstrated facts deserve to be given full value, though, in the interpretation of this dream. One of these is that the amount of water power possible in the United States is limited. Careful calculation, based on close surveys, justifies the Federal Power commission in reporting that the amount of electric energy now in daily use in the United States exceeds the total hydro-electric power possible. That is, the combined developed and undeveloped water power in the United States will produce 55,000,000 horsepower, but only for part of the time. Already the combined electrical installations in daily service grind out 56,000,000 horsepower. So the super-power plan, already on the way, must have the support of steam-driven generators to meet the requirements of the present, with no regard for the future.

Senator Norris uses in his lecture an illustration he made most familiar in the senate. That is the comparison between the cost of a certain amount of electric service in Toronto and in Washington. In answer to him other senators were able to account for the discrepancy by the comparison of factors entering into the charge. One of these is that the revenue from the sale of current by the government-owned lines in Toronto does not equal the cost of service, and that an annual deficit is made up from taxes levied on the public. The farmers of Ontario pay for a portion of the electric current used by the citizens of Toronto and other communities served.

Super-power is one of the nation's greatest needs. It will be met in time, for conditions are changing too rapidly to permit present practices to control. Government developed and controlled water power may figure in it, but the situation should be faced as it is. The elements of private ownership must be reckoned with in any calculation. There is not enough water power in the land all put together to supply present day needs. Admitting these developed facts, the subject is presented for consideration. Senator Norris will see his vision realized, all but the government ownership feature.

"FIAT" FARM FAILS.

All along the road of human history we find examples of how cities have come into existence because a despot willed it. No man has ever succeeded in setting up a farm on the same basis. We mean a real farm, where the ordinary pursuits of agriculture are practiced, day in and day out throughout the year. Many "gentleman farmers" have passed in review, and nearly all have recorded the same experience. Whitelaw Reid once admitted that the buttermilk he served his guests at his farm cost more than did the champagne. The dispersion of the Hopkins farm near Council Bluffs is but a repetition of a common experience.

A farm grows from man's aspirations. Hard and earnest work are required to make a farm. Courage and vision that are not daunted by adversity not blinded by clouds of misfortune. A home seen dimly through the mist of years, a hope that cheers and comforts and leads the builder on through trials that would baffle one less devoted. Hardships and privations, unremitting toil for slight reward, these are what the farmer encounters as he builds his farm.

He never comes to days of ease. Prosperity may be his lot, yet his destiny is such that he never entirely gives up his farm. Sure, many of them are now living in California or Florida, or maybe in the towns of Iowa or Nebraska. That does not mean they have cut all the bonds that hold them to the farm. Even those who think they have are deceiving themselves. The truly successful farmer is as completely consecrated to the soil as mind and soul can be consecrated to anything.

A farmer may become a millionaire. He rarely does, but it is not an impossibility. But a millionaire can not become a farmer. He may put up an elaborate "log cabin," buy fancy stock and costly equipment, but his fiat farm is doomed to fail, for it lacks the inspiration that must exist to give life and soul to the venture.

TRYING THE COOLIDGE TEMPER.

The senate of the United States is again to have a test with the executive. For the first time in longer than half a century the senate declined to allow the president to select his own cabinet. Exercising a constitutional right, the members of the upper house, by a close vote of 41 to 39, rejected the nomination of Charles B. Warren to be attorney general in the Coolidge cabinet.

Now the president sends back the name of Charles B. Warren as his selection for the vacancy at the head of the Department of Justice. In this the challenge is direct. No doubt exists as to the fact that the opposition to Warren is not altogether sincere. Senator Couzens, who is from Michigan, is personally strongly opposed to Mr. Warren. He has

been engaged in a controversy over taxes with the secretary of treasury. A law suit is certain, and it is not unnatural that the senator may not want a personal enemy to try the case on part of the government.

Senator Walsh, who led the fight against confirmation, is attorney for the defense of Senator Wheeler, who will soon answer in federal court in Montana, might also be suspected of having a direct concern in the attorney general. Maybe it is unfair to impugn the motives of any of the senators, but it certainly is unfortunate that the chief opponents of Warren's confirmation are situated as they are.

Chiefly, however, it is a continuation of the fight of the senate against the president. A question of whether the legislative department is to dominate the executive. So far both sides are within their rights under the constitution. A concession will have to be made by one side or the other, if the vendetta is to be ended. However, the country will be inclined to agree that Coolidge has given another proof of the firmness and courage that won him such a majority last November. It might do no harm if the senators were to look over the returns.

HOW NOT TO BUILD PROSPERITY.

For a definite purpose we are going to break a rule of the office. That is, we are going to publish a letter the writer of which we do not know. All the possible identification we have is that the envelope in which it came was postmarked, "Lincoln-Omaha R'y P. O." We accept that as proof that it was written by a farmer. Also, its language bears the evidence of the writer's sincerity. Yet, as an example of wrong thinking and lack of logic in reasoning, we have seen nothing more impressive than the letter which follows:

"Editor, Omaha Bee: I have been reading some of Omaha's complaints. They have had business failures and will continue to have such until they fight themselves. I am very sorry for them, those who fall, for they are not altogether responsible. Of course, their prices are high, but in a way they can't help it. But you have in your midst the immediate cause of the state's depression. Your stockyards and packing plants combined with all the large stockyards and packing plants are directly responsible for the former condition, and when this state or the farming states' farmers are hurt every business will feel it, and they will, too. That is to come to them yet. When we farmers raise only what we need for ourselves and grease our eggs as they can't be packed, then what institution will squeal. Well we farmers can sit back possibly as easy as they have. We farmers are understanding their maneuvers and sending in our stock for even the hen don't pay us and we are getting tired working sixteen hours out of the 24 for the other fellow. We understand the rise of the stock. Always when the bulk of the hogs or cattle are in the packing plant the price goes up. They are urging us now to raise hogs, and how much time and paper would they waste if it was not a benefit to them? They are not thinking of the farmer or the country banks or stores but their own business. You write in your papers that the farmers are prosperous because of the large mail orders. Can you imagine a farmer ordering produce of any kind he could not see if he is not compelled to do so? If you can you are ahead of we farmers. We would be as loyal to our home state and home institutions as any people and if things don't change for the farmer we will demonstrate our loyalty to each other. It could cause famine and it could last some time for the farmers can't supply themselves.

"I know it is very encouraging to read in the papers of the prosperity that always hits the other fellow but it is not very encouraging to read in your inventory five and six cars of hogs shipped during the year and eggs sold in prepayments and turn to the opposite page and see you half to wait to sell the next ear of hogs to pay for the last corn and by the time those hogs are ready the price is just off. We farmers are not all jubilant over the prospects of taking a day off to help an assessor take a minute inventory of our business and you can send the word in to our president if you so desire. Why if they want to help the farmer don't they take an inventory of all stored products. It will be a great help to all big business to have that inventory. We thus far are blind to the help it will be to us. Some of our assessors are asking us to do all our own assessing and bring in the sheet and put it into their hands and of course we will do that. When we work for other people any way why shouldn't we do that? We would run the man off the farm who come on that errand, if we were not loyal to our government and will take that time and do that work only because we believe our president asks it. Put a little letter to show you the real trend of the farm thoughts and to sympathize with you in your down and hoping the school children in their prize essays may be able to write more encouragingly, I am
A PROSPEROUS FARMER.
P. S.: I will not even rewrite to correct mistakes."

We do not believe the spirit breathed through that letter is general among the farmers, or any other class of our society. If it were, the end would be not far away. Society could not exist under the conditions hinted at by the writer. Not knowing his identity or his condition, we can not make reply to him. Space is merely given to the missive in order to show how completely wrong some people can get in considering the political and economic problems that confront the nation.

Maybe if the next nominee will give certain senators guarantees that they will not be pursued on income tax claims or for other reasons, confirmation of an attorney general may be forthcoming.

"Wonderful crowds" are seeing the "Wonderful Windows," and Omaha is making good on market week promises.

Consideration of the city manager plan is timely. It has been before the community long enough.

Omaha's "home-made" symphony orchestra turned out to be very good.

We doubt if the "farm bloc" at Lincoln really represents the farmers.

Nearly time to announce "clean-up" week.

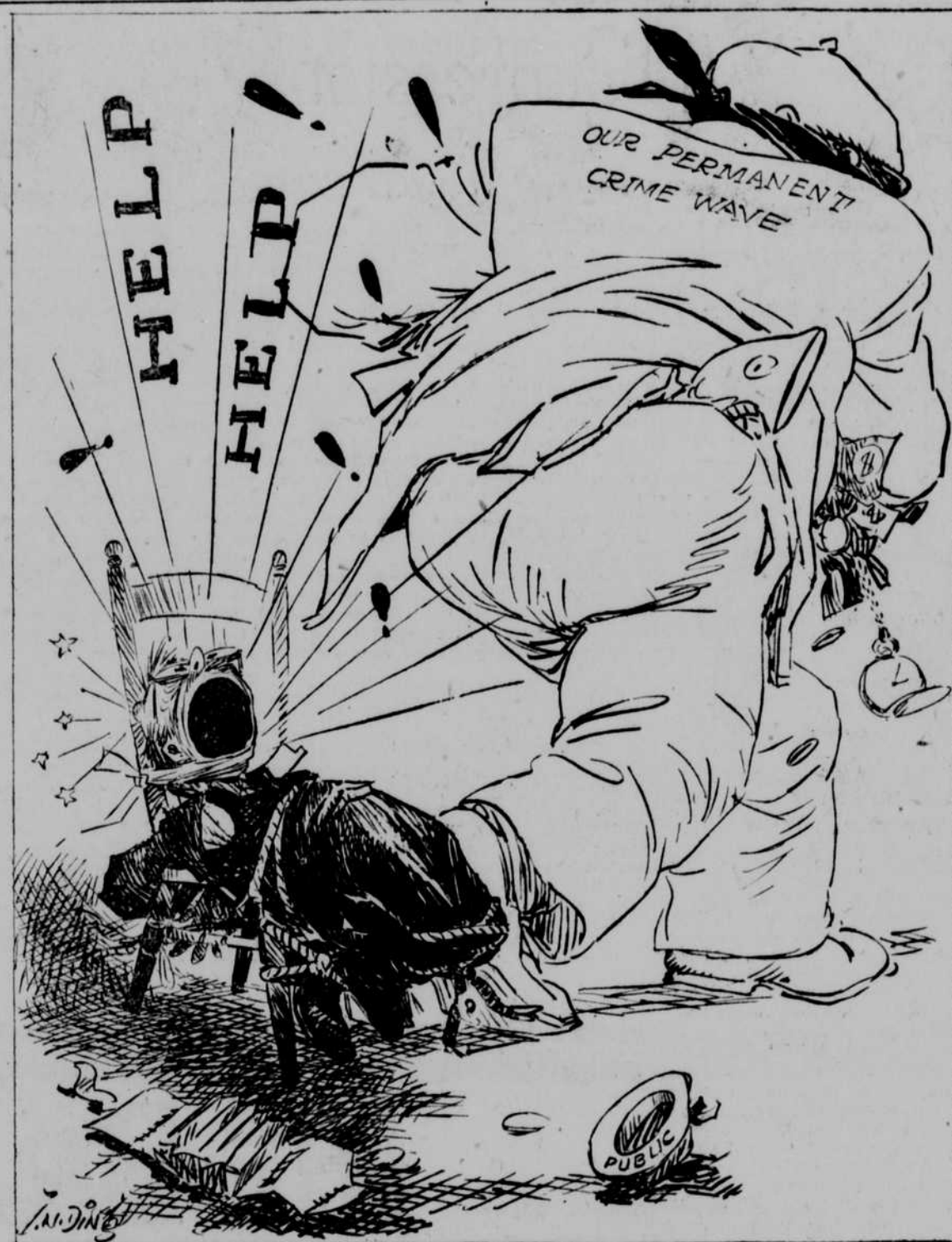
Homespun Verse

By Omaha's Own Poet—
Robert Worthington Davis

FUTILITY.

I had a wisdom tooth yanked out
Once—not so long ago.
I didn't stop to ask about
The price, it hurt me so,
But when I got the blasted bill
Dismay was in my eye—
It angered me, as does it still,
That it should be so high.
But after while I thought, perhaps,
That it required skill,
Which is so strange to many chaps
Who would their coffers fill—
And thus, I paid without a flick,
And let the matter go—
But now it almost makes me sick—
These things I've come to know.
He entertains at bridge; he spends
The shelles that were mine
To make life merry for his friends,
He takes them out to dine,
I strive to pay the debts I make,
I'm busy day by day,
And it seems such a sad mistake
To throw my cash away.

A Little Louder, No One Seems to Hear You



PERHAPS WE'D BETTER ADOPT IT AS OUR NATIONAL COLLEGE YELL.

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.

What Is Wrong With Labor?

Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: What is wrong with labor and wages and how do they exist? I am a family of five and pay rent \$17 per month, live on three or four days or parts of days of work and then pay just what they want to pay you? There are nine of us to live, pay rent, buy clothes and fuel. Three or four days or part of that time for the last six weeks. Is it the lack of work or is it the fault of the board of labor? How far will \$10 or \$12 per week go with nine in the family? This week there is not no work and what we will live on is what I want to know, but we will exist some way. Our oldest is 15 and our youngest is 8 months. The public condemn poor people if they have things nice and up-to-date. I need quite a bit of clothes and household goods, and we cannot get them unless we have work and money to buy them with. I would like to see this in print.
A WORRIED MOTHER.

The Midnight Assassin.

Blair, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: "And the spirit said unto me, 'write.'" Speaking of spirit, we of this age are guessing. To interpret the ill meaning of the above and apply it in today's mad race in the business and social world, would be a mere guess, yet we believe a message of helpfulness was couched within the text. There was something to write about in that day.

Surrounded by evidence from the printed page of today's public press and other sources, we believe we see the nucleus of a brief story worthy of at least some consideration about the midnight assassin.

It is true this murderer is not general, but is becoming one for common with death and destruction left in his pathway, and forces of law and order holding hands in holy horror and surprise at his cunning. We have assassins in our beloved land from sources equally great, as mentioned above.

When we observe pictures of the nearly nude forms of feminine limbs portrayed in life size, we wonder if same doesn't consist in the cheapening of human modesty. If we call them our "sweethearts" and daughters, we use the term advisedly because they are human and human weakness is "strengthened" by their actions in public places at the midnight hour, with society paying the price in the assassination of human character that will affect unborn generations in not only the present but in years to come.

Only too often is peace of mind and dignity of human passion aroused in

ten out before they enter the election booths. The writer is absolutely in favor of the "word of mouth" system. With that system in effect the voter cannot deliver to anyone on the outside a crooked vote, but the other way any gang or group can buy all the votes that are for sale and have them delivered right to the election judge in charge and in presence of their solicitors or one of his coworkers by a prearrangement before the voter goes to the polls.

If our legislature wants to make politics rotten all they have to do is to pass this bill. On the other hand if they want to purify our political complexion let them amend it for entire state "word of mouth" and add the compulsory ballot law and make every voter vote for as many men on the ballot as there are running for any certain office.

We have gangs in Omaha today who pick out a single man to lift into office by just voting for him and no other one on the ticket. This gives said candidate a big lead over all others for that particular office which cannot be headed off by our electorate, who generally votes for all of the candidates that are running promiscuously as above mentioned.
G. L. NETHAWAY.

After All Is Said.

Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I note the flurry about the election bill in our legislature, some wanting "word of mouth" and others the right to have those to whom they wish to vote for writ-

ten out before they enter the election booths.

The writer is absolutely in favor of the "word of mouth" system. With that system in effect the voter cannot deliver to anyone on the outside a crooked vote, but the other way any gang or group can buy all the votes that are for sale and have them delivered right to the election judge in charge and in presence of their solicitors or one of his coworkers by a prearrangement before the voter goes to the polls.

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G. L. NETHAWAY.

"Sir," cried the ardent suitor, "I can not live without your daughter!" "I don't believe you," announced her cruel father sleepily, "but it won't do any harm to try it."—American Legion Weekly.



PRAYER

"For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."—Matt. 7:8.

THE communion of the soul with God. It is the necessary result of the recognition of dependent relation of the creature to the Creator. The suppliant must come in the spirit of true submission and reconciliation to God, else there is no communion. Every prayer must contain directly or implied the petition: "Thy will not mine be done."

Prayer may be exceeding various in form, "Uttered or Unexpressed." It is the natural utterance of every heart in which there is a true love for the Creator.

Petition may properly embrace our daily wants, "our daily bread", the general course of our life, its great affairs, our work and career, success in our efforts to perform all ordinary and extraordinary duties of our life and station, our special necessities also whether in times of crisis, in sickness and want, or in common times; but all things asked for must be in accord with the Divine Will and Plan which are for the ultimate good of all.

The Churches are founded upon the power of communion with God through prayer.

Select a Church and Then Support It by Your Attendance

"In a wider appeal to religion and to religious faith is to be found the answer to the growing tendency toward law violations which we see on every hand."

This is the judgment of a group of Omaha men and institutions, who have arranged for a program of appeals for church attendance. The appeal published herewith is sixth of the series.

Abe Martin



There's few things that'll take th' conceit out of anybody like a triple mirror. Our idea of a poor fish is a Herrin pollockman. (Copyright, 1925.)

SUNNY SIDE UP

Take Comfort, nor forget, That Sunrise never failed us yet. Celia Thaxter

As a diagnostician our old friend, Penn Fodrea, is entitled to commendation. He says there are too many people singing "Blues." But what can we do about it, unless it is to Pass a Law? A certain proportion of the population in every community is addicted to singing "Blues." They simply cannot help it. They were born that way. They are never happy unless miserable, and happiest when making others miserable. The only time we ever doubt the wisdom of the Creator is when we are so unfortunates as to be thrown in contact with a chronic warbler of "Blues." Snakes and lizards and cockroaches may have a place in the eternal cosmos, but what'n thunder is a chronic grouch good for, anyhow?

We hope the time will never come when we will be compelled to leave Omaha. We like it immensely. But if the time ever comes when conditions compel us to seek a livelihood elsewhere, we are going to hire a hail and spend an hour or two telling folk who come to hear us just what we think is the matter with this city. And we shall use language calculated to make "What Price Glory" sound like a Sunday school session.

We have had more or less to do with politics and politicians in Nebraska for the last 40 years. We have known politicians to break promises made to individuals and to the public, but we have known only two or three who engaged in politics for profit. And they didn't get far. The politicians we have known played the game because they liked it. It afforded them an outlet for their energies. It is to them what golf is to men, roller skating to others, and backing the board of trade is to still others. Played on the square it is full of thrills, and those who do not play it on the square are soon sent to Coventry.

Nebraska Limerick.

There was a young man in North Platte
Who grew most enormously fat,
He heard of a diet
And carefully tried it,
And now he's as thin as a slat.

Brian Leaks.

Wisdom is good with an inheritance, but the foolish heir soon goes broke.
The truest happiness is found in learning to do without things you do not need.
A waste of time is for a lazy man to call on the Lord for help.

There is a heap of differences between calling on God for what you want and calling on God for what you need.

Did you ever hear of a soul being turned to righteousness by a violent discussion of a popular novel?

Some people are listening so intently before the loud speaker of the radio that they couldn't hear Opportunity if she knocked.

Time was when politicians were busy passing laws. Now they are busier passing the buck.

Favorites of Ours.

Among our favorites we name
Is Col. William Rice,
He never lays on us the blame,
Or gives us good advice.

Modern Definitions.

Failure—The foundation on which the greatest successes are built.
Success—A failure that wouldn't stay failed.
Ambition—A manspinner that is too seldom wound.
Envy—The tribute paid by little minds.
Gossip—Repetition by you of what another told you in confidence.

At the same time we will Pass a Law providing every red-blooded boy with a dog. None of your aristocratic, pedigreed dogs, but real, genuine yellow mongrels that know loyalty and the psychology of the boy soul. The boy who has never owned a mongrel dog has missed something out of his life that added years can never supply.

A few days ago we sat in our own home and heard President Coolidge deliver his inaugural address; we heard the Marine band play, heard the cheers of the multitudes, and actually heard the tread of marching feet. Who'd have thought it four short years ago? To be real honest about it, we don't believe it yet.
WILL M. MAUPIN.

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