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Omaha—Where the West is at its Best

"CATTLE ON A THOUSAND HILLS."
"The National League to Conserve Food Animals" has broken loose again. Its circular "appeal to common sense and decency" states that "about 3,000,000 cattle and sheep will starve to death during the current year." This statement is said to rest on estimates made by the federal government. Moreover, "\$50,000,000 is a conservative estimate on what the death loss of cattle and sheep from starvation cost the American people last year."

All of which is important, if true. But, why be conservative? Why not throw the brake off, step on the gas, and let imagination swoop wide and free? Something of this sort is done in one paragraph of the circular, which states:

"That tens of millions of food animals are turned out to shift for themselves on frozen grazing lands in the northwest and sun-parched prairies in the south, with the certainty of a lingering and tortuous death for millions of them from starvation or thirst."

This is not a new crusade. Many years ago Minnie Madden Fiske, who is a great actress, began to agitate for comfortable barns and shelters for range stock. Since that time the open range she still visions has largely disappeared. Now, as then, the owners of the herds and flocks are business men, deeply concerned in caring for their property. We wonder if Mrs. Fiske or any of her associates ever saw the trek of the sheep from the northern to the southern ranges, or back again, as the seasons change? If they know that millions of tons of food is stored every summer for winter feeding? How carefully the water supply is guarded on the cattle ranch? Other provisions are made to conserve the health and well being of the animals, for a starved steer means a net loss of from \$7 to \$10 to his owner, and very few stockmen are in the business exclusively for pleasure.

How well meant interference with the ways of nature sometimes defeat the object sought is exemplified by the experience at the Kaibab National Forest, in Arizona. Permits to hunt deer were refused for several years, that the natural increase might multiply the animals. Last year's drought cut the food supply short, and the heavy snows of the early winter buried most of what was left, and the deer starved to death. How many know that the Isgak Walton League raised more than \$1,000,000 to buy hay and other feed for the elk in Jackson Hole during the last winter?

Some animals do die on the range from cold, hunger or thirst. Such experience is unavoidable. Other animals die from disease. But the men who are engaged in the livestock industry are not the heartless monsters, whose course is described as "diabolical." They are interested in their animals from a dollar and cents standpoint, which holds them as closely as sentiment might. Not one but will welcome a practicable plan for preventing range losses. But the "National League to Conserve Food Animals" is doing battle manfully against windmills.

"OPEN DOOR" IN MOVING PICTURES.

Either a "magnificent gesture" or real stroke of genius is the new "open door" policy announced by Will H. Hays for the moving picture industry. He outlines his proposal thus:

"The distinctive characteristic of the new 'open door' policy is that we invite every organization of every description in either this country or any other country which is interested in public betterment, to designate an authoritative representative who will be its contact with the motion picture industry—invited at all times to come in through our 'open door' and tell us of improvements which might be made in having the motion picture more responsive to its public service obligations, and how we can cooperate with them."

Accepting this at its face value, it is an invitation to the public to take at least an advisory part in the great game of making the movies. Also, a challenge to the organized bodies that have actively worked to secure censorship boards under federal or state control. Mr. Hays meets them half-way, and gives them a chance to have something to say concerning the character of pictures and the general trend of the business before the films come to the exhibitor's screen.

The most ready answer is that producers know in advance if the picture they are planning is worthy or not. None are so dull as to need instruction with regard to morality or decency. Standards vary, but the safe plan is to take the highest and keep to it. That from ten to twenty million people patronize moving picture theaters daily argues only the popularity of the entertainment. Whether this will be enhanced or lessened by innovations which may change the character of the films is to be determined. Uncertainty on this score will account for the reluctance with which change is approached by the producers.

We believe that Mr. Hays makes his offer in good faith. Not so much to the bringing about of a great reform in the character of the pictures, perhaps, as to the end that critics may be made a little more familiar with problems the producer has to deal with. Not the least of these is the fickleness of public tastes, the risk incurred whenever a great production is presented. Happily, the causes for complaint against the movies have been largely eliminated by the producers, who have found that good clean pictures pay quite as well in the end as did the sort that

brought disapproval. Opening the door, to the end that counsel may be exchanged ought to facilitate the understanding that may quiet demand for rigid censorship—in which there is more danger to the public than to the motion picture industry.

PEACE BY "SECURITY."

A certain definite note rang clearly through the speech of Austen Chamberlain in the Geneva protocol. He told parliament, and the world, that the British government will have nothing further to do with the wreckage of that plan. If peace is to be saved for the world, it will come through other methods.

While he did not specifically refer to the French "security" plan, he proposed that Europe be united on the basis of guaranteed peace. In any such compact Germany must be admitted as an equal and full partner. A mutual pact between Germany and her late enemies is the only certain way of allaying existing fears and restoring public confidence in the nations of Europe. And these fears must be allayed, this confidence restored, if recovery is to be made. Europe can not go on as it is, says the British foreign minister. Divided into hostile camps, each distrustful of the other, the nations at present are incapable of doing any of the things they must do in order to preserve the future. A new Armageddon, or a new pact is the alternative.

Mr. Chamberlain did not offer any pledges for Germany, but he did say:
"The German government is making a sincere and honest attempt to lead up to a better state of things. If I understand its proposals rightly, Germany is prepared to guarantee voluntarily what hitherto it has accepted only under compulsion of the treaty—a status quo in the west."

With Germany so agreed, and working to the end of restoring its people to economic prosperity. With France reassured, and with the lesser nations given the guarantees of the stronger that they are not to be molested, peace in Europe may be secured. Chamberlain's program has a sound foundation, and it gets careful examination. He has gone far in the direction opposite to that which MacDonald was traveling, and he is probably on the right track.

HELIUM FOR THE BIG BALLOONS.

Uncle Sam is owner of two of the largest dirigible balloons now in captivity. Each of these is worth several millions of dollars. From thirty to fifty men are employed in their operation while aloft. All of which makes it highly desirable that they be surrounded with safety as far as is humanly possible. Aeronauts know that hydrogen, the most buoyant of gases, is also very finicky and quite sudden when it gets ready to explode. An officer from Fort Omaha flew during the war to Nebraska City on a practice flight. He landed his balloon safely, stepped out of the basket, and struck a match to light a cigaret. In an instant he was standing alongside the basket, but the balloon was gone. Several times balloons exploded in the hangar at Fort Omaha, once with fatal results to soldiers. In July, 1919, a dirigible balloon collapsed and fell in flames on a bank building at Chicago, killing ten persons. In 1921 the ZR-2 collapsed and exploded over the harbor of Hull, England, and forty-two lives, including several Americans, were lost. The following year the Roma disaster at Hampton, Va., cost thirty-four lives. Two years ago another army dirigible blew up at its mooring post at Dayton.

Such experiences prove the instability of hydrogen, and require the use of a substitute if obtainable. Helium gas, possessed of slightly less lifting power than hydrogen, is inert and not liable to sudden explosions. It has been known to exist in large quantities in connection with the gas wells of the southwest! So plentiful has it become that the cost has been reduced from \$1,500 to 10 cents per cubic foot. Enough has been produced, principally at Fort Worth to supply the Shenandoah and the Los Angeles.

One of the last bills passed by congress and signed by the president provides that the government shall take over the control of helium gas. Its exportation is forbidden, and its storage will be arranged for. Balloons that go up for the army or the navy in the future will be filled with noninflammable gas. That much has been accomplished in the direction of making flying safe for the balloonists.

Sunday baseball or not is the issue in a number of Nebraska towns, to be decided at the election next week. It is a change from the old-time question of wet or dry.

Pa Ferguson of Texas will be fully restored to his political rights if Governor Ma Ferguson signs the bill, and the latest indications were that she is favorably inclined.

A skull half an inch thick has been unearthed in Arizona. It probably belonged to a man who thought the members of congress would not accept that increase in salary.

California courts do not show much sympathy for temperamental prize fighters. "Kid McCoy" has taken the count again at Los Angeles.

Henry Ford's first airplane has been launched, and if it is as prolific as his first flier, the birds will have to hunt a new sky to fly in.

Mussolini got back into the chamber in time to witness a free-for-all fight between the deputies. Italian politics seems to be normal.

Real estate transfers and building permit news show no sign that Omaha is slipping.

We hope that pride of authorship will not induce the legislators to work overtime.

When Omaha money is spent for Omaha-made goods, it is well spent.

Homespun Verse

By Omaha's Own Poet—
Robert Worthington Davis.

MEMORY.
I have been out in the country miles and miles away from town.
When the trees were crooning vespers as the orange sun went down;
In the dusk that follows sunset till the darkness covers all,
I have seen the sly old coyote—I have heard their thrilling call.
I have rested in the bower in the gloaming's mystic charm,
I have dreamed away the evening out upon my father's farm;
I have walked beside the streamlet, over meadow and along
The old lane where trees and zephyrs blend their voices into song.
Garbed in denim, I was happy for my dreams were fabrics fine,
And the freedom of the country and its melodies were mine.
 Oftentimes in reminiscence gently I retrace the way
From the city to the farmstead where I used to dream and play.

"From State and Nation"

—Editorials from Other Newspapers—

Practical Reciprocity.
From the Wayne Herald:
Addressing the Omaha Chamber of Commerce recently a prominent citizen pointed out the importance of greater home support for its institutions if they are to be made to grow and prosper in harmony with popular expectations. Everything being equal, he said the home institution should be given preference. He thinks products manufactured in Omaha should not be ignored by Omaha and Nebraska people. The metropolis which is the source of pride in a great state, should be given careful consideration in the matter of supplies in preference to remote centers that care nothing for this state beyond what they can reap from it in hard cash.
The suggestion is worth heeding by other and smaller centers than Omaha and make certain comparative qualities and prices before spending his money to foreign catalog houses. He should not be lured by mere superficialities into sending his money out of the country when his could do better at home and thus lend strength to home markets and home enterprises that take pleasure in his welfare and give stimulus to his farm values.

The High Cost of Florida.
From the Minneapolis Tribune:
Charges of malicious gossip should be brought against some of the blithe gentlemen who have been explaining the reasons for the violent gyrations of the grain futures market in the last few days.
Unwarranted liberties have been, and are being, taken with the reputation of Old Lady Supply and Demand.

Shocked and indignant, we have dropped 11 cents before a nickel's worth of business has been done on one morning, we inquire into the reason for this unseemly weakness.
Partial has written, "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light."
The awakening of the thoughts and lives of its adherents for all time, while the latter is satisfied if it appears to obtain the temporary physical effects desired by those whose present aims are purely material. Paul has written, "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light."

Christian Science "Committee on Publication for Nebraska."
rulers of Tunis, Timmen, Marrakech, Fez and Sidjilmassa. Majorca was formerly the seat of a famous Jewish cartographic school of which the influence is apparent on all of the Catalan planspheres. Charles V sent Abraham Cresques's Catalan atlas to the Louvre.

These relations between Egypt and Central Africa were, indeed, largely due to the Spanish and Moroccan Jews, polyglot by necessity and tireless international traders. They ceased at the close of the 15th century, when the Arabs were driven out of Spain and when the Jews, also expelled, were being massacred wholesale by the Moslems in the Sahara oasis (1494).

One of the most interesting chapters of M. de la Ronciere's book describes this Jewish era in the Sahara. Throughout the middle ages, in fact, the Jews in southern Algeria and Morocco, mentioned by St. Augustine, had extremely prosperous colonies in oases of the oases. A Jewish empire of the Sahara may even have existed in the first centuries of our era. The first 42 kings of Ghana (up to the year 790, which was the capital of a great and flourishing state, where white Hebrew inscriptions to this effect have been found in the recently unearthed ruins of the city, Ethiofia, where there are still a few Israelites along the Blue Nile, had a Jewish king in the fifth century.

Supporting his statement upon the persistent references to the mysterious Ben-Israel tribes and other evidence, M. Delafosse, author of "Les Noirs de l'Afrique" and numerous other works, believes in the Jewish origin of the Peuls. The Arabian geographer, Khordadbeh, tells us that in the ninth century the Jews carried on a flourishing trade in slaves, spears, swords, hides and spices; and a Kalroun Jew refers to a Jewish Saharan empire whose ruler was converted to Islamism. In the 15th century Malfant reported the survival of

wealth of Nebraska.
From the Omaha Bee:
Corn and wheat still on Nebraska farms are worth \$75,000,000, according to estimates made from government records for the country. These government records indicate that on March 1, the grain growers of the country were holding 22.5 per cent of the corn harvested last fall. This is the largest corn holding on the farm for this time of the year since 1898 with but two exceptions, 1901 and 1917. On that basis, Nebraska farmers are holding approximately 65,000,000 bushels of corn worth, on the basis of average current prices, more than \$6,000,000. Wheat reported on the farms March 1 was 13 per cent of the last crop, making a total of more than 6,000,000 bushels, valued at nearly \$9,000,000. Nebraska farmers are holding 10 per cent of the oats marketed in Omaha in January and February totaling 10,715,000 bushels and brought the growers a cash return of \$18,000,000. Much of the corn, supplemented by oats, which is now being held, will be fed to livestock and marketed "on the hoof." Higher prices now prevailing for hogs, which have now reached the highest price level since the peak of 1920, is an inducement for the farmers to hold these grains for feeding purposes. Government estimates of livestock on farms on January 1 indicate that Nebraska leads seven other states in this respect with 9,545,000 head of horses, mules, milk cows and beef cattle, hogs and sheep on the farms. Their increases since that date will more than offset the value of the 10,584,000 head on Nebraska farms, January 1, 1924, which were then valued at \$234,413,000.

Jewish "Empire" in Desert.
From L'Action Francaise, Paris.
Reviewing Charles de la Ronciere's recent book, "Decouverte de l'Afrique du Moyen Age," E. Dermeughem observes that in the middle ages relations between Africa and Europe were much closer, more frequent and more congenial than in the succeeding more "enlightened" centuries.
"In the 13th and 14th centuries the kings of Aragon concluded a number of commercial treaties with the Arab

Abbe Martin
I kin only think of one advantage in being a cave explorer—if you get in a hole th' cross-word 'll come t' your rescue. Th' 'cross-word puzzle is th' first lawful thing that's caught on for some time.
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NET AVERAGE PAID CIRCULATION
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Daily 76,202
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V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr.

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W. H. QUIVEY, Notary Public (Seal)

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Letters From Our Readers

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

A Christian Science Correction.
Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: A feature writer for your paper, in commenting on the passing of an English nobleman, included some misleading remarks regarding Christian Science. It seems that, as the suggestion of physicians, a special edition of a newspaper was prepared predicting the certain recovery of the sick man—which practice the feature writer attempts to associate with Christian Science.
Christian Science healing does not consist of efforts to disengage attention from sin, sickness and death by any process of mental suggestion or, in other words, by any action of the human, mortal mind. Christian Science recognizes God as divine Principle, in whom "we live, and move, and have our being," and its followers understand that the awakening to this reality of existence is the redemption, or resurrection, if you please, from the bondage of sin, sickness and death. A very apparent distinction between Christian Science and mental suggestion is that the former requires complete spiritualization of the thoughts and lives of its adherents for all time, while the latter is satisfied if it appears to obtain the temporary physical effects desired by those whose present aims are purely material. Paul has written, "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light."

LESTER B. MCCOON,
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Am going fishing right this minute. Have hopes of catching a mess of redfish.
WILL M. MAUPIN.

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HERE is a rich breakfast, delicious beyond compare. Yet cooked completely in 3 to 5 minutes. That's quicker than plain toast; it's ready before the coffee.
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"Hot oats and milk," doctors all are urging. "Savory, flavory oats," your appetite and children's urge.
Get Quick Quaker today. All that rich and wonderful Quaker flavor is there; the smooth deliciousness that once tasted is never forgot.
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Standard full size and weight packages—
Medium: 1 1/2 pounds Large: 3 pounds 7 oz.
Your grocer now has two kinds of Quaker Oats—the kind you have always known and Quick Quaker