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Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 1st day of April, 1918.

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE.

During the progress of the war, as heretofore, The Bee will continue to out-rank all competitors in telegraphic news.

It will soon be that the only kind of a tramp known will be the tramp steamer.

The interest of the farmer and of the wage worker in the war will be more apparent when the tax gatherer begins to get in his work.

If this thing keeps up the number of people who want to go to the front as war correspondents will exceed the enlistments in the ranks.

The Bee has no ambition to shine in the field of fakery. The news and all the news printed promptly and accurately is what The Bee's readers may rely on.

Last year there was dug from the mines in the United States 108,256,788 tons of coal. The United States is well supplied with fuel for a navy or for any other purpose.

The secretary of agriculture has sent a special commissioner to Alaska to investigate the weather. The chances are he will report that the weather units Alaska for use as a winter resort.

The president of the United States is entitled to active and competent official advisers of unquestioned good judgment and if it is necessary to reorganize the cabinet for this purpose it is his privilege and duty to do so.

The assurance of Editor Roebuck of the Intransigent that all French republicans are in sympathy with the United States in the war for the liberation of Cuba is comforting, but it only emphasizes the fact that French republicans are not in control of the affairs of the French republic.

By cancelling his engagements for political speeches Bryan tacitly admits that the people have at last got something to think about more important than arguments for free coinage of silver. Mr. Lease was wiser and recognized the fact long ago by preparing a lecture on Cuba and the Cubans.

What has become of the warlike members of the Jacksonian club who, a little while ago, could hardly wait for the call to arms to be issued? How are they revering the memory of the fighting hero of New Orleans whose name they have adopted? Or are they simply waiting for the organization of the horse manures?

One of the last acts of Mr. Gary as postmaster general was that of signing a four years' contract for making the stamped envelopes for the government by which the United States will save over a million dollars as compared with the terms of the present contract.

The great national conventions that have selected Omaha as their meeting place for 1898 will be held here, war or no war. Visiting delegates will be entertained according to the invitations extended, and there is no reason why attendance on all of the big meetings scheduled in connection with the exposition should not be up to the highest notch on their previous records.

If the volunteer army is to be organized on a basis entirely separate from the militia, there will not be an extra legislative session. Listen for the walling and gnashing of teeth of the professional politicians and the legislators for revenue only. A war without a chance at the public crib will soon lose its popularity with these political patriots.

THE FORMAL DECLARATION.

Congress responded promptly, and unanimously to the recommendation of the president that the existence of war between the United States and Spain be formally declared. This action was deemed necessary, as explained in the message of the president, in order that "the definition of the international status of the United States as a belligerent power may be made known and the assertion of all its rights and the maintenance of all its duties in the conduct of a public war may be assured."

This having been done, neutral governments will probably immediately take such action as the situation calls for and international law enjoins in notifying their subjects of the obligations to be observed as neutrals and the penalties that may be incurred by unneutral acts, while they may also give notice to the belligerents that what is allowed and what forbidden in neutral waters. The existence of war being a fact declared by the United States, this government is now in a safe position to demand all the rights under international law which belong to it as a belligerent.

REVOLUTIONARY SPIRIT IN SPAIN.

The latest advices from Spain, if trustworthy—and there is no reason to regard them as incredible—show that the spirit of revolution is widespread there and apparently growing. The demonstrations of popular dissatisfaction at Madrid and in other cities and towns of the kingdom are reported to be of a most menacing character. The fact is that while the Spanish people were a unit in favor of war, a great many of them think that the government has not pushed matters as it should have done and that in consequence the United States has obtained a decided advantage.

Having made great sacrifices and got no satisfactory results, they now face a situation which demands greater sacrifices and which involves the inevitable loss of Cuba and possibly other colonies. It is a situation calculated to exasperate any people. One or two decisive naval victories by the United States would have a tremendous effect in stimulating the revolutionary spirit in Spain.

WAR AND COMMERCE.

There is necessarily a great deal of uncertainty in regard to the possible financial and industrial results of war. In some quarters the belief is expressed that the effect will be beneficial, while there are others who quite as earnestly believe that if protracted the war must have results more or less damaging to our material interests, particularly our foreign commerce. Business was unfavorably affected by the apprehension of war and the fact that the movement has continued large is due to deliveries on orders placed before there had been any disturbance of confidence. It is only reasonable to assume that for a time orders to manufacturers will be curtailed, thereby putting a check upon industrial activity, while it appears hardly possible that our export trade can be kept up to its recent proportions, notwithstanding the fact that nearly all of it is carried under foreign flags. That our coastwise commerce will also suffer is generally admitted, though perhaps not to the extent that has been apprehended.

A leading financial journal expresses the opinion that all the known facts bearing upon the problem of what effect the war will probably have upon our internal and foreign trade are reassuring. It points out that the country will not be invaded, hostile armies will not ravage our fields or burn our factories or destroy the opportunities of employment of our people. We have no large carrying trade exposed to attack, our enormous imports and exports being mainly carried under foreign flags, and it is unlikely that the signatories of the treaty of Paris will allow their commerce to be interfered with by either of the belligerents. Spain cannot establish an effective blockade of our ports so as to exclude neutral vessels. All this is certainly reassuring, but we must not be too confident of Spain's inability to give us a great deal of trouble and there can be no doubt of her purpose to do so.

It is doubtless judicious, however, to consider the brighter rather than the gloomier aspects of the situation and this appears to be the general disposition among business men. The financial strength and resources of the country, the excellent condition of the banks, the inflow of gold, are conditions which inspire confidence. There is little danger to apprehend either hasty or timid action on the part of those who control the loanable funds at the disposal of the commercial community and it is not generally thought that there can be a very serious interruption of the operation of the forces that were steadily making for prosperity. The great agricultural interest at least, the founda-

tion of the nation's prosperity, will experience no interruption from war.

The advent of the civil war was followed by severe depression and demoralization in business, but there was a very different condition of affairs then from what now prevails. We are now a united people, with practically inexhaustible resources and the government credit at its highest point. In 1861 the government had great difficulty in obtaining a loan of \$50,000,000 at 7.50 per cent interest. Today it can readily borrow ten times that amount at 3 per cent interest. The banking system of the country was then weak; it is now strong. We shall undoubtedly experience some of the injurious effects of war, but there are reasons for thinking that these may not be so serious as many have apprehended.

MUNICIPAL HOME RULE.

City Attorney Council has written an able and exhaustive brief in support of the position that the people of Omaha have a constitutional right to manage their police and fire departments by local officers. This brief elaborates the principle of municipal home rule as outlined in Judge Scott's decision. It points out the marked contrast between government of our fire and police departments by a state commission responsible only to a governor elected by the people of the whole state and their management in all other cities and towns in Nebraska which enjoy the right to elect or appoint the officers charged with the exercise of local police powers. The contention is that the legislature has no right in this manner to disregard the provision of the constitution prohibiting special legislation for the government of cities.

One feature of the present police board law which emphasizes this point has, however, been thus far overlooked. Under the ruling of the supreme court, Nebraska is normally a prohibition state. The right to license the sale of liquor is purely local. In other words the liquor traffic is regulated in Nebraska under local option. It is left to the people of each county and city to determine for themselves whether saloons shall be licensed or not.

The county board or the city board is vested with exclusive authority to grant or refuse applications for license, without appeal in case of refusal. Thus the people of each county and town decide for themselves in electing their local officers whether the license or non-license policy shall be pursued. Every town and county election is practically a registration of the popular will on the license question. When anti-license boards are elected the town runs dry for a year, and vice versa.

By vesting in the governor the appointment of the members of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners, which in Omaha is also the excise board, local option is denied the people of this city. There is no way by which a board responsible only to the governor can be made to carry out the popular demand. The option rests with the governor and not with the locality. The people might be almost unanimous against the licensing policy, yet the governor could override their will by letting the liquor dealers name the board. On the other hand, there is nothing to hinder the governor, under the existing law, from appointing a board composed entirely of prohibitionists, pledged to refuse all applications for license, and thus make Omaha a prohibition town in spite of an overwhelming public sentiment against prohibition, even when the inevitable result would be to cripple our public school system.

The populist campaign committee for Kansas is in a quandary about a certain contract for the purchase of a book entitled "The Producer Consumed." Judge King of Kansas City holds a contract to deliver to the committee 20,000 copies of the book for use in the campaign and a few of the books have been delivered and sent out among the farmers. But the book was written to meet conditions which have disappeared. Kansas farmers who are selling wheat, corn and cattle for good prices, paying off their mortgages and laughing at the consumers who are compelled to pay dearly for the necessities of life are said to be raising embarrassing questions about the conclusions of the author in regard to producers being consumed. The distribution has not been attended with any great accession to populist ranks and the committee may store the books or use them for fuel.

Why is the report of the substitute selected by Governor Holcomb to relieve him of the unpleasant duty of hearing the testimony in the impeachment charges against his police commissioners being held back? The delay was at first explained in the failure of the stenographer to transcribe his notes, but the stenographer cannot be expected to shoulder everything. The law requires the findings to be promulgated within a reasonable time, but more than three weeks have already passed since the investigation force was put on the boards. Governor Holcomb apparently believes that having disregarded that part of the law requiring a personal investigation he may as well disregard the other provisions, too.

A prominent Colorado mine owner declares that nearly all the Colorado mines are owned by residents of the state and to this fact is largely due the great development in mining in recent years. The resident owners do not hold the mines for speculative purposes, but expect to get the mineral out of them and utilize it. Selling mines to speculators may be profitable to the seller, but it is not good for a mining state or district.

How much longer are the police going to permit the so-called base ball skin games to continue to prey upon suckers without molestation? Everyone engaged in operating these gambling machines is subjecting himself to prosecution under the criminal code. The question is, Who is getting the money these skin game manipulators are putting up for police protection?

The South Carolina dispensary managers don't want to be caught by that proposed increase in the tax on beer

ORDER TO GRAB REFORMERS.

Some Plain Talk from an Outspoken Populist Organ. Before the dawn of the coming campaign the Granger wants to indulge in a little side talk with those who pose as reformers and profess loyalty to the interests of the people, and to say to said reformers that in the coming campaign there will be something to do besides pounding the republicans for what they have done and what they have not done.

Not Much of a Picnic. President McKinley's war with the war will be a long one, and this opinion is shared by a great many people who do not regard the pending difficulty as a picnic. Spain has been doing well in the past few years—sometimes very good fighting, too—and there will be some credit in licking her, even though it isn't done in a week.

The Historic Mile. It is more than a hundred years since Lafayette sent to this country the first Spanish buck as a present to his friend, George Washington. From that Jack has come along in the direct line of descent.

Patriotism on the Reservation. It has been feared all along that the Indians would take the warpath as soon as the soldiers were withdrawn, but the action of the members of his family. After they had not been included in the predictions. They had been quiet so long that it was thought they would be satisfied to continue along in the direct line of descent.

Doing the Right Thing. From all parts of the country come reports that business corporations and firms are assuring those in their employ who enlist that on their return the positions they held will be open to them. This is the high thing to do, and it is the only thing that patriotism is a living sentiment and the desire to serve the country general. It seems improbable that the army will have time to do this, but whether or not, the volunteers summoned to the field will fully maintain the high standard of the American soldier.

Governor Holcomb's Deed. A populist must come near being happy as a trade allow his "handing" defiance at a court. The Hon. Siles Holcomb, governor of Nebraska, is now hurrying defiance at the supreme court of that state, and so is the Hon. Siles Holcomb, a populist.

Rich Source of War Revenue. While in search of sources of revenue congress should not forget an abundant stream of money that has been flowing into the government, but hitherto untapped by it. A large amount of money could be realized without trouble or expense by levying a tax on the profits of the war.

Will Populists Ever Learn. The late city election in the state tell a story that should have a weight upon our populist leaders. It was a most instructive lesson in the matter of a candidate of the welfare of the ordinary citizen.

HEALTH OF THE ARMY. Watchful Care Exercised by the Medical Corps. The dangers which the American army of occupation in Cuba will encounter—principally from disease—are not to be underestimated, yet by the proper precautions which it may be assumed will be taken, these dangers to which our troops will be exposed from an unhealthy climate and from natural causes will be reduced to a minimum.

GOVERNOR AND THE POLICE BOARD.

Wahoo New Era (pop.): Governor Holcomb very properly refuses to obey the manumission of the supreme court. It is time a hawk was put to tearing the courts to run this country. They transgress their authority when they attempt to coerce a subordinate branch of the government. Holcomb denies the right of the supreme court to say that he shall hear testimony in the Omaha fire and police case, instead of the board of police commissioners appointed by the governor. Why don't the governor appoint a referee to draw his \$1,000 illegal house rent?

York Times (rep.): Down in Omaha they are sighing for a fire and police commission that will preserve some appearance of order during the present regime. Exposition, Un-American League, etc. It is generally supposed that robbers and thugs will receive more support and comfort from the authorities than their victims will.

Hastings Tribune (rep.): In the mandamus suit filed by Rosewater against Governor Holcomb to compel the governor to hear the charges against the Omaha Fire and Police commission the supreme court allowed the Governor to refuse to bring in witnesses. He gave Mr. Rosewater twelve days thereafter to file his reply brief. The Bee generally goes with the Governor.

Lincoln News (rep.): We suppose if Governor Holcomb declines to publish an election proclamation calling upon the people to vote on candidates for governor next fall that he will be heard in court. The Governor's idea of it, compel him to do so. The Governor is putting his foot forward with the evident design of projecting it into something to his credit.

Blair Pilot (rep.): Governor Holcomb has informed the supreme court that he will properly attend to the duties of chief executive officer of the state and will further inform the court that if it were not for his writing on the part of the constitution he would perform the duties laid out by the constitution and state laws. It is barely possible that the supreme court may open Holcomb's eyes a little. The Governor's attitude over Holcomb sending a substitute to investigate the fire and police difficulty at Omaha, is a very good one.

Keeney Hub (rep.): Governor Holcomb will stand eternally disgraced in this state if he insists on keeping at the head of the parade in the case of the Omaha fire and police case. It is to throw the city wide open to gamblers and bunco steers and every thing with a skin game during the Transmississippi Exposition. The Governor's attitude over Holcomb sending a substitute to investigate the fire and police difficulty at Omaha, is a very good one.

Silver Creek Times (pop.): The supreme court has just ruled in favor of Governor Holcomb to be introduced in the matter of certain charges against members of the fire and police commission. And now comes the Governor and politely tells the supreme court that he don't have to. The Governor is right and if he had told the court to go to the devil he would have struck a responsive chord in many breasts. When a man is another whack at the supreme court he will be likely to fix it so it will not do such a thing as to go to the devil. Fine and imprisonment for contempt of court. Well, wouldn't that be interesting? The supreme court had better take it all back and come to the supreme court and say that they have made consummate asses of themselves. That would be quite in accordance with the popular verdict.

Lincoln News (rep.): The action of Governor Holcomb in resisting the supreme court and saying that it has no power over him in his official capacity approaches very nearly to anarchy, and the governor, if he were not made mad by his own advisers, would certainly recognize that he has placed himself in a position that is utterly untenable. And I know the horrors of it. They are horrors. I can tell you. Yet you come, and I were young enough and able enough, I'd go again and help take care of my brave boys. But I was it last month, child—sir!

The danger that besets a war ship even in time of peace is illustrated by the recent narrow escape of the first-class cruiser Augusta from a collision with the battleship Oregon while lying off Southampton a green reserve man snatched a pistol at a box of fuses close to the door of an open shell room. The danger to the ship was great, and the near thing was averted by the quick action of a man who snatched a pistol at a box of fuses close to the door of an open shell room. The danger to the ship was great, and the near thing was averted by the quick action of a man who snatched a pistol at a box of fuses close to the door of an open shell room.

The British admiralty office has recently made a careful compilation of the serviceable vessels of the United States and of Spain. The list shows that the United States has 14,000 tons of serviceable ships, six, unarmored ships, twenty, unarmored ships, twenty, unarmored ships, twenty. This list will be used in the navy of this country.

Where, Oh, Where? Philadelphia Bulletin. What has become of the drive of inventors who have devised bullet-proof coats? Some of these coats were made in the evidence when there is a prospect that they may be called upon to demonstrate the value of their invention by standing up to be shot at.

FOLD FLATING.

Buffalo Express: Polo y Bernabe dropped the velvet mask and showed himself the true Spaniard in his parting interview. It was meant to be an insulting as Polo dared to make it. "Yankee" is not necessarily a term of reproach, but Polo meant to use it on such. At any rate, it is not a term which can be properly applied to all the people of this country.

Washington Star: The absurdly ostentatious departure of the Spanish minister from Washington last night was in keeping with the general tone of the Spanish diplomacy. There was no earthly need of a guard, nor of the roundabout route that the Spanish party has taken. The presence of policemen and secret service detectives at the train in this city served rather as an advertisement of the movements of the minister than as a protection. The homeward bound diplomats in taking their Canadian course instead of one direct to their steamer, are evidently seeking to impress Europe with the hot-tempered conditions that threaten them at all American points. There is in the American position in this affair no suggestion of such violent rage that the ordinary proprieties of courtesy are not to be expected to be insisted on by Polo.

Kansas City Star: Minister Polo, after asking for his passports, left Washington in perfect security, traveled in comfort and without molestation to the Canadian border, took his leisure in viewing the falls of Niagara, and in his exit from the United States had nothing resembling an expression of hostility. Minister Woodford was not hostile in opposition to the demand for his passports. They were thrust upon him by the Spanish government. Upon leaving Madrid, and in his journey to France, he was bested by angry secret service detectives at the train and at the minister's carriage. An effort was made to take Mr. Woodford's private secretary from the train by violence and a newspaper man accompanying the party was wounded in the face by broken glass. These two incidents fairly illustrate the difference between the civilization of the granite country of the United States and Spain, which has no respect for diplomatic laws and usages which are held absolutely sacred by every other nation on the globe.

MIRACULOUS TIPS. Detroit Journal: "By all means, old man, I advise anybody to quit smoking." "Yes, yes, yes, you enjoy it so much more when one resumes." Washington Star: "Hit stan's reason," said Uncle Eben, "dat a peccable man order be a bad fighter when his study done done must. His will enough ter nuss it along side er kiffin' froo' wif it."

Chicago Record: "My mother-in-law is leading a double life." "Cheerful!" "Yes, she wears spectacles when she is at home, and eyeglasses when she goes out."

Harpur's Bazar: Mark (impatiently)—Oh, I do wish I was a man. Janetie—Foh! I don't believe a man can have no collar on any more easily than a woman. Mark—That may be, but a man can see what he thinks about it without losing his self-respect.

Detroit Free Press: "Your wife is somewhat strong minded, isn't she, Littlejohn?" "Strong minded?" A furniture-polish peddler, who had just sold him some polish, said: "Minutemen" talk she sold 'im some polish she had made herself!"

Indianapolis Journal: "Yes," said the tourist, "we do have a little horse stealing in our county. The prisoner was let go on a suspended sentence." "Cheerful!" "No, the prisoner wuz let go suspended without no particular sentence."

Cincinnati Enquirer: "Aren't you sorry that you missed out flour with your wheel flour?" "No, I'm not sorry. I'm glad you asked the flour comborfer. I should say I had flour, but you're asking in the first place. I ought to have called it a 'health blend' and to have put it on the market at a higher price than the pure stuff."

Detroit Journal: The car was full. "Pray take my seat!" he implored, as she entered. "No, I prefer to stand, thank you," she replied, "I don't mind standing. So there was nothing for him to do but sit and bag his trousers for ten miles further."

SPRING. Leave her Post. Yes, spring is here. Just like a blushing maiden She steps upon the stage with modest tread. Her every breeze with lax hair is laden, As soothly they kiss the grateful brow, Fond lovers, near the moon, as a stray, The huckle cow in silence chews her cud. And gorgeous drug store windows are displaying. Quite new type compounds for the sluggish blood. All sorts of signs our grateful hearts inflame. With evidences that the spring have come.

A MAN OF WAR. Cincinnati Times-Star. He perched himself upon a box, He looked down he looked up, He fairly frothed to drive the dons He rolled into the sea, He did not fear torpedo boats And mines and cruisers, no; He thought to hold his own, He thought to war he'd go.

The way he talked of what he'd do Made every cheek grow pale, And often "breath his warlike glance" The Spanish navy sing, A thousand Spaniards could not scare Nor put him once to flight; You would have thought he could have checked The lightning in its might.

The while I listened to his boasts A chill ran through my blood; I saw the Spanish navy sing, Into an angry flood, And some one said: "Let Uncle Sam Just hire this hero true, And Morro's flag will not be seen When he his job gets through."

At last a woman small and weak Before us she appeared, She stopped the moment she beheld This fearless volunteer, "Jan-phoo!" that was all she said, "Each syllable we heard; He left his box and followed her Nor spoke another word."

Underwear. It does not show, but an ill-fitting suit of underwear will do more to spoil a naturally good disposition than almost anything, except perhaps a pebble in one's shoe.

We have spring underwear that fits—and that means that it isn't too long or too short in the arms or legs, nor too tight for ease of movement, nor too frail in the seams and sewed parts for any use. The ordinary suits of underwear are almost worse than none. Several grades to choose from—50c and up.

In hosiery we have a great variety of fancy patterns at 25c a pair.

More of those \$1 Neglige Shirts at 45c—if you did not get one Friday or Saturday.

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