

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 20th day of May, A. D. 1903.

(Seal) M. R. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

The anthracite coal barons seem to make hay whether the sun shines or not.

To the army of youthful graduates: Take a brief vacation and then buckle down to work.

Joseph Chamberlain is getting a whole lot of valuable free advertising out of it anyway.

The American derby would be just as big an event in the sporting world if it went by an American name.

It really is not necessary to deny as a malicious fabrication the report that the sultan of Turkey is about to abdicate his throne.

The ancestral founder of the dynasty of the new king of Servia may have been a swine breeder, but in this King Peter has none the best of some of the other royal occupants of European thrones.

The new telephone company down at Lincoln gives it out that it will install a plant that will be a novelty in its way. If it supplies a service that will do away with the answer, "Line's busy," it will be a novelty indeed.

The adage about a prophet never being appreciated in his own country is again exemplified by the fact that the mourning over the late king and queen of Servia is indulged in Russia, while the Servian people exhibit only signs of joy.

The Iowa idea has prevailed for the readjustment of rates for the fraternal order of Modern Woodmen. The Iowa idea in this instance, however, is something distinctly different from the Iowa idea promulgated in the last republican state platform.

The physicians ought to be a unit in favor of the proposed ordinance to prohibit the sale of dope drugs in Omaha except on a doctor's prescription. Such an ordinance might naturally be expected to stiffen the demand for prescription papers.

The sweet girl graduate who desisted at our High school commencement on "Woman in History" did not have time to include the changes that will have to be made in the text books on account of the wily intrigues of Queen Draga of Servia.

One of the voracious Washington correspondents has unearthed a plot to drag Adlai Stevenson out as a candidate for the presidential place on the democratic national ticket. Adlai will be only on the verge of 75 when the next president is nominated. His old age ought to command for him more veneration and respect.

The principal object which the Keene faction seems to be trying to accomplish in its fight with the Harriman interests over control of the Northern Pacific is to divert to New Orleans traffic which now goes through Omaha over the Union Pacific. In a fight turning on this issue Mr. Harriman can count on the support of public sentiment in Nebraska and all the other states traversed by the Union Pacific.

In the face of a tremendous shrinkage in its packing industry and the general business depression in consequence of the recent floods, Kansas City makes a showing of nearly \$2,000,000 increase in its bank clearings for the past week, as compared with the aggregate of clearings twelve months ago. In this respect Kansas City reminds us of the circulation of a local yellow journal that increased 2,000 during a month in which it had lost more than 3,000 subscribers.

FIRST STEP TO TAX REFORM.

By far the most important office to be filled by the people of every county in Nebraska at the next general election is the newly created position of county assessor.

The legislature has very wisely limited the official tenure of the tax assessors to one term of four years. The knowledge that he cannot be his own successor in the office will tend to stiffen the backbone of the assessor to an impartial and fearless discharge of duty.

While the refunding of the municipal debt has become imperative there is a grave question as to the advisability of issuing a thirty-year 4 per cent bond when bonds payable in twenty or even ten years, are negotiable.

The great body of Nebraska taxpayers are vitally concerned in the enforcement of the new revenue law in all its essential features. Its chief aim is to distribute the burden of taxation equally upon the owners of all taxable property in conformity with the spirit and letter of the constitution.

Unfortunately the distribution of county offices as party spoils has rendered political caucuses and conventions reckless and indifferent as to fitness of candidates for positions that demand above all things moral courage and integrity.

In view of the fact that political nominating conventions have already been called and are to be held within the next sixty days, it is of the utmost importance that special attention be given to the nomination of suitable men for the county assessorships, and nominating conventions should bear in mind that the individual interests of taxpayers will outweigh at the election the attachment to the party.

PEONAGE IN ALABAMA.

It is gratifying to know that the Department of Justice is determined to break up the system of peonage in Alabama, the recent exposure of which caused general astonishment that practical slavery in its worst form exists in that state.

Several weeks ago the federal grand jury at Montgomery found an indictment against a white citizen, charging him with having sold a negro in a condition of peonage or involuntary servitude. It appeared that the negro had borrowed a dollar from a white man, promising to pay it back the next day.

Falling to do so he was arrested, convicted and fined for obtaining money under false pretenses. The man of whom he borrowed the money sold him for \$25, the purchaser working him for a year and then selling him to another party, who was working him when the case was brought to the attention of the federal grand jury.

It is said that many more negroes are still in bondage in several of the counties of Alabama. Under a law of that state the magistrates fine negroes, have someone pay their fine and work them, all the time keeping a guard over them during the day and locking them up at night.

It is said they are sometimes brutally whipped, which is undoubtedly true. Following the disclosure secret service men were set to work investigating and the assurance is given that the federal authorities will spare no effort to break up this unlawful and abominable system. A large number of cases are now under investigation and it is stated that in addition to the arrests already made it is expected that warrants will soon be issued for a still larger number. It appears that the system is not in operation in any considerable extent near the cities and large towns, but in some of the more sparsely settled sections it is quite common.

The efforts of the officials of the Department of Justice to destroy this system, which is a reproach to the country, will have the earnest support of everybody capable of understanding its pernicious character. All who are participants in it should be punished to the full extent of the law. In abuse and injustice toward its colored citizens Alabama has an infamous distinction.

NOT A PARTISAN MATTER.

The Philadelphia Ledger, an independent paper that is able to consider public matters without the prejudice of the partisan, says "the efforts which some radically partisan organs are making to smother the national administration by holding it responsible for the postoffice scandals should be condemned by the country's wise, just judgment."

So it will be, there is every reason to believe. It may be admitted that Postmaster General Payne has not at all times been as judicious and discreet regarding the investigation as he should have been, but it is not astonishing that he should have hesitated to give full credence to some of the charges. It cannot be shown, however, that he has put any obstacle in the way of the inquiry or has at any point in its progress failed to give necessary support to the officials who are prosecuting it.

So far as the national administration is concerned, there is nothing to show that the president has not from the outset taken a most earnest interest in the investigation. It was the understanding that when it was instituted he gave directions that it should be made thorough and on his return from his trip, after learning what had been disclosed, his order was to go to the bottom, regardless of who might be hurt. Certainly nothing more could be asked and this order is being faithfully carried out and will be to the end, for

FINANCING THE CITY DEBT.

Proposals have been invited by City Treasurer Hennings for the purchase of \$484,000 of renewal bonds of the city of Omaha, bearing interest at 4 per cent semi-annually, and payable at the expiration of thirty years.

The proposed issue of bonds has been authorized by vote of the city council, the proceeds thereof to take up outstanding bonds of an equal amount due during the present year.

While the refunding of the municipal debt has become imperative there is a grave question as to the advisability of issuing a thirty-year 4 per cent bond when bonds payable in twenty or even ten years, are negotiable.

The credit of the city of Omaha has been improving from year to year and will continue to improve in the coming years by reason of its increased growth in wealth and population.

Although the interest rate has temporarily been rising in the financial market within the past twelve months, the city will assume no risk in an issue of bonds that would mature in 1933 or 1934. No precedent for an issue of thirty-year city bonds exists prior to 1900.

There is a very fair prospect that the state of Nebraska would ten years hence be willing to invest its surplus permanent school funds in Omaha refunding bonds at 3 per cent, or at the very highest at from 3 1/2 to 3 3/4 per cent.

Within the past year several hundred thousand dollars of the permanent state school fund have been invested at those figures, and the city's bonded debt could readily have been refunded at 3 per cent this year were it not for the fact that the constitution requires the permanent school fund to be invested in United States or state securities.

Within the next five years at the farthest we may look for amendments to the constitution that will validate the investment of the permanent school fund in approved bonds of Nebraska municipalities, as well as in approved county bonds.

From every point of view, therefore, the issue of thirty-year bonds would seem to be injudicious and undesirable at this time. In view of the fact that the bonds have not yet been negotiated, we would suggest that the resolution authorizing the issue of these bonds be so amended as to reduce the period of expiration from thirty to ten years, or to authorize bids for two series of bonds, payable in ten and twenty years.

Incidentally, it would seem to us also advantageous to have the competitive field enlarged, so that parties who are disposed to bid for small blocks of bonds, say from \$10,000 upwards, shall have an equal chance with those who are bidding for the whole issue or the bulk of the proposed issue.

INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.

Not a great many people have an intelligent understanding of international obligations. Comparatively few have a correct idea of what is meant by the comity of nations. This is shown in the appeals that are made to our government, whenever anything occurs abroad to arouse popular indignation here, to formally protest and even to interpose with a view to preventing the recurrence of such an event, although it may not in the remotest degree affect any American interest.

There have been many instances within the last twenty years of the popular misapprehension in this respect and doubtless there will be more of them in the future, though undoubtedly public enlightenment respecting international obligations is growing.

It should be perfectly obvious to everybody of ordinary intelligence that it is not the duty nor the right of one government to interfere in the internal affairs of another. Every nation must be permitted to administer its own affairs without question from another nation, so long as the consequences of such administration do not menace the rights or interests of any other country. The United States, for example, would vigorously resent any attempt on the part of a European government to call our government to account for the lynching of negroes or for any other outrages in which only our own citizens were concerned by protesting against such occurrences. We should tell any government doing this to mind its own business. Similarly a European government would be fully justified in resenting interference on our part in its internal affairs, so long as no interest of ours was involved.

It is certainly desirable that this should be more generally understood, that our people should have a clearer comprehension of international obligations and of that courtesy and consideration which is meant by the term comity of nations. While those in official authority may reprobate as strongly as any other of our citizens outrages in foreign lands that arouse the indignation of civilized mankind, they are constrained not to give official expression to their feeling when no American interest is affected. It is not to be doubted that President Roosevelt and Secretary Hay are in no hearty sympathy with popular feeling regarding the Kishineff atrocity, but they could not commit the government to a recognition of this sentiment without endangering the friendly relations with Russia and at the same time placing the United States in an unfavorable position among the nations. For our own welfare and security it is necessary that the government shall not undertake to interfere in the internal affairs of any other nation, save where American interests or the rights of American citizens are directly concerned, and

KEEP EVERLASTINGLY AT IT.

All the schooling and education in the world will not make useful men and women out of our boys and girls unless they have the get-up and grit in them individually to sail in energetically at each task and the perseverance to go through with it. Most of the failures in life are due to the fact that people become too easily discouraged and lack the self-reliance to use the well-worn phrase of President Roosevelt, "to keep everlastingly at it."

To put the same thought in another favorite expression of the president, "When you play, play hard! But when you work don't play."

One good purpose that all these annual commencement exercises serve is that it affords the opportunity to give a whole lot of advice ostensibly for the benefit of the young men and young women emerging from their school days, but in reality more suited to their grown-up brothers and sisters who have been out of school for years and need to be admonished periodically against falling into the rut of inactivity. No matter how long we have been engaged in the pursuit of worldly affairs, we are all at the commencement of the next task in front of us, and to tackle it successfully and win out with flying colors we need the same good to spur us on as the youthful graduate with his freshly signed diploma in his hand.

It is not for any of us, then, to say "That is good advice for the beginners, but we have gotten past that stage." The same rules of conduct that are required to start the beginners out right are just as necessary to keep them right all along the after-course. We must all "keep everlastingly at it" from commencement day till the very end.

An indignant protest should go up at once from every hamlet in the country against the iconoclastic decree of the superintendent of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad putting an embargo upon rice throwing in the railroad stations belonging to that corporation. This ill-tempered railroad official must be some crusty old bachelor who has been thrown down as a discarded suitor on the matrimonial market and has no just appreciation of the beautiful custom of showering the departing bride and groom with rice—a custom handed down from generation to generation, so that no happy honeymoon can now be started right without the oriental breakfast food accompaniment. Unless the obnoxious anti-rice throwing order is rescinded, no self-respecting bridal couple can afford to patronize the road. The blacklist and the boycott are the proper weapons with which to retaliate and the persecuted wedding parties may safely count upon having public sentiment and sympathy on their side.

The prevention of floods and cyclones is the subject of a prolific newspaper discussion just now with volunteer contributors in every nook and corner, who have each evolved the real remedy. One of the most sensible suggestions is that made by Thomas E. Hill in a Duluth paper, advising farmers in the prairie country to construct lakes and ponds on their low lands to hold the water where it falls, draining the higher land into them. The excess precipitation would then evaporate in warm days, coming back as rain and dew where needed, and at the same time by keeping the atmosphere cool and damp operate to prevent high winds and cyclones. In Europe the lake or pond is a regular adjunct of every farming community, serving many useful purposes. The American farmer might do well to help himself and his town neighbors in this way.

Why should the Central Labor union have an "official" paper when every labor organization has free access to all the daily papers for everything of legitimate news value or general public interest? In the recent strike period The Bee issued a special invitation to the representatives of the Business Men's association and of the labor unions to state their case to the public through it as a medium and no official statement issued by either party to the contest failed to secure prompt publication in this paper. An "official" labor organ has never been known to do the cause of labor any substantial good, but on the contrary has more often brought it into disrepute.

President Cleveland insists that there is not a political leader of any prominence endeavoring to advance any movement to nominate him in any state, so far as he is aware. This must be quite a shake-down for the self-esteem of some of the eminent democrats, to say nothing of several well known democratic newspapers that have been laboring under the delusion that they were engineering the Cleveland boom.

Members of the English literature department of the Omaha Woman's club, in social session to pay tribute to a former leader of the department about to remove from the city, presented the guest of honor with a loving cup, "from which each drank to a sentiment from some literary author studied during the winter. What did they drink? The apprehensive man would like to know.

There ought to be no difficulty in keeping a full quota of cadets at the Annapolis naval academy. If the

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Washington Post: An Indiana minister is attracting some notoriety by preaching sermons in his sleep, thus reversing the old custom of preaching while his congregation slept.

Kansas City Star: One of the most touching incidents of the flood was the case of the Armourdale clergyman whose barrel of old sermons was destroyed. A great wave of sympathy will go out to this unfortunate man from Methodist preachers all over the country.

Chicago Chronicle: Clerical gentlemen who assume to sit in judgment upon other clergymen, not even of their own denomination, need to be reminded that there is an eleventh commandment, which is of great value even though it was not graven on the Sinaiic tablets. It reads: "Mind your own business."

Indianapolis Journal: The last of the Spanish Catholic dignitaries of the Philippines has resigned and will soon leave the islands. The Vatican has Americanized the Roman Catholic clergy of the islands very quietly, but none the less thoroughly. And it is impossible to overestimate the effect of this change on the problem of governing the archipelago.

Philadelphia Ledger: Rev. P. W. Biderback, pastor of the Fourth Methodist Episcopal church, has introduced a new feature for his Sunday evening service, that of a choir of thirty young men whistlers. The choir made its first appearance the other night before a large congregation and whistled several times during the service. The boys in the gallery joined in the chorus.

Springfield Republican: They have been having a long-continued drought in New England, which led Rev. Dr. Whitcomb of Boston to preach last Sunday on the question of whether or not it is right to pray for rain. He argued that it is right to ask the Lord to save perishing crops, assuring his hearers that if they did their part the Lord would do His. As heavy rains have fallen in and about Boston since Sunday, the assumption is that the reverend doctor's congregation went immediately home and began praying.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. During the great strike of hotel waiters in Chicago some of the millionaire guests waited on themselves. They had not forgotten the training of their early life.

Oscar S. Straus, president of the Civic Federation, has been chosen as the San Francisco arbitrator in the arbitration of a San Francisco railroad difficulty involving \$1,000,000 of wages.

Don't pay \$3,000,000 a pound for radium when you can get a good article of radium for \$1,000,000 a pound. The radium is just as good as the radium that will answer household and kitchen purposes just as well for only \$2,500,000 a pound.

A unique question has arisen in Brooklyn. It is whether women barbers shall be admitted into the Master Barbers' association. The association has refused to admit entrance if it will be for the purpose of making a woman a member of a section gang. The Rock Island railroad is probably the only road in the country which employs a woman as a boss of a section gang. This road finds that she can make the men work hard. It would be interesting to know how much her husband weighs.

The new king of Servia says he is deeply touched by his elevation to the throne, and as he demands an increase of the "civil list," which means salaries and perquisites, it looks as if the Servian treasury was about to be deeply touched, too.

The chambermaid who was discharged from an Indianapolis hotel for refusing to make Booker T. Washington's bed has lost her suit against the hotel company for damages. She will have to be satisfied with her collection of loving cups.

In his early days Sir Thomas Lipton delighted himself almost every pleasure except that of amassing a fortune. Calling one day on a consul on business matters he was offered a cigar by the official. "No, thank you," said Sir Thomas (then Mr.) Lipton. "Although I am the biggest smoker in

STONEST IN THE WORLD.

What do you smoke? "Bacon," was the prompt reply. "Bacon," was the prompt reply. "Bacon," was the prompt reply.

Employer—A raise? What have you heard that warrants your belief that we could pay you more wages? Clerk—I've heard Edith say "yes" last night, sir.—Indianapolis News.

First Citizen—What do you think of this idea of an army of the unemployed marching to Washington? Second Citizen—That's nothing new. It happens every four years.—New York Weekly.

Do you quarreled with your wife? "No, she quarreled with me." "Bride—Yes, George quarreled back." "Judge," replied the witness, "I'm 60 years old"—Atlanta Constitution.

Yes—Yes, my engagement ring is lovely, but the jeweler's name isn't on the box it came in. Jess—That doesn't signify if it isn't a genuine diamond or— Tess—Of course not, but if I don't know the jeweler's name how am I to find out how much George paid for it?—Philadelphia Press.

"They say that men don't propose. I wonder why it is?" "Perhaps it's because woman is so active these days that she gets tired of being tried to keep up with her."—Chicago Post.

"Poor man," she said, stooping over the victim who had just been dragged out from under her automobile, "have you a wife?" "No," he groaned, "this is the worst thing that ever happened to me."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Bridesmaid—You poor, frightened darling. You looked scared to death at the altar. "Bride—Yes, I was, but I was dreadfully afraid he'd lose courage and run away.—New York Weekly.

Mrs. Meadows—Yas, Hiram got rid of that bridle cow that used to steal her own milk. Mrs. Korntop—Dew tell! I s'pose he tuck me anything he could get for her. Mrs. Meadows—He lost got double what he paid for her; sold her to the new man from the city as a "self-milker."—Philadelphia Press.

THE WANDERERS.

W. D. Nesbit in Chicago Tribune. "As a bird that wandereth from her nest, so is a man that wandereth from his place."—Proverbs, viii.

What is the call the wild birds hear, 'Tis subtle for our ears? What has come to the hollow deer From distant brake or glen? Is it the same that soft and clear Leads out to wandering men?

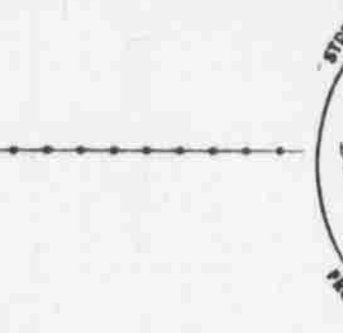
What is the call that minds the bird Of its long vacant nest? Is it upon the echoes blurred By vagrant breeze caressed, Just as the sighing, voiceless word Which tells men "Home is best?"

What puts the music in the call Which comes to them afar— By mountainside or city wall, "Death pine or cedar— To great ones the home things are?

None knows the mystic call which comes To man and bird and beast, As waking as throbbing drums When warfare long has ceased— Instantly it sings and thrums To great ones the home things are?

It may be but a rustling tree Which sings it with its leaves, It may be that the sighing sea, The surging, eddying waves; But what and howsoever it be The call each one receives.

It is the melody divine— The music of the spheres That clear in cadence, faint and fine, Comes sweetly to our ears— A song of infinite design Through God's unnumbered years.



KUHN & CO. INCORPORATED. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS. Manufacturing Chemists. 18th and Douglas Sts.

OMAHA, Neb., June 16th, 1903. Equitable Life Assurance Society, Omaha, Nebraska.

Dear Sirs: I believe in pointers. Your Agent gave me a pointer twenty years ago by inducing me to take a policy on my life. It was for \$2,000. By your statement just received I am informed of the results of this policy, which are eminently satisfactory.

1st. I can withdraw a dividend to exceed 50 per cent of the premiums paid in.

2nd. I can draw more cash than I have paid in.

3rd. I can take a paid-up policy for more than double the cash paid in.

4th. I can receive, as an annuity during my life, a sum nearly one-third larger than my original premium.

I have had for twenty years the protection of \$2,000—which has cost me not one cent—and have now set before me the above "Bill of Fare." It speaks more eloquently than I am able to. I regret that it had not been for \$10,000 in place of \$2,000.

Yours truly, NORMAN A. KUHN.

Equitable Life Assurance Society "Strongest in the World" H. D. NEELY, Manager for Nebraska Merchant's National Bank Bldg., Omaha.