

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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Scope of the City Plan. A movement is on foot to procure for Omaha a city plan as a basis for future development of our system of parks, boulevards and other public improvements.

To draw a plan that stops with the present city limits without connecting up with the adjacent areas would fall short of the requirements. At the same time so long as Omaha is separate and distinct from South Omaha and these outlying territories it is not to be expected that Omaha will put up the money for a scheme of improvements whose main benefits would go to the owners of property escaping city taxes because lying outside of city boundaries.

The spirit of loyalty. Commenting on the rapid progress and development in the young city and state of Oklahoma, a writer in a current periodical observes: "These folks who braved pioneer conditions have learned how to work together. There is a spirit of town loyalty and state loyalty."

There is a forceful lesson in that for us of Omaha and Nebraska. We have a right to boast of our superior natural resources, our strategic location and our brilliant prospects for yet greater growth and progress, but we have no right to deceive ourselves as to our failure, for one reason and another, to rise fully to our opportunities.

On too many occasions this spirit of "town loyalty" and "state loyalty" is lacking. Domestic dissensions, for the most part based on trivialities, are too frequent. While perfectly aware of the fact that it is regarded as impolite to speak of the matter in public, we make bold to say that one of the most witheringly harmful conditions in our state is the senseless anti-Omaha feeling that prevails over the state. Nor are we disposed to lay all the blame for this prejudice on the people out in the state, but frankly to charge Omaha with a share of responsibility.

This does not alter the fact, however, that the antagonism is bad, is destructive in its tendencies and must be overcome, if not only Omaha, but the state, is to seize its opportunities and go forward as under all normal conditions it should and would. As a people with common interests we must cultivate unity of action and realize that there can be no dividing line between us with anything but mutual disaster.

As to Child Labor Laws. A speaker at the National Child Labor conference in New Orleans asserted that the United States was behind even Russia in the enforcement of child labor laws, while another orator declared compulsory education to be the only solution of the problem. He might have pointed to our experience in Nebraska for the proof.

Without respect to the extreme conditions in the south, or the unsatisfactory conditions over the country, Nebraska's experience with child labor and compulsory educational laws is a very wholesome and happy one. We have sane laws on the subject and no difficulty in enforcing them. The legislature of 1907 enacted a law requiring all children between certain ages—not less than 7 nor more than 16 in cities of the metropolitan class—to attend school for the full period each year, either public, private or parochial school, or instruction by a tutor. The only exceptions made to this rule are in cases of children between 14 and 16, who are compelled for economic reasons to remain out of day school, or may be incapacitated. All such, except the infirm, are obliged to attend night school. Further, they and their parents and employers must punctually and regularly account for their compliance with this provision.

As The Bee showed in a recent series of articles on the public schools of Omaha, only thirty-five children, out of an average enrollment of more than 15,000, were under this provision on the night school list, and all of these were reporting properly. According to Superintendent Graff of the city schools, "These laws have worked with remarkable success in Omaha," and we have reason to believe so in the state at large. Indeed, Nebraska's laws on the subject afford safe models for other states. We have no hesitancy in saying that if they were operative everywhere as they are here there would be no basis for complaint as to conditions along these lines in the United States. Our state's percentage of illiteracy, be it remembered, is the very minimum among all the states, and it has even gone down since this law went into effect.

The esteemed Chicago Tribune, in rebuking those who found fault with the president's policy of "watchful waiting," some two weeks ago concluded a laudatory editorial with the assertion that the president's policy was "only wise." Now, it observes: "President Wilson's policy of 'watchful waiting' has been tried, and up to this time it has been a 100 per cent failure. It is evident that it will continue to fail." It only goes to show, we suppose, that wise newspapers, like wise men, change their minds, and especially on a subject as difficult of proper judgment as this.

The Bee's Letter Box

A Suggestion from Father Williams. OMAHA, March 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am in full sympathy with the people who do not want any kind of public celebration or commemoration of the anniversary of the frightful disaster of Easter night one year ago.

Get Back to Business. OMAHA, March 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: Let me say a word to the newspapers that are deploring conditions here, saying that what is wanted is better leadership. We are in need of leadership now in these very newspapers.

Ignorance Due to Headlessness. OMAHA, March 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am interested by the comment of the Lincoln papers on the result of the vote on Omaha's home rule charter. In effect, the editors of the Capital City agree that to draft a charter that will be adopted is beyond the power of human convention, because enough of people will object to one or another of its provisions to defeat the whole.

Old Fogey. Letters from a Political Heirloom.—X. SOMEWHERE, Neb., March 15.—To the Editor of The Bee: Alas! how often does what a man counteth as his strength prove his weakness. We all admire, or should admire, the present president of the United States. We all rejoice, or should rejoice, in any success he may attain. We all weep, or should weep, in any possible failure of his administration. We all forget, or should forget, that we are partisans. We all remember, or should remember, that first of all we are citizens. His appointment of a present secretary of state seemed, at the outset, to be a tower of strength. We have all read in childhood's sweet days of Sinbad the sailor bearing the old man of the sea upon his shoulders. We all remember the words of the apostle as he cried out: "O, wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from this body of death?" We have all read the fable of Aesop's jackass with the lion's skin. How futile is the attempt of the man, who thinks he can be better than the world! We have heard the howl go up against usury and oppression of the poor. Just imagine some millionaire philanthropist moving into some country and loaning out money at 2 per cent for twenty years, how soon would some sharper be putting up the lion's skin.

Fate of the Middlemen. Philadelphia Ledger. Government experts are engaged in formulating a plan to make the parcel post reduce the high cost of living. It involves, of course, the abolition of the middlemen. There are hundreds of thousands of middlemen in the country, all honest citizens. It must be rather startling to them to find their representatives, paid by their taxes, engaged in a wholesale and covert attempt to deprive them of a livelihood.

Why Go to Church?

Signed Editorial by E. F. Denison, Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association.

Sunday, March 23 is go-to-church day. In which a special effort is being made by all the churches of the city to induce those who are not regular church attendants to go to the church of their choice at least for that day.

A special advertising campaign is being carried on, the newspapers are giving it large publicity, and judging from the results in other cities, the church buildings would be crowded on that day. It is worth while to consider why all this effort is being made. Why should men go to church? It is estimated that there are 3,000,000 more women and girls in the churches of North America than men and boys, but this is not an evidence that the need is not as great for the masculine side of the race.

Men need to go to church because they are by nature religious and the church, with all its shortcomings, has no real competitor in helping to supply this need. Men do not go to church continuously to be entertained or because they like the preacher, but they go regularly only when they are helped in their religious life, and the wise pastor will see that this is the underlying motive of his work. No one who wants a well developed, well rounded life can afford not to go to church, because without it he must be unsymmetrical.

Then a man owes it to the community in which he lives to identify himself with that agency which more than any other, stands for the uplift of the community. No public spirited individual would want to see a churchless city, because he knows that universally the communities without churches are immoral and unprogressive. He should add his moral support by participating with others in this way.

There is a special reason for a man with a family of children identifying himself actively with the church because in it he finds his greatest ally in properly rearing his children. Religion is the most important factor in steadying the life of a growing boy or girl and the wise father will want his children in the church. The surest way to keep boys and girls in the church and Sunday school is for the father to attend regularly himself.

Power of Habit. Mrs. Tucker gave some food to a tramp one morning and as he was eating it, she noticed a peculiarity. "Why," she asked, "do you stick out the middle finger of your left hand so straight while you are eating? Was it ever broken?" "No, ma'am," replied the tramp, "but during my halcyon days I wore a diamond ring on that finger, and old habits are hard to break."—National Monthly.

Other Grand Things. Angus McTavish was a lowlander, rich and thoroughly Scotch. He had never seen the highlands or the beautiful lakes of Scotland except from a long distance. He paid a visit to America and in New York was shown all the sights. However, he was not impressed, and still thought the lowlands of Scotland far superior. As a final attempt to show Angus something that would impress him, his friends took him to Niagara Falls. Angus looked at them critically, and when asked if he did not think them the most marvelous thing he had ever seen he remarked: "Aye, mon, they are grand. But do ye ken the auld peacock in Dupuyres that had the wooden leg?"—Buffalo Express.

People and Events

A marked increase in the number of suicides among real estate dealers is noted in New York City. The only explanation given is a desire to improve the last bit in life's addition. A Pennsylvania woman who underwent ten surgical operations in twenty-four hours has been awarded first prize as a society climber in the smart set of her neighborhood. Can you beat it? An Oregon millionaire who got a sentence of "five days on the stone pile" for driving his auto at fifty miles per hour can comfort himself with the reflection that every blow he hits the stones will be a blow for road improvement. Edward Morris, vice president of Morris & Co., bankers, has just inherited \$2,000,000. But it has not changed his routine of work. He is at his desk every morning at 6 o'clock. Only a half dozen intimates know that he had reached his majority.

The esteemed Edwin Hines, the Illinois booster credited with the achievement of "putting Lorimer over," will pay only \$19.50 in personal taxes this year. It isn't Ed's fault, however. A mixup in the assessment roll worked in his favor and he is willing to let it go at that. Miss Davis, Brooklyn's commissioner of correction, wants women doctors for women prisoners. "A woman prisoner," she says, "may select her own spiritual advisor and might, without damage to public policy, say whether she prefers a woman or a man when in need of a physician." With a \$1000 bill in his pocket which he had been unable to get changed, after trying more than 100 times in at least twenty different towns, John C. Johnson, son of a Philadelphia merchant, arrived in Burbury, Pa., where he met friends and had something to eat for the first time in nearly twelve hours. William E. Wallis, member of the faculty of the Carnegie Institute of Washington, who has been taking measurements of terrestrial magnetism near Rome, is about to undertake a scientific mission of unusual interest in northern Africa. He intends to measure the terrestrial magnetism along the coast from Tunis to Alexandria as well as in the interior as far as possible.

SMILING LINES.

James (Who is Broken)—I have one faithful friend left. Bulks (Also Broken)—Who is it? James—My pipe. I can still draw on that.—Boston Transcript. "Of course you admire Marc Antony's oration." "Yes," replied Senator Sorghum. "I admire his originality. He managed to ring in a touch of novelty by starting 'Friends, Romans, Countrymen,' instead of 'Friends and Fellow-Citizens.'"—Washington Star. "That saloonkeeper has some good business ideas about whetting his customers' appetite for a drink." "Such as what?" "He keeps a man basking around who has a fund of stories with lots of dry humor."—Baltimore American. "Well," said the dentist, "I have looked your teeth over carefully. I don't find that there is a thing to be done to them." "That's what I thought. I wanted the satisfaction of sitting in your chair for ten or fifteen minutes without feeling in the least bit frightened."—Washington Star. Professor X, one of the old school, always objected to the pronunciation of "wood," as though it were spelled "wood." One day he stopped a student in the middle of a reading with "How do you pronounce that word, sir?" "Wood," replied the student. The professor gave him a sharp look and said: "I have never found any ground for giving it that soon, sir."—Boston Transcript. Mrs. Ellsworth had a new colored maid. One morning, as the maid came down stairs, the mistress said: "Emma, did you

knock at Miss Flora's door when I sent you up with her breakfast?" "No, ma'am," replied the maid, with preternatural gravity. "What was de use of knockin' at her do' w'en I knowed for sure she was star?"—St. Louis Mirror. THE WOMAN. Who darns the holes in every sock, Keeps track of key for every lock, And regulates the kitchen clock? Who winds the thread from off the spool, Looks out for every household tool, And gets the children off to school? Who cuts out dresses by the yard, Counts all the buttons on the card, And knits a mitt while boiling lard? Who washes clean the dirty duds, Mops floor and stairway with the suds, And then proceeds to peel the spuds? Who from the stove removes the soot, Takes out the ashes, puts up the fruit, Hoes cabbage plants and makes the kraut? Who works the hose and mows the lawn, Sets out the flowers at night and morn, And finds the wood when daddy's gone? Who gets up early, builds the fires, Beats dirty rugs upon the wires, And oftentimes the whole day tires? Who other tasks, without selection, Pursues, and feels long hours' dejection Without a union for protection? Who suffers pain, life to promote, And for man's sins is made the goat, While he denies her right to vote? Who's governed without her consent, Conary to both kind intent And equal freedom's testament? Omaha. WILLIS HUDSPETH.



THE new Crossetts are here. Beauties! Drop in and see what well-dressed men will wear this season.

Crossett Shoe

Makes life's walk easy. \$4.50 to \$6.00 everywhere. LEWIS A. CROSSETT, Inc., Makers North Abington, Mass.

HAYDEN'S Omaha Agents Crossett Shoes

Low Fares South Via LOUISVILLE & NASHVILLE R. R. March 3 and 17, April 7 and 21.

Table with 4 columns: Destination, Fare from Omaha, Fare from St. Louis, Fare from Chicago. Includes destinations like St. Augustine, Ft. Lauderdale, Cincinnati, etc.

THE advertiser who fails, always blames the advertising. It couldn't be the way he advertised or the goods he advertised—oh! no. As well blame the train you didn't catch, because you were late.

Thirty Years Ago This Day in Omaha

AFruit and nut stand has been established at the corner of Fifteenth and Farnam. The spring rains have set in and the mud is already several inches deep, and still going down. A party of nineteen Indian boys and girls, ranging in age from 4 to 16 years, from the Winnebago reservation, came in and were placed in charge of Julius Meyer, who is to put them in school at Mount Pleasant, Ia. West Cimlar is the name of a new addition to the city of Omaha, comprising two plots of twenty-two lots each just west of the Sacred Heart academy. A petition has been presented to the city council by E. Estabrook and others asking that Sixteenth street be opened up south of Leavenworth to the city limits. Senator Fair was among the west bound passengers on the Overland. Mr. R. C. Patterson went out to Wayne to serve as best man for the marriage of his brother, D. C. Patterson, and Miss Maude Gasmble of that city. Rev. Thomas C. Hall of Omaha performed the ceremony. A new company known as the Nebraska Overland Telephone company has been incorporated in the names of Herman Yager, S. R. Johnson, I. E. Heston, J. E. Riley and John A. Harbach. S. B. Felchner has returned from the east.