

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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MAY CIRCULATION. 54,751

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Oh, come to think of it, what about that safe and sane Fourth?

The latest California dope is that the hop crop this year is worth \$3,000,000.

It is now demonstrated that mediation is easier to inaugurate than to terminate.

Omaha's ball team is the best in the league, for every game it plays it has its own pitchers to beat first.

Pittsburgh men are said to be wearing white trousers in the forenoon. And they do well to keep them white that long.

Watterson on Woman Suffrage.—Headline. Without reading the story, we are willing to bet two to one on the context.

Some one says we are rapidly becoming a dancing nation. Yes and just now we are hitting it off to the tune of La Paloma.

The very idea of a eugenics law to improve the human stock in Kentucky is a direct insult to every blue-blooded colonel in the state, sah.

At any rate, those suffrage auto tours are sure to prove instructive on the topography of the round-about country, and the beauty of our nearby rural scenery.

John Bull has not attempted to take from us the right to see that the operating expenses of the canal are duly met. So we still have something to call our own.

Hoot mon! Mr. Carnegie praises President Wilson for driving through the repeal of the tolls exemption bill. He might even listen to a request now for a professor's pension.

The Nebraska editors in convention assembled were presented with a cow. Now, a grape juice factory, or a cider mill, or even a soda fountain—but if wishes were horses, it wouldn't be either.

Nebraska democrats will hold their state convention in Columbus. That should help some, for Columbus is not far from Grand Island where the Bryan bunch received their last trouncing.

Its right and proper that Abe Ruef should stay behind prison bars if only for Francis J. Heney to point to as proof of what noble service he has rendered, for there's no telling when Heney can do it again.

One candidate for the democratic congressional nomination in the First Nebraska district recounts in detail all he has done for his party, for his friends, and for himself. Forget it! Tell 'em what you're going to do for 'em.

A St. Louis capitalist left \$40,000,000 to a university there, the gift to become available twenty years after the death of his wife and daughter, doubtless thinking it would take the university folks twenty years to catch their breath and steady themselves for the windfall.

General Gibben and party returned from a trip to Dubuque.

John M. McFarland of Columbus was one of the guests registered at the Paxton.

A public exhibition of pupils' work in writing and drawing is to be held this week in the school board rooms.

A deed filed in the county clerk's office records the transfer of several lots by J. B. Finlay to Mrs. Phoebe Rebecca Elizabeth Elvina Linton.

The Omaha City mission has opened a Sunday school, strictly unsectarian, in their new room in the brick building just erected on Fourteenth and Leavenworth.

John N. Westberg of the firm of Wieg & Westberg is the recipient of a fine specimen of a golden eagle caught near the Idaho line by James R. Crigger and presented to him by Mr. Crigger. The bird is only about four weeks old, but measures six feet from tip to tip, and has been named the "Plumed Knight" in honor of our future president.

The game of base ball which was to have been played on the St. Mary's avenue grounds did not come off. A number of business men and preachers have united in a petition to the mayor requesting him to stop Sunday ball games, which petition was referred to City Attorney Connell, who returned it with an opinion that it was up to the marshal to enforce the law prohibiting sporting on Sunday.

Thirty Years Ago This Day in Omaha

General Gibben and party returned from a trip to Dubuque. John M. McFarland of Columbus was one of the guests registered at the Paxton. A public exhibition of pupils' work in writing and drawing is to be held this week in the school board rooms.

Pledges That Do Not Bind.

What are platforms between friends, anyway. The New York World—incidentally a strong supporter of the Wilson administration—goes to the trouble of pointing out the fact that the democrats are ignoring another certain plank in their Baltimore platform. The plank is this:

We denounce the profligate waste of the money wrung from the people by oppressive taxation through the lavish appropriations of recent republican congresses, which have kept taxes high and reduced the purchasing power of the people's toil. We demand a return to the simplicity and economy which befits a democratic government.

The World then proceeds to show from a treasury statement that the total ordinary expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, are apt to be \$703,000,000, while the ordinary annual disbursements covered by the Roosevelt and Taft administrations ranged from \$471,000,000 in 1902 to \$682,000,000 in 1913.

"Taxation is eating the life out of industry and commerce," says the World. What, such an arraignment under the beneficent rule of democracy? Aye, 'tis true.

But why raise the question of platform binding the present administration. True, Mr. Bryan says platforms are binding backwards and forwards, as much for what they omit as include, yet the president, himself, took the nomination without seeing the platform and forced his party, under whip and spur, to repudiate its specific pledge of free tolls for coastwise ships through the canal.

Furthermore, this hurrah about "republican waste and extravagance" is the oldest campaign shibboleth known to demagogic democrats.

The School Survey. In his report as commissioner of education, Dr. Philander P. Claxton, hails with satisfaction the substitution for captious criticism of the schools the careful statistics made to establish just what they are doing, and the changes which are needed to enable them to do the work better.

The reports of these school surveys he characterizes as illuminating and helpful, and predicts that the practice of having such surveys made will increase, because any community may well want to know just what it is getting for its expenditures for schools, whether the time of its children is used to best advantage, and what changes in school organization and conduct are advisable.

But while thus emphasizing benefits of the school survey, Dr. Claxton takes pains to issue a word of caution against the professional surveyor. "It is easy," he says, "to cause adverse criticism to be made against the schools of a city or state, arouse discontent or suspicion among patrons and taxpayers, suggest the need of a survey and the advantage to be derived from it, and then offer, for a consideration, the services of an individual or a group of individuals to make the survey. Officials wanting such surveys made should use all diligence and care in obtaining the help of disinterested men and women. Like most other things in the field of education, this work had better not be done at all than not done well."

This states the underlying proposition of the school survey succinctly, and to the point. If such work is to be done, it is important, not only that it be done by people equipped by experience, but also that the purpose constantly kept in view by constructive rather than merely destructive. Complaint and fault finding, however well founded, cannot by themselves be a survey, and waste of money on a defective survey is just as bad as waste of money on any needless and extravagant outlay.

The Masquerade. After due deliberation and solemn debate, some half dozen professional politicians and office-seekers, assuming to speak for what was one the populist party in Nebraska, have decreed that the masquerade, whereby a phantom party organization has been maintained as a side line for the democratic crew, shall continue. In the discussion on or two could not help voice complaint that the democrats had not really shown proper appreciation of populist self-sacrifice in the way of passing over a share of the patronage. But no little thing like that can possibly stand in the way of further steadfast and undying devotion to principle that has been the populist guiding star from the first.

Besides, the chairman of the democratic state committee where advice had been kindly solicited, submitted that it was not within the power of any so-called state committee to disband the populist party, whose destiny is rightly and properly in the hands of none but the rank and file who make up the great army of its votes.

That suggests the correct way to determine whether the populist party should be kept up or the masquerade discontinued, namely, that the populists for once nominate a state ticket of their very own, without infusion or infection of any other party and thus ascertain at the ballot box whether it can still poll the necessary 2 per cent of the total vote required under the law to entitle it to come within the legal definition of a political party.

With all due respect for Brother Amos' clever scheme for helping Brother Gifford to land the labor vote in Pennsylvania, the bull moose party will find itself no exception when it comes to whooping 'em up without an able and willing treasurer.

Secretary Bryan says the Colombian treaty, with its bonus of \$25,000,000 to the Bogota government is all right. So also says Hannis Taylor, the American lawyer who is said to have been promised a big fee by Colombia if he can land the bonanza.

John Lind has gone back into "the tongueless silence of the dreamless dust" of private life and all we have to say is, "Take keer o' yourself, John, for you may be needed again at the watchful waiting post."

The federal supreme court says that Harry Thaw may not go back to visit that dear old Pittsburgh. Holy smoke, is there a man anywhere who has to be held away from Pittsburgh by the court writ?

The Bee's Letter Box

Brief contributions on timely topics invited. The Bee assumes no responsibility for opinions of correspondents. All letters subject to condensation by editor.

Can't Blame Dress for Immorality. OMAHA, June 20.—To the Editor of The Bee: A prominent lawyer was quoted in a recent press article as saying, that "dress reform could wipe out white slavery." Dress is neither moral nor immoral. It is simply unattractive. It may be ugly or beautiful, but not immoral. Every individual's moral attitude is his own mind. If men's minds are immoral, they can conceive and carry out immoral ideas regardless of dress. The Zulu does not consider his nakedness immoral. The display of an ankle he considered immoral; it may be an ugly dress habit but that is all.

Let men reformers educate their own sex as to the proper attitude of mind and cultivate a clean habit of thought and it will do more than clothes to stop the white slave traffic. It is men who put up the money to buy girls. Women do not buy men. On the purchaser must always rest the greater responsibility. The lure of gold is a thousand times worse than the lure of clothes. Take the profit out of the whole system and you strike the greatest blow ever struck at the white slave traffic.

A PRACTICAL REFORMER.

Economic, Not Psychological. WYATNE, Neb., June 21.—To the Editor of The Bee: Woodrow Wilson says the present industrial depression is psychological. That is, it is a condition of people's minds. His explanation may satisfy business men and bankers who are merely suffering the loss of a part of their profits; but how about working men out of a job and unable to find it? He and his family are actually suffering for the necessities of life. Such an explanation to him would be adding insult to injury.

There is an economic reason for prosperity and hard times; it is just a problem of an equitable distribution of the product of labor. A few are getting too much and the many too little. We produce an abundance for all, but act the miser when we come to distribute it. Last winter when men were actually suffering for the necessities of life. The stores were full and overflowing and the merchants begging people to come and buy. But those who needed these goods could not get them because they did not have money. Does any sane man think this is psychological, or that reduction of the tariff or a scientific money system will remedy this condition? No, we must go deeper than that.

We can take from those who have too much and give to those who have too little by these methods: Old age pensions, mothers' pensions, minimum wage bills, out-of-work insurance and in times of industrial depression, cities and states could institute public works, employing men and paying the usual scale of wages; government ownership of railroads and the great trusts would also help. This is no doubt quite a liberal program, but I think if some of these remedies were applied our condition of psychological error would be relieved. J. R. S., Socialist.

Plain Words from a Democrat. LITICA, Neb., June 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: I have heard much talk now of days among democrats to elect the president we must stand by our administration in Washington, and elect the democratic ticket this fall.

The writer and other democrats believe the president has made a good record for himself. We do not have to pull the administration through; it looks very much to me that the administration will have to pull the record of our squandering last legislature through, which appropriated about \$2,000,000 more than the former legislature did, although were elected on the promise of strict economy. We must stand upon our own record and elect better men to the legislature and a governor who has backbone to veto some of the bills that may be passed appropriating unnecessary money.

It is stated that our party is split. It is split, and nearly hopelessly split. Who split it? Was it not Mr. Bryan when he attempted to force an undemocratic issue (county option) into the platform at Grand Island, and after he failed to do so then he went out and belted the ticket?

When I served in the legislature the democrats had a majority. I think it was fifty-five democrats to forty-five republicans. Forty-six of these were real democrats and nine were Bryan or dry democrats. When we wanted to organize the house the real democrats found that the nine Bryanites, as they were called, wanted to run the whole business, just the same as Bryan always wanted to run everything and boss everything, and these nine Bryan democrats tried to organize with the aid of the republicans, but they failed, because there were six brave republicans who refused to join with them, because the dry or Bryan democrats wanted the speaker. This shows that the Bryans must rule or ruin. I wish to say that the former legislative session of the legislature would have blown in \$1,000,000 more if it had not been for the leadership of my friend, Henry Gerding, now on the board of control, and some of the good republicans like Fred Nutzman of Cass county. Most of the dry democrats voted for big appropriations.

I am a democrat and always have been, but I will never consent to go over to the dictator and his loyal subjects. Look at history: Bryan advocates it is I, which was a failure. Then he advocated imperialism, another failure. He has been a false prophet, and whenever he cannot control things to suit himself he will destroy his best friends, and even his party. Then the primary law, we all admit now, is not what it should be and the legislative and referendum will prove extensive and a failure, and the common people will have to foot the bills.

It is about time to get men for the various offices who will be brave enough to come out and state just where they stand, so that we will know what they will do when they are elected. We have had enough of men trying to catch votes coming and going, and we have enough of laws. What we want is more enforcement of them, and the old constitution of Nebraska is still good enough for the people, and if we can get such men the taxes of the people will be less. HENRY SCHEELER.

A Justifiable Swell.

Indianapolis News. After what it has succeeded in doing to the Harvester trust, with the approval of the United States supreme court, Missouri will have to be excused for feeling a little cheery.

Motion Picture as an Educational Factor

From Address of W. A. Pinkerton Before Convention of Police Chiefs.

The motion picture has become a mode of instruction as well as a form of entertainment. Its appeal is universal and its achievements wonderful. Within its province lies a dangerous power for evil that cannot be too seriously considered. A written story of crime and human frailty may pass from memory, but a pictured delineation is apt to remain. Like an anecdote in a speech, which a hearer remembers long after the subject and words of the speaker have flown, the pictured scenes of evil deeds adhere to the mind like shadows to the sun. We all have felt the power of suggestion—the spiritual spring of action which makes for so much of good and ill in the world. Take a serial picture of sordid crime, like those that illustrate the shocking features of white slavery, drug depravity and gun-men gangs, what good purpose can any normal, unselfish person expect them to serve? To the rough and weak and ignorant, it is like throwing more fuel upon a fire already hard to control. There are those afraid today in this inviting business who ought to be brought to book bluntly for their sins on this score. Their just for money is greater than their sense of decency. In other words, they have the heart of those who may always be found on the side of wrongdoers. Pictures that tend to make heroes and martyrs of criminals and decorate vice should be forbidden by law. The young and unacquainted have need of our watchful care in these days when fashions and pleasures are pitched in an oriental key.

I am so deeply impressed with the educational value of the moving picture, and so partial to its realistic entertainment, I cannot refrain from calling attention to these corrupting influences. "Train hold-ups, bank burglaries, acts of pocket picking, counterfeiting, black hand methods, gun-men tactics, highway robberies and other kinds and degrees of outlawry, or any story which embellishes disrespect for law, should never be tolerated by promoters or officials. No professional class of rouses or rogues should be honored by a moving picture display. It is an easy way to make heroes and martyrs of criminals, and the community interest of every self respecting people cannot be too active with ways and means to crush this evil tendency.

The motion picture is now, and will become more so, one of the greatest educational factors in modern life. It is the responsibility of the welfare of the world is therefore of the widest and keenest public concern. Its story is told in an object lesson and most convincing way to millions and millions of people every day. It requires no spoken language to understand, and wherever there is human nature, you will find the reflector film a treasured and improving feature of life. None is so dull in the scale of human experience that he cannot understand the action of an illustrating screen story; hence it is that sinister and debasing pictures should not be permitted in public places. The out and out immoral picture is classified by law, and has made the name of Comstock familiar to all readers of criminal and uplifting news. The insinuating, thinly disguised and forbidding scenes of the underworld are the snakes in the grass that should be scotched and crushed for the general good of a most worthy business, as well as the protection of the world at large. The big, brainy men of the movies are alive to these dangers, and have practically combined, I have been told, to eliminate the soulless sharks, who, like roaming grafters, play upon the weakest and basest traits of human nature, and care for nothing but the money they can quickly scoop.

And here I would like to call attention to an offense of the moving picture guild that calls for heroic treatment from official censors. How can we expect the young, shiftless and vicious to have any respect for law and its representatives if pictures are freely exhibited showing policemen to be both fools and crooks? This faithful guardian of the peace and dignity of our streets is held up to ridicule and scorn, and projected as a many sided graffer at every chance. It doesn't take a long head to see this is an insinuating way of weakening respect for authority. There are no men in the public service who render a better account for the faith reposed in them than these officers. Picture him in the popular mind as bogus—a man more bent on gain than duty—and where do you expect our courts will come in for that power which protects us from anarchy? His hands must be upheld if we want peace, order and decency in our midst. That there are some black sheep in the fold is an inevitable human experience wherever large numbers are concerned, but their lease of life is never long, and by comparison only emphasizes all the more the moral tone and weight of the whole body.

The motion picture must be reckoned with as one of the greatest educational influences of modern life, and it becomes the duty of every self-respecting citizen to see to it, so far as he may have the power, that it does not become a corrupter of youth, and an enemy to social order and public decency. There is a dead line for free speech in the open square, and even the press must slow up before the danger signals of law, so why shouldn't this far reaching moral agency be held to a just responsibility for its deeds?

"One of my greatest pleasures in traveling, much of which I have to do, is in witnessing motion pictures. More and more I am impressed by its wonderful appeal and power, and its educational possibilities are beyond human comprehension."

Twice Told Tales

What He Let. Reading in a little village is a lawyer who is famous for drawing wills, in which branch of business he has long enjoyed a monopoly of the country for miles around.

A few months since a wealthy man died. There was much speculation as to the value of the property, and the town gossip set about to find out the facts. He hunted up the lawyer, and after a few preliminary remarks about the deceased, he said rather bluntly: "I suppose you made Brown's will?" "Yes." "Then you probably know how much he left." "Would you mind telling me?" "Not at all," the lawyer answered, as he resumed his writing, "he left everything he had."—Pittsburgh Chronicle.

A Terrible Misfortune.

"They are shifting consuls on the merit system," said Jerome S. McWade, the Duluth collector. "Here a man in Shanghai at \$4,500 getting shifted to Barcelona at \$2,000. Another consul with a job at \$4,000 is shifted on the merit system to Fiume at \$2,000. A few more such shiftings and where will the poor fellows land?" "Shifting consuls on the merit system—that's a good way to express it. It reminds me of Bilson." "Have you heard of the terrible misfortune that has befallen Bones?" Bilson said to me. "No!" I said. "No!" "Bones, poor fellow," said Bilson, "has eloped with my wife."—Minneapolis Journal.

Rural Energy.

While traveling through Alabama a young salesman was one day ferried to dine at a farmhouse. Not being very well satisfied with his meal of corn-bread and bacon, he asked if he might have a glass of milk. "No," replied his host. "Ah don't reckon you'll find any milk around here since the dog died." "Since the dog died," echoed the stranger. "What's that got to do with it?" "Why," replied the farmer, "who do you-all reckon's goin' to go an' fetch the cow?"—Everybody's Magazine.

Nebraska Politics

Hastings Tribune: We bet pumpkins to prunes that Will Mauph will not write Governor Morehead's campaign speeches this time.

Franklin News: We'll bet that Morehead wishes he hadn't changed his mind about running for congress, since Metcalfe has filed for governor.

Grand Island Independent: The first time we know there will be a joint debate between Corrick and Aldrich as to who is the original and real bull moose oracle in this state. Alas, poor Corrick! Kearney Hub: What about the Vile impeachment, Governor Morehead? And what is Attorney General Martin doing about it? Action is in order. If Vile has not violated a law, and is not impeachable, he should be honorably acquitted. The people of the state will not be satisfied with a Scotch verdict.

Tekamah Herald: John L. Kennedy of Omaha has filed for congressman on the republican ticket in the Second district. If we were in that district we would work and vote for John L. Kennedy. He did serve one term in congress and made a good record. We believe that J. L. Kennedy is one of the best men in Nebraska.

Newman Grove Reporter: Ross Hammond, militant editor and candidate for the republican nomination for governor, has made a bad break already by criticizing the way women wear their hair. He should remember that women may have the right to vote by the time he comes up for a second term and they may remember his strictures. One can't be too careful in politics.

Kearney Democrat: One of the finest conditions of "Dick" Metcalfe's candidacy for governor is that Prince Charles Bryan, Colonel Jack Maher, George Washington Berge and Deacon Morehead shall sign his petition placing him in nomination. Why not also demand King William to come across? But, maybe, "Dick" does not think the "sign" would be any more binding than it was with Champ Clark or Jim Dahlen.

Bridgetown News-Blade: If John H. Morehead had taken the trouble to examine the record of passing years he would have hesitated longer before entering the race for governor of Nebraska in 1914. The voters of this state have decreed that one term in the executive office is enough. Mr. Morehead would have saved himself the pangs of humiliating defeat if he had stuck to his original promise not to seek a second term.

Neligh Leader: F. P. Corrick, the chief herdman of the bull moose party in Nebraska, was in Antelope county last week, but from all that can be learned found little encouragement. Mr. Corrick admitted that his party did not expect to elect anybody in Nebraska, but that it hoped to defeat the republican ticket and also keep the bull moose in line till they could see what would develop.

In 1916, Mr. Corrick has made a living for the last three years at his job of herdman and he is evidently afraid if many more escape from his corral the herdman's salary may be lopped off and he might be compelled to go to work. Blue Springs Sentinel: The political situation in Nebraska is such that it would almost make angels weep. The democratic candidates are securing the state to get enough populists on their petitions so that they can file as populists when there is not an honest drop of populist blood in their veins. The same prostitution of principle is being attempted in the republican ranks by the so-called bull moose who two years ago went up and down the state declaring that they had left the republican party for good and that no good could come out of it, but who now are having petitions circulated that they may also file as republicans. When you look at some politicians and some who have worked their way well up to the top and behold the tactics used by them, you wonder what sort of moral fiber they are made of. It seems to be so elastic that there is no conscience left.

He—Have I a rival? She (coldly)—No, I cannot think of another person I regard with such indifference.—Boston Transcript.

"I used to go to the theater just as a tired business man would. I was going to 'Why did you give it up?' "I found that it was the plays that were making me tired."—Pittsburgh Post.

Dr. Lyman Abbott, the eloquent anti-suffragist, said at an anti-suffrage tea in New York: "I am glad to see that you are all women. You are making me tired."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

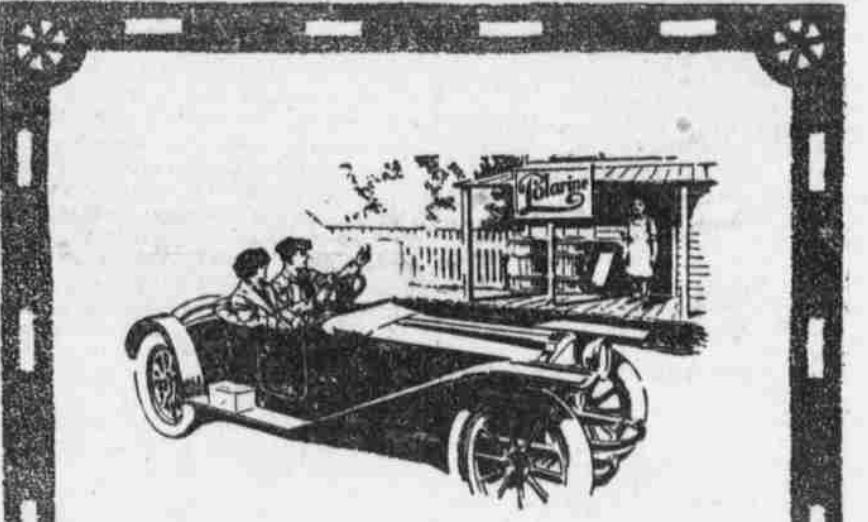
"Lady," said Flooding Pete, "dat's a mighty cross looking dog you've got." "I know it." "Well, I'm on my way. I was going to offer to do a little work. But I bet dat was once a nice, good-natured dog. I ain't goin' to take chances on hangin' around an havin' me disposition spoiled."—Washington Star.

"Beg pardon, but why should you use so large a canvas as a brush wiper?" "Are you alluding to the finished painting, sir?" "Ah, I remember now. You are a futurist."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"That bathing suit of yours is cut rather low." "Can't help it. I want to get tanned this summer low enough to meet my evening gowns."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

She—Lizzie's bloke calls 'er 'is peach and the happle of 'is heve. Why can't you call me things like that? He—Yun, that's very well, but 'e's in the vegetable business. His in the fish trade, remember.—London Punch.

"My son led too gay a life, so I told him to cut it out." "What happened?" "He wouldn't reform, so when I sent him allowance, I cut it down." "No; then I cut it off." "That must have affected him?" "It did. It cut him up."—Baltimore American.



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