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#### APRIL CIRCULATION, 53,406

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss.:
Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee
Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the
average circulation for the month of April, 1915, was DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager.
Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before
me, this ist day of May, 1815.
ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested.

### Thought for the Day

Salacted by Calab T. Morris

The best portion of a good man's life is composed of the little nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and of love .- James Wadsworth.

It is a near-paradox that we should have to work so long for a workhouse.

Sort of an "After-you-Alphonse" affair between Italy, Greece and Roumania.

The weather man will have to put on more steam if he hopes to rival the ups and downs of war bulletins.

Our Portuguese friends must want to remind us that republics are not, necessarily immune

Still, If the voters of Omaha had wanted the other fellows to man the city hall offices they would have elected the opposing ticket.

No matter what happens elsewhere, or how gripping the outside news may be, the first and last duty of live ones is to boost for Omaha.

Now watch the real estate dealers produce enough suitable schoolhouse sites to supply Omaha's needs for the next quarter century.

It is a safe wager there will be no debate over in Germany as to the government's attitude | interests of the people. in the Lusitania affair when it is once promul

"A republic for republicans" was the winning slogan in Portugal. Now watch prosperity grip the former stamping ground of the Lus!-

The principle of "patronizing home industry" will get farther and accomplish greater results if business men practice what they

It will take more than the poetic genius of George Sylvester Viereck to reverse American public opinion approving the president's note to Germany.

Admiral Dewey assures us that the efficiency of the American fleet has never been so high as it is today. Well, it has done some pretty good work in the past.

Before fixing a fancy salary to the job of "managing" the city's Auditorium, better find out what is paid for such service for other amusement places here and elsewhere.

That get-together movement of Nebraska republicans does not seem to please our democratic friends and enemies. The democrats have never won out in this state except through republican division.

ing out of Manitobs to the United States is a distressing feature of the halted progress of the Dominion, Suspension of work on vast railroad projects, accentuated by war, has proven almost disastrous to thousands of workmen lured from Europe by overdrawn promises.



The School board made an advance appropriation building by arrangement with the city council to give the school board quarters in the structure

The weather was so cool that spring overcoats were once more called into requisitio

Mr. and Mrs. J. J.O'Connor are rejoicing to a new addition to their family. It's a girl. Gottlob Zimmerman left for Europe on a pleasure trip to be absent four months.

Delos P. Beard of engine house No. 1 left for Denver, and it is rumored among the boys that he will return in an augmented condition. Rev. W. J. Harsha is back from Jacksonville.

Illinois, where he accompanied Mrs. Harsha to visit her parents. In June he will go with his family to Harbor Point, Michigan, to spend the summer. The Canadian-American society gave a musical and eary entertainment at St. George's hall with time president Hen. Eura Millard in the chair. Those mg in the program included the Misses Georgia Boulter, Manue Pitch, Louise Nash, Belle Gwinner, Luin Cramer and Kennedy Prof. Will T. laber, Prof. August Walthers and Mesurs. D. D. Mcaid, Thomas Leing, W. O. Sanders, Ravel R. nos sad a quartet composed of Wilkins, Deuel, sander and Higg. Italy on the Brink.

More eyes are turned to Italy just at this juncture than on any other country. The entrance of that country into the war on the side of the Allies, which is believed to be assured, will practically complete the ring around the German allies, leaving them an outlet only through Holland and the Scandinavian states. The practical effect on the progress of the war would make the task of Germany more than ever stupendous, for the addition of the last of Europe's great powers to the fighting line would throw enormous odds against the Teutons. It is full appreciation of this fact no doubt that has led Germany to make such earnest efforts to

hold Italy neutral. If it pursues the course at present indicated, Italy will afford one of the most notable examples of the futility of treaty agreements along offensive and defensive lines. The historic "drefbund," created by Von Caprivi and Crispi, with the passive participation of Austria, was the dominating factor in European affairs for twenty-five years, and, so far as may be determined, Italy was the chief, if not the sole, beneficiary of that arrangement. Its present government cannot fail to understand its obligation to Germany and Austria, but seemingly prefers to desert its former allies. To be sure, Italy's material interests do not all lie in the direction Germany is pointing, and certain old scores against Austria have been revived to afford a plausible excuse for its present action.

Whatever efforts Italy may have made to keep out of the melee have been thwarted by popular demonstrations in favor of war. How far these have been stimulated by agitation may be only conjectured, but it certainly lacks in some degree the essential quality of spontaneity. Should Italy's advent into the conflict bring along Greece and the Balkan countries, all continental Europe will have become one vast war

Make Sure of Greater Omaha.

Just two weeks from today is the time when Omaha is called on to vote at the special election that will determine consolidation of South Omaha and Dundee into the Greater Omaha destined to become still greater year by year. While no organized opposition to approval of the proposal is in sight, the turn-out of a good vote, and a decisive majority, would give valuable momentum to the city's progress. Then, too, there are selfish elements that are still unreconciled to the prospect of merger to whom Omaha's apathy might be encouragement for still further attempt to block the path with new obstacles. If Greater Omaha is worth the effort that was expended to push the enabling acc through the legislature, it is worth keeping at It until the job is finished according to its terms by registering the requisite vote at the special

Politics in Portugal.

Portugal's political upheaval is apparently history repeating itself, a manifestation of the unsettled conditions that follow a change of government from a monarchy to a republic. It would have been strange if some such ebullition had not been noted. The affair does not involve local politics so much as it does the ambition of leaders, and for this reason it will be over in time with little, perhaps, of serious effect on tho

down after a revolution, and Portugal is merely experiencing what other countries have gone through. For example, France, after the proclamation of the republic in 1871, was torn for years by political intrigues, looking to a change in form of government, but these were met and the republic has now endured longer than any government Prance has had since the great revolution. Brazil, too, affords a notable illustration. When Dom Pedro abdicted he loosened a flood of pent-up political ambition that threatened for several years to swamp the new republic, and yet Brazil has come out of the stress of its trials, a substantial and firmly established country where the will of the people in the law. So it will likely be with Portugal. Demonstrations of the nature of that just in progress will swell and subside, and then will come the mobile, responsive government of the people, founded on the solid basis of truth and

When the Door is Closed.

Always the United States welcomes the thrifty and the industrious of the world, but the approach of an army of unemployed and destitute aliens from Canada causes Uncle Sam to shut the door. This action is not because of lack of sympathetic interest in the condition of those sufferers, but is taken in justice to the home folks, who are entitled to protection from the hordes of paupers who would soon be headed The report of an army of unemployed march- | this way if the law were broken down. The generous people of America have contributed millions to the relief of the war sufferers, and are still pouring out their bounty for this cause. Appeals for aid are multiplying, and organization for the collection and distribution of relief is everywhere present. The distressed across our northern border will doubtless have their there, should it come to that, but this cannot be made an excuse for abundoning the operation of our immigration law

> General Sam Patterson's successful raid on the treasury pie counter marks a higher level of daring than hitherto shown by "deserving democrats." Whether the Bryan entrenchments were mined and blown up or the sentries chloroformed, is immaterial. It is sufficient to know that the commissary department is not beyond the reach of the daring and the faithful. The fact gives encouragement, if not nourishment, to the famishing.

The closing of the Indian supply warehouse here means more than locking the doors if it also drops the curtain on the thriller pulled off in each successive congress when the honorable representative from this district at the critical moment rushed heroically forward and saved the "child" from falling into the yawning abyes.

The ideal aimed at by the mouthpiece of the I. W. W. is a world without lawyers, brokers and bankers. With these old reliable factors eliminated, on newspapers and preachers would devolve the increased task of upholding the galety of a tearsome world.

### Ethics of the Oath

BY CHARLES J. MARTELL.

TABLE practice of swearing is now so con civilised communities that the probable volume of daily oaths must be incalculably large. In the United States there are approximately 125,000 lawyers. On an average most lawyers have reason to have an oath administered at least a few times a week upon egal documents drawn in connection with their practice. There is much other business before justices of the peace, notaries, and other officials in the course of which eaths are continually being registered. Any person of experience in the work of the legal profeston or the administration of business or public affairs can recall other prolix sources of documentary oaths. One of the most unceasing is the customs service. In the Boston custom house in 1913, there were made approximately 50,000 entries. In effecting these there were required about 70,000 oaths. In other transactions in this custom house during this period it s probable that at least 5,000 more oaths were added. varied matters having to do with municipal, state, and the United States governments oaths are manufactured industriously. If we form a conservative, conjectural estimate in all the communities of this country and in those in other parts of the world, it will readily be realized that the aggregate at its minimum

Prodigious as is the multiplicity of documentary oaths, the more serious oaths taken in the cerrying or of judicial proceedings, and the official oaths, are quite as innumerable. Of course it is impossible to measure the immensity of this host; but some idea of the extent to which the Deity is being daily addressed, the extent to which men are soliciting by solemn stated words His attestation and vindication may be gained by reviewing a part of what is occurring in the city of Boston. In two courts alone, the local municipal court, and the superior court for the county, there were tried in 1914 approximately 44,000 cases. At least five witnesses per case on an average were heard to testify under oath. This would mean that in these two courts there were taken more than 200,000 oaths in one year. This computation does not include the oaths, pregnant with even a greater responsibility, if possible, of the army of jury members who heard some of these cases. It is easy to appreciate that, adding to this number those uttlered in the courts of all other centers throughout the country, and in the courts continually in session in all other parts of the world, the number of judicial caths taken daily must be counted by millions.

Every official act of a legislator or a government officer is perfrmed under the sanction and restraint of an oath, which is inevitably and separately renewed by every such act, which is justified to the greater positive accumulation of spiritual merit by every proper act, and which is spurned to the degradation of man and the propagation of immorality on each occasion when there is accomplished bribery, legislation influenced by anything but justice and good con cience, improper appointments, neglect, corrupt selfserving, or other malfeasance or nonfeasance. each official deed there lies the opportunity for observing with propriety or repudiating the oath and defying Divine retribution. Contemplate the number of sworn officials and legislators in the world, and the profusion of the authoritative doings of each, every act impressed with the seal of the oath, the subject of a compact of suretyship with Heaven

Analysis of the real essence of the oath, appreciation of its religious aspect, and of its copious repetitions, leads to the inquiry as to how its sanctity is observed. The oath is defiled: First, when it is carelessly taken or taken upon an occasion of unjustifiable insignificance; second, when a person sworn contravenes the truth by perjury; and, third, whenever an officeholder under oath commits a reprehensible official act or omits to perform that which his duty im-

Undoubtedly the oath is required thousands of times a day in every large community to conclude comparatively superficial operations. It is put to small uses. It is perverted to an association with matters of simple routine. In a large majority of cases where the oath is so connected, it is administered as a form, in a perfunctory, disparaging and hasty manner; solely as an appendage to a business or legal instrument. It is, in a multitude of cases, regarded | tion" is true, but these unfair methods as a collection of words or a mere formula. Often are defined as (1) price discrimination, law, is of little note, Times literally beyond number the eath is executed in a slovenly manner, without full consciousness and recollection of its sacred sig-

It is appalling to meditate upon the profilmary with which the generosity of Providence in the matter of granting His sublime prestige for the reinfercement of human statements and promises is encreached upon. It is appalling to view the vast numher of very probable cases in which individuals of all Christian lands are daily swearing without thought, reverence or judgment

It would be wrong to imply that the majority of witnesses are accustomed to commit perjury, or that the oaths of office are generally obliterated in effect as soon as originated; but the most charitable imagination cannot brighten the dark pitcure which non knowledge presents of much constantly transpiring lack of fidelity on the part of public servants. and distortion of the truth in the giving of testimony, and the guilt of a very small proportion of those who use the oath would make the total amount of this species of depravity enormous. It is a conservative averment that in two-thirds of the cases tried in court there is positive contradiction of facts. There are very few arguments made by advocates in which bias and prevarication on the part of witnesses are not charged. Deplorably immoral as well as farcical is some of the avidence adduced in many cases to support diametrically opposed propositions. Any judge or practicing attorney knows that seldom does a party to a suit testify against his own inteests in the decisive matters affecting the rights involved. Although perjury may not necessarily and invariably be predicated on these facts, yet they must lead to the conclusion of aworn misstatements in a large proportion of cases, especially when we recall that the oath of the witness requires him not only to tell the truth and nothing but the truth, but all the truth.

In this connection it is interesting to remember that the rules of evidence at present and for centuries in the past, enforced in our courts and English courts, not only tend, in spite of the plain context of the oath, to prevent the telling of all, but permit a witness rather to conceal much, that has some bearing in truth upon the matter at issue. The relaxing of number of these rules and the suppression of others (many are to some extent the relics of a more technical age) would not only make for greater Justice, but it would result in a more exact observance of the oath and give to it a greater atrictness and ameerity. We are forced to recognize then, that purjury prevaits as a common and crying evil.

What can be done practically for the public good and the honor of the race to rescue the oath from the clutches of the immorality by which it is profaned? Sufficient punishment is decreed for him who knowingly and maliciously violates his sworn word when the crime can be proved. But a large part of the debasement of the oath arises from lack of knowledge of the significance of the terms which constitute its form, to lack of appreciation of its religious, character, to undeliberate carelessness in considering its obligations, to unconscious or unwillful bias and exaggeration born of the diverting effect on the mind and will of passions and strong self-interest, which for the time being efface the usual weak impression of the oath's solemnity.

The subject of gratitude was being discussed, and Congressman Samuel E. Winslow of Massachusetts told of an incident that happened in New England. A weary-looking hobo begged for something to eat at the back door of a suburban home, and was given whole mince pie. In less than two hours he was back on the same doorstep.

"Lady," said he, when the good housewife answered the timid knock, "would you be kind enough to give the recipe for that mines ple what you handed

me this morning?" For mercy's sake, man!" exclaimed the astonished housewife. "What do you want that recipe for?" "To settle a bet, lady," answered the hobo. "My partner cars you use three cups of cament to one of



Need of Temperate Speech. STROMSBURG, Neb., May 16.-To the Editor of The Boe: You have a long list of pro-German correspondents who apparently find pleasure in airing their partisan views through The Bee Letter Box. Occasionally I find a sympathizer of the allies indulging in a like pastime, but not often. Most of the signatures indicate that the writers are of German extraction. None of these letters contains any information, and most of them reek with partisan hate and are heavily loaded with misinformation. Evidently most of the writers feel that they must "blow off" or burst their boilers, and a majority appear to be as much excited as they would be in a prohibition campaign as a result of which their amply of beer would be

I have my own views of the causes which have brought the leading nations of Europe into deadly conflict, but I do not propose to rush into print to express Within a few months after the war began, President Wilson issued an appeal to the people of America for Impartiality and restraint in discussing the war. This appeal should be heeded by every lover of his country. Unfortunately it is being disregarded by many people. With me it has all the potency of a mandate, because I recognize its funtice and its wisdom.

If the kaiser had sent out such an appeal to his German subjects it would have been accepted by them as tantamount to a command, and wee to the unhappy wight who failed to so regard it. Especially that portion relating to newspapers and magazines. So easy does the liberty we prize degenerate into license! To an American an appeal to patriotism should carry greater force than does fear of the punishment which a monarch can inflict. In such a case the voice of the elective chief magistrate should be as potent as would the ukase of any sovereign who imagines he holds his high office by divine authority. In conclusion, I commend the following from the president's Philadelphia speech to 4,000 recently naturalfaed citizens: "While you bring all countries with you, come with a purpose of leaving all other countries behind younot looking over your shoulder." CALMAR M'CUNE.

Fair and Unfair Competition. SIOUX CITY, Ia., May 17 .- To the Editor of The Bee: The federal trade commission is simply a piece of state nachinery designed to legally maintain the theory of highway robbery in small business. Congress appropriates to it. \$300,000 a year for 'running expenses,' besides \$50,000 for salaries. With the sole purpose of perpetuating the standard of profits for the man with waste-

ful methode, the United States is paying a minimum of \$350,000. In the guise of legal enactments, the emocratic party seeks to crucify humariam and to evoke a government administering to a host of innumerable competing units. Despite the fact that all history tells eloquently of "a house civided against itself," the democratic party now creates and pays dearly for s commission to maintain such conditions as will tend to prevent a ret-together spirit. It guts \$350,000 annually into the collection plate to memorialize

the sanctity of waste. That the congressional bill creating the commission stipulated an intention to prevent "unfair methods of competi-(2) exclusive tying contracts, (3) inte locking directorates, and (4) shareholding in each other by competing corpora-Now, none of these methods should be designated as unfair, for they are essential in bringing about a combination of competing units.

CECIL MONTAGUE.

As to Discordant Notes. HASTINGS, Neb., May 17.-To the Editor of The Bee: The letter of F. A. Agnew, South Omaha, criticising the action of the president in the Lusitania affair, has without question the emphatic disapproval of every fair-minded man and woman.

This is cartainly no time for politics or jingoism, particularly when dictation is at the hands of one who takes supreme delight in having his name appear in the public press as often as possible.

Our so-called hyphenated citizens of all nations are far better Americans and ones that can be relied upon in case of emergency when national honor is involved than bloody shirt wavers, who are nothing short of traitors.

In the last three days I have heard bundreds of expressions and not one against the note to Germany. I am a traveling man of 30 years and a lifelong republican. R. O. BATES.

Purpose of the Label League. OMAHA, May 16.-To the Editor of The Bee: In the press notices of the last meeting of the Central Labor union, I was quoted as reporting that I had found the merchants of Omaha quite willing to put "the label of the Union Label league" or "the union label" on their goods.

Now, right here is a vital mistake. which I wish to correct. The object of the Omaha trades union card and tabel league is to promote the sale of union made goods which have the proper label stitched or stamped upon them, as the case may be, at the places where they are manufactured, thus guaranteeing that they are made under sanitary conditions for fair wages within reasonable hours in short, under the conditions which organized labor has secured and which produces a class of goods which it is to the interest, not only of union men and their families, but the general public to purchase.

For the merchants to put union labels fraudulently obtained on "scab" goods, which they may have in stock has been done in some places. I am not aware that it has been done in Omaha, but it is one of the very things which the league is organized to fight

KATHERINE T. LEONARD.

OMAHA, May 13.-To the Editor of The Hee: I study day and night about that oldest boy of mine; he is read the age of IT years, and thinks he ought to shine among the toughs and rowdies. and I swear. I get the blues, when I see him rolling cigarettes and twirling bit-

About a year ago he balked and started getting rough; he packed his books and quit the school, and said he knew enough; he took a job delivering hash in Hildebrand's cafe; he wore a little mouskey louse and toiled three hours a day. learned the art of stretching out his paim to grab a tip, to hang around a stranger like a shark around a ship; to

stand and crack his knuckle joints and stutter, hem and haw, 'till a guest would come across and drop a nickel in his

and took a berth in the Amsterdam hotel; and here he wore a badge of brass, a whisking travelers with a broom, of mix-

charlet full of booze, and snorts around the country with a bunch of other stews: and his mother sits and worries with a towel around her head, and wonders if they'll bring him home dead drunk, or really dead. He's as proud of these accomplishments as you or 1 will be, if we reach the gates of paradise, and know we hold the key; perhaps he should be pitied, but it makes my temper boil to see him fool away his time and side-step honest tell.

But what's the use to worry, he will never take advice, he's 17 years old, he knows it all; his parents cut no ice; but if mother would allow me, (sure it wouldn't be a crime). I'd reduce that swelling in his head in about a minute's E. O. McINTOSH.

Mind-Settling Reading.

PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., May 16-To the Editor of The Bee: Referring to the letter of A. L. Meyer in The Bee, let me kindly suggest to all German writers who attempt to justify Germany in the sinking of the great steamship Lusitania, that they read the note of President Wilson to Germany, and the press report of the nation suporting it, and then read 'Polly Anna."

Brother Bix wisely said: Now is the time to watch and wait,
Don't rock the boat;
By all means keep your head on straight,
Don't rock the boat.
The winds are blowing hard, the waves
Are beating high—the ocean raven—
Now, while the dampthing misbehaves,
Don't rock the boat.

The shore is too biamed far away—
Don't rock the boat;
Sit still, keep silent, watch and pray—
Don't rock the boat.
No matter how your soul is tried,
No odds how turbulent inside,
Or who is hurt or who has died,
Don't rock the boat.
—A. W. ATWOOD.

LINES TO A SMILE.

one across and drop a nickel in his one.

He worked at that a week and then his chest began to swell; he flew the coop "That's all right," he responded, "you can't get up any argument with me on that score. —Philadelphia Ledger,

turkey-red cravat, his duty was to meet each guest and take his cane and hat. Here he learned that that noble science, Jack."—Princeton Tiger.

whisking travelers with a broom, of mixing wine and seitzer, carrying notes from room to room, they taught him how to raise a glass and blow away the foam, to rattle dice and dance a clog and stay away from home.

And twice a week this idiot fills a "Washington Star."

"Didn't we invent guapowder?" asked the Chinese philosophera. "Yes," replied the politic but positive foreigner; "you invented it, but you bear about as much relation to its practical use as the man who invented the first lin whilstle bears to the modern brass band."

"Washington Star."

A large map was spread upon the wall and the teacher was instructing the class in geography.

"Horace," said she to a small pupil, "when you stand in Europe facing the north you have on your right hand the great continent of Asia. What have you on your left hand?"

"A wart," replied Horace, "but I can't beip it, teacher."—Brooklyn Eagle.



While little Dorothy was visiting, her hostess' dog came running up and stopped before her panting. Seeing his tongue out, Dorothy said:
"I'se not a doctor, doggie."—Boston Transcript.

Sergeant-'Ey, there! Where are you The Absent-Minded Beggar (who climbed out of the trench)—'Oly Jimlay'. When that bloomin' shell whistled over ead Hi thought it was 12 o'clock!—University of Nebraska Awgwan.

"Belle, it is a shame the way you keep those two nice young men on the string. You really should tell which one you prefer."
"You I hallow to be the way you keep

"No, I believe in maintaining a strict neutrality."—Baltimore American. "Both my husband and I had to go to a hospital on the day we were married, and submit to operations for appendi-

"What an unfortunate experience."
"Oh, it might have been worse. We would probable have spent the money on a honeymoon trip, anyhow."—Chicago Herald.

### Two Very Poor Reasons

If some housewives inadvertently use baking powder which contains alum it is

Usually for two reasons-lack of knowledge as to what it is made of, or because it costs less than a standard brand like Royal Baking Powder, which is made from cream of tartar.

There is no longer any reason for lack of knowledge, since the label on every baking powder can shows in plain English just what it contains. If the label on your can names alum as one of the ingredients, and you are in doubt about its unhealthfulness, your doctor can enlighten you.

As to the lower cost, there is very little difference in practical use, about one cent for a whole cake or pan of bisquits-a mere trifle when you consider the vast difference in healthfulness in favor of food made with Royal Baking Powder.

> ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO. New York

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