

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

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All ready for May day! Yes, but who's to be "Queen of the May" this time?

The recent advertising spurt in substitutes for coffee seem to have escaped the attention of political sign readers.

Easy money marks paid good money for dope warranted to increase the efficiency of gasoline, while matches might be had for the asking.

Perhaps, after running for president as many times as Mr. Bryan has, Ross may carry his home state presidential vote in a district of two.

Panama is a little slow in coming to the front, but the blue print of its unpreparedness seems to indicate the time was thoughtfully employed.

Every day news reports of auto accidents feature the sign, "Slow down." The heedless, speeding past, rarely misses the penalty in broken bones and bills.

While agitating for good roads, it may be well to emphasize the fact that good roads are even more desirable and equally necessary in the city than out in the country.

These offers of sites for a proposed athletic club are still but a faint reminder of the war-to-the-knife competition for the location of the postoffice during the boom days.

Each succeeding class of bright young men and women graduated from the Creighton university proves that the founders of that noble institution "built better than they knew."

Owing to the absence of the freedom of the seas, friends of Irish freedom on this side of the Atlantic are forced into the aggravating attitude of idle listeners for the rumbles of the ruction.

Incidentally, however, the percentage of votes for president cast for the Lexington liveryman in the democratic primary is a much larger percentage of the total than that cast for him in the republican primary. No invidious comparisons intended.

It would be equally pertinent and less treasurably to suggest to our naturalized citizens that they write their friends and relatives in their native land admonishing them to "shoot in the air" should they ever be lined up in battle against Uncle Sam's soldiers.

Fatal Weakness of Irish Rebellions. A striking similarity of methods exist between the famous and futile Irish rebellion of 1798 and its modern imitation. The extent of the present "rising" will not be known until the freedom of news is restored, but as both rested hope of success on foreign assistance, especially in the vital matter of supplies, it is reasonably certain Irish history will repeat itself.

The Irish volunteer movement wrung parliamentary independence from England during the crisis of the American revolution, but republicanism at that time was not strong enough to secure complete separation. Ties of monarchy overshadowed ideals of freedom. The opportunity passed unheeded, followed by division, political trickery and tyranny. Out of the tumult rose the United Irishmen in 1794, an organization of defenders which enrolled 300,000 men in six months. It was a mighty resolute body, but it lacked the tools to work with, excepting such primitive implements as pikes, pitchforks, axes and a few guns. Before outside assistance was obtained the organization all but collapsed, but the spirit it had aroused quickly revived when, in the spring of 1798, French assistance was announced.

An astonishing series of fatalities rendered foreign aid of Irish rebels in that crucial year as abortive as the "Guerilla fleet" headed by Sir Roger Casement. The first French fleet was defeated by storm, only part of it reaching Irish shores and retiring. One of two subsequent expeditions succeeded in landing 3,000 troops, but without equipment for the natives. Its career on land was brilliant but brief. A fourth expedition under Dutch auspices attempted to strike England through Ireland, but encountered a superior British fleet and was vanquished.

The fatal weakness of these and all other attempts to make Ireland an independent nation lies in the utter lack of war supplies. Sir Roger Casement's failure to land ammunition frustrated the fate of the rebellion of 1916.

The Rule of Unreason.

Turn in any direction this spring morning and we are confronted with scenes of violence, of waste and destruction. Nature is preparing to make the world a lovely place, to deck it with beautiful flowers, to pick out the soft green of the leaves and grass with the brilliance of blossoms and to fill the air with the fragrance of flowers and the mating songs of the birds. The joy of life should be upon us all. But man, created but a little below the angels, gives his energy to the creation of discord, to the overwhelming of his fellow man, and to the spreading of terror and death in all directions. He has no time for the enjoyment of the delights of all outdoors, where bird and beast and tree and shrub, grasses and flowers, and earth and sky merge in one grand symphony of life and love, and devotion to the mastering impulse of bringing forth new life. To what strange perversion of his godlike gifts is this unreasoning ardor for widespread mischief ascribable? Hatred reigns where love should rule, and jealousy and distrust have replaced the neighborly frankness that should prevail between the races of men, whose intellectual endowments mark them as fit to direct and manage all the affairs of life.

The picture is not an inspiring one, but beyond it hope can decay a time when the rule of unreason will be ended, when concord between the nations will prevail, and when the enlightened peoples of the world will once more take up the "white man's burden" and by precept and example alike guide the "lesser breeds" along the way to better things. If it were not for this hope the outlook would be far more gloomy than the dreadful present.

Economy in Education.

Residents of Buffalo county have taken steps in accordance with the new school laws for the consolidation of districts, the establishment of rural high schools and for other improvements in their country schools. So far, however, emphasis is laid on economies to be secured rather than increase in privileges to flow from the new arrangement.

Economy in school management is commendable; in fact, it is to be insisted upon. Extravagance ought not to be permitted in any department, and any step that will bring about a lessened cost without decreasing the efficiency of the schools is in the right direction. But the prime object of the public schools is to give to the boys and girls the advantage of instruction in at least the rudiments of knowledge, to open the way to the wondrous treasure house in which is stored the fruits of all man's endeavors from the first. Next, and scarcely less important, is to implant and develop that thirst for knowledge that cannot be quenched; the eagerness to know, to find out, that lives forever and leads its possessor into that realm wherein the great of all the world are at his service. This is possible of accomplishment, along with savings in administrative and other overhead charges in the public school system. The erection of the rural high school is one of the agencies by which the youthful mind may be given the impulse to expand.

Intensely practical as the age is, with "efficiency" for its motto, some very successful men, wise in their experience, still hold to the humanities as valuable, even equally with the more immediately "practical" things that are insisted upon as being essentially necessary for our advance. The school board should have a little imagination, as well as the teacher, if it is going to realize its full opportunity.

Wartime Heroines.

The reading world is so well nigh surfeited with stories of battles and bombardments that it gives precious little attention to the saving side of the human slaughter. Heroes monopolize the limelight just now, but the deeds of heroines are equally valorous and infinitely more merciful. The humanizing touch given to war by Florence Nightingale is systematized and modernized by the women aurses in the present war, and they perform their duties with the energy, endurance, kindness and patience characteristic of the sex. Where in former wars hundreds sufficed, now thousands are required to co-operate with doctors at the front and in the countless hospitals sheltering wounded soldiers. Few people at a distance realize the magnitude and horrors of the task. The intensity of the fighting and the variety of means employed give an inkling of the maimed and mutilated humanity constantly requiring attention. Thus the trying and agonizing work goes on almost day after day, and it is not surprising that scores of heroines sacrifice themselves in the service. These are the unsung heroines of the war, whose deeds glorify womankind.

Farms and Government Ownership.

Senator Sheppard of Texas, proposing a constitutional amendment to produce what will amount to government ownership of farms, makes a mistake that is altogether too popular. It is that with the growing number of tenant farmers the lands of the United States are fast falling into the hands of landlord owners. This belief arises from a misapprehension. Most of the tenantry on farms today is due to the fact that the owner has reached a time of life when he no longer feels like engaging in the arduous labor of tilling the soil, so he retires to the county seat, or to some thrifty village, and devotes himself to rest, while his "renter" carries on the farm work. In practice the tenant is but the "hired man" in a new relation, that of having a personal interest in the crop beyond his wages, while his employer is listed as a "retired farmer" or a "landlord." The landless man will necessarily increase in the United States, because the price of land is going up, while the amount of capital needed for successful farm operations is steadily increasing. But the day is far distant when he will be menaced by any such condition of landlordism as will justify the general government in taking over the farms of the country. A little more common sense in legislating for the relief of the agricultural industry and those engaged in it would not hurt any.

Drawing the biggest crowd for opening day is certainly a feather in the cap of any base ball club. But drawing the biggest crowd for the closing game would be a whole feathered war-bonnet.

Views, Reviews and Interviews

By Victor Rosewater.

DISCUSSING the revolt in Ireland and the part it played by Sir Roger Casement brought the observation by Robert Cowell, while we were walking down the street the other day, that the Casement family had one branch in the late of Man, Mr. Cowell's old home.

"I wonder if the Casements who were prominent in the building of the Union Pacific are in any way related to this Sir Roger Casement?" I asked. "I am sure they were," replied Mr. Cowell, "for members of the family settled in Ohio, where, I understand, these Casements came from."

Looking up the connection of the Casements with the Union Pacific, I have come across some interesting material in the following extract from General Dodge's account of the construction of the first trans-continental railroad:

"The entire track and a large part of the grading on the Union Pacific railway was done by the Casement brothers, General Jack Casement and Dan Casement. General Casement had been a prominent brigade and division commander of the western army. Their force consisted of 100 teams and 1,000 men, living at the end of the track in boarding cars and tents and moved forward with it every few days. It was the best organized, best equipped and best disciplined track force I have ever seen. I think every chief of the different units of the force had been an officer of the army and entered on this work the moment they were mustered out. They could lay from one to three miles of track per day, as they had material and one day laid right and a half mile. Their rapidity in track laying, as far as I know, has never been excelled. I used it several times as a fighting force and it took no longer to put it into fighting line than it did to form it for its daily work. They not only had to lay and surface the track, but had to bring forward to the front from each base all the material and supplies for the track and for all the workmen in advance of the track. Bases were organized for the delivery of the material generally from 100 to 500 miles apart, according to the facilities for operation. At these bases I have seen as many as 1,500 teams waiting for their loads to haul forward to the front for the railway force, the government and for the limited population then living in that country."

Still another reference to the Casements is contained in a telegram quoted many times by General Dodge as the response from his old general, William Tecumseh Sherman, to the message wired him on that famous May 10, 1869, telling of the completion of the work, which reads as follows:

"It is common with millions, I sat yesterday and heard of the completion of the telegraphic battery announce the making of the last spike in the Great Pacific road. Indeed, am I its friend? Yes. Yet am I a part of it for, as early as 1864, I was vice president of the effort begun in San Francisco under the contract of Robinson, Seymour & Co. As soon as General Thomas makes certain preliminary inspections in his new command on the Pacific, I will go out, and, I need not say, will have different facilities from that of 1866, when the only way to California was by sailing around Cape Horn, taking our ships 100 days. All honor to you, to Durant and Jack and Dan Casement, to Reed and the thousands of brave fellows who have wrought out this glorious problem, step of changes, storms and even doubts of the incredulous, and all the obstacles you have now happily surmounted."

"W. T. SHERMAN, General."

I have no means of knowing whether General Casement is still alive, but I recall that when he came out to Omaha, I believe it was for the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Golden Spike, I met him in company with General Dodge. My recollection is that he was a large, florid-faced man beginning to show his age, but hale and hearty and decidedly soldierly in his bearing. General Dodge's book reproduces a photograph of him with full beard, but plainly taken when he was much younger.

Of all the sixteen delegates chosen to represent Nebraska republicans in the coming Chicago convention, Peter Janzen alone enjoys the distinction of having been a delegate to a republican national convention once before. He was a member of the St. Louis convention which nominated William McKinley in 1896, when he served on the resolutions committee and helped make the platform, which was the only real fight there, inasmuch as Mark Hanna had the votes for president nailed down before the gavel tapped its show his age, but hale and hearty and decidedly soldierly in his bearing. General Dodge's book reproduces a photograph of him with full beard, but plainly taken when he was much younger.

Whenever Peter Janzen is in evidence and my friend, Arthur C. Smith, is around, the "colones" (for Smith possesses a colonel's uniform and accoutrements for which he paid some 300 good dollars, but which he has never worn) cries out:

"With apologies to the Danes!" Back of this is an incident dating from my time which arose over some reference in The Bee to something Peter Janzen had said or done. Janzen wrote a rejoinder, taking exception particularly to the misspelling of his name "Janzen," which he said was the Swedish way, while he spelled it "Jansen," the same as would a Dane. The Bee promptly made the correction by printing Mr. Jansen's letter, but turned the joke by heading it:

"With apologies to the Danes."

I am reminded of the fleetness of limps by a notice of a dinner given by the Alumni of the law school of Columbia university in the nature of a farewell to several special guests, among them Prof. Francis M. Burdick and George W. Kirchway, who are about to close twenty-five years of active teaching in that institution and go on retirement pensions. I took courses and lectures from both of these professors, as did also most of the Columbia law graduates in these parts. Prof. Burdick's sobriquet was "Tort," in which field he is the author of several standard law volumes, and Prof. Kirchway gave us an introduction into the law of real estate. Prof. Kirchway later became dean of the law school and a few years ago stopped here in Omaha while making a tour as official representative of the university. I wish I could have been present to join in the greetings and expressions of appreciation to these two leaders of legal education who have helped and inspired so many students.

Thirty Years Ago This Day in Omaha

Compiled from Bee Files.

The Usher & Russell Foundry and Machine shops have been located in Omaha. Both members of the firm will be here on Monday next, when the work of building the shops will be begun.

Masses South, Colquhoun, Gray, Wakefield and Melrose met in the Board of Trade room to consider the resolution in connection with the bid to build the Union Pacific.

W. A. Rodick, late of the firm of Rodick & Rodick, has formed a co-partnership with E. W. Hovland and the two will hereafter transact business under the firm style of Hovland & Rodick.

H. L. Chamberlain of the firm of Chamberlain, Anderson & O'Connell has gone east to purchase stock.

SIGNPOSTS OF PROGRESS.

The American tomato crop is worth \$10,000,000 a year.

Coney Island is to make a \$1,000,000 trolley terminal, work on which will soon be commenced.

Two Chicago firms alone shipped 6,000,000 pounds of poultry, valued at \$1,000,000, to England last winter.

French phonograph records, made on a recently invented cloth, which can be mailed in letters, threaten to rival steno-graphers.

Figuring on an average of four persons to each car, which is conservative, there are 3,000,000 people in this country in daily enjoyment of motoring.

Wireless stations to be erected by the United States navy in Hawaii and the Philippines will be the most powerful in the world, having a 4,700-mile radius.

The invention of a machine to grind sea sand, ordinarily too smooth to be of use, has enabled great quantities of it to be utilized in brick manufacture in Virginia.

One electrical company at Schenectady, N. Y., has 18,000 employees on the roll at the present time—more than ever before in the history of the company—and it is likely more hands will be needed.

The motion picture industry, which uses silver salts for sensitizing films, is estimated to consume 16,000,000 ounces of silver each year in the United States alone.

The production of tungsten ores in the United States during 1915 broke all records. It was equivalent to about 2,145 short tons of concentrates, carrying 48 per cent of tungsten trioxide, and was valued at more than \$2,900,000.

The largest cotton producing county in the United States, Ellis county, Texas, yielded 167,741 bales last year. This is more than six times the amount produced in the whole state of Virginia, and more than was raised in either Missouri or Florida.

WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES.

For the first time in the history of bowling, women were admitted to the national tournament in Washington last week. They had a "night" of their own. There were too women's teams.

Mrs. Florence W. Stephens of Cicero, Mo., who has been attending the Hamilton College of Law, in Chicago, was recently admitted to the bar; her mother and grandmother were lawyers before her.

Mrs. Mary Harris enjoys the rare feminine distinction of being a full-fledged blacksmith. She works with her husband, John Harris, in Grant, Mich., and is not ashamed of her trade. "I'd rather shoe a horse or set a wagon tire than mend a garment or do an ironing," she said.

A tea room was opened at Vassar to get money for the million-dollar endowment fund, and was a great success. Nevertheless a number of students have petitioned the college authorities to abandon the idea. The reason is that patronage was withdrawn from the tea rooms on the outskirts of the campus, and consequently the owners, depending upon these rooms for a living, were much embarrassed.

The most beautiful women in the world are said by experienced and observant travelers to be the Indian women of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, which lies just north of Yucatan in Mexico. They add to their picturesque attractiveness by wearing whatever fortune they may possess in the form of gold coins strung about the arms and neck.

The youngest worker for the suffrage parade, which on June 7 is expected, with an army of 40,000 marching women to awe the republican national convention into placing a suffrage plank in its platform, is Miss Louise Eugenie Yager, the 8-year-old daughter of Mrs. Louis Yager of Oak Park. Little Louise helped Miss Emma Carter count suffrage buttons. She can count up to 101, and each plank contained just that number of "Full Suffrage for Women" buttons, which she placed in the little boxes ready to be sold the men of Chicago.

AROUND THE CITIES.

Boston is building a belt line freight railroad at a cost of \$10,000,000.

The town of Two Beers, Tex., has gone dry and a move is on to revise its name to Near Beer.

San Francisco's exposition receipts totaled \$12,524,000, of which \$4,715,323.65 was taken in at the gates.

Kansas City will furnish its school children with 15,000 fly swatters for summer exercise. Also the flies.

Newark, N. J., is to have a \$5,000,000 Ford plant, to be conducted on the same wage plan as the Detroit plant.

The mayor of Harrisburg, Pa., has decreed that young people in the parks of the city may "spoon" to the extent of holding hands and gazing at the stars. Policemen will see to it that the speed limit is not exceeded.

A St. Louis woman gave an elaborate funeral to her pet canary, "Pete." The body was embalmed and placed in an oak casket, silk-lined, and buried in the family plot in the cemetery with appropriate service and floral offerings.

Richy City last year had \$24,000 to keep the municipal machine going. This year's available resources amount to \$20,000, which spells a deficit of \$4,000. A proposed measure of relief calls for carrying one month's expenses over into 1917.

Philadelphia's noted pizzerias are to be moved away from residential districts where people insist on fresh air. Pig raising within city limits assumed vested rights on account of age, and court proceedings were required to shift the business to rural sections.

PEOPLE AND EVENTS.

Richard Harding Davis left an estate of \$200,000, which shows what newspapermen can do when they buckle down to mere money-getting.

Counterfeit \$10 bills have become so common in New York City that "war baby spenders" make sure their bills are genuine before lighting their cigars.

Hugo, the "tallest man in the world" and a noted circus giant from Italy, is dead at New York. He was called Hugo for short, though he stood eight feet four in his socks and normally weighed 350 pounds.

What can a poor married man do with gasoline going up, his income stationary and his wife refusing to economize on bonnets? A New York man pushed the problem on the courts with a bankruptcy petition and a petition for divorce.

A Shakespeare joke preceded the Shakespeare tercentenary in New York. When Herbert Tree responded to a curtain call in "Henry the Eighth" someone in the audience shouted: "Author, author."

"There are many advantages to be derived from hog wallows," says the Department of Agriculture. "A cool bath is very soothing to a hog in hot weather." Still there are pernicious parasites who assert the department does not earn the appropriation.

Evangelist Baldwin of Indiana hammered sin and sinners at the Hagerty town revival so hard that he scared \$35 out of a repentant who had helped to rob Baldwin twenty-two years before. The incident suggests a line of action for victims of holdups.

The poem by James Whitcomb Riley, "Almost Beyond Endurance," which was published in our issue of April 14, omitted the following copyright credit, "From the Biographical Edition of the Complete Works of James Whitcomb Riley, Copyright, 1915. The Bobbs-Merrill company, Indianapolis."

Two years ago Logan Wyrick, a Missouri kid of 17, blew into Kansas City looking for a job. He got work in a bank as messenger. A week ago Wyrick was made head bookkeeper with the title of assistant cashier. How did he do it? He didn't have a pull, but he kept his eyes peeled, his mind busy, and never looked at the clock.

Fred Thompson, who, with Rip Dundy of Omaha, built Luna Park at Coney Island and went broke on the Hippodrome, is about to come back to his first love and adorn old Coney with the largest "hot dog" factory in the world. The goods will bear the more toothsome name of "grilled frankfurters," and consumers will be given the appetizing privilege of selecting the material on the counter and seeing it compounded and cooked on the spot.

BRIEF BITS OF SCIENCE.

Indulgence in luxuries costs each family in this country \$20 per year.

An electric process is being tried in Russia for the manufacture of gold leaf, heretofore made only by hand.

Apparatus to register automatically the percentage of oxide of carbon in illuminating gas has been invented by an Englishman.

For use in places where acids in water would quickly corrode metals a pump has been invented that is composed almost entirely of wood.

India rubber trees which are tapped every other day continue to yield sap for more than twenty years, and the oldest and most frequently tapped trees produce the richest sap.

The roller-level of a watch each day makes 432,000 impacts against the fork or 187,800,000 in a year or 3,181,005,000 in twenty years. A force of one-horsepower would run 770,000,000 watches.

The nervous shock from exploding shells is so great that it sometimes brings horses up in their tracks, apparently incapable of moving. Horses occasionally fall down and give every appearance of having been shot, though actually unharmed. Dogs suddenly and unaccountably go lame, though untouched.

Three per cent of the wounded are dying in the present war, as compared with 15 per cent in the Franco-Prussian, 25 per cent in the Crimean, and 30 per cent in the Napoleonic wars. Disease also is being held under fine control, the ratio of deaths being seven in battle to one of illness, whereas in our civil war disease claimed five for every man who fell a victim to the enemy's fire.

Fifteen per cent of the timber cut in the United States is wasted every year and government experts in Washington are engaged in experiments to determine how much may be saved by utilizing the waste. One experiment is the utilization of saw-dust in the manufacture of alcohol. Another interesting possibility is the utilization of hydrolyzed sawdust as a carbonyl hydrate cattle food.

SECULAR SHOTS AT PULPIT.

Houston (Tex.) Post: We are told of a Missouri minister who resigned his charge because members of his congregation smoked during the services. When things like this happen in Missouri churches we begin to understand why the men of that state are becoming so wicked, that the republicans expect to elect the next governor.

Church Pension Progress: The Church (Episcopal), has many informal pensioners. More than 700 clergymen are paid salaries of less than \$1,000 and many of these are the older men. When the church pension fund is in operation, a minister may retire at the age of 65 and receive an annuity of at least \$300. This system will put every clergyman of the church upon an assured basis of self-respect and confidence.

New York World: The minister who dropped the names of 1,500 inactive members from his parish roll in New York has set a precedent which shirkers in other walks of life may consider, perhaps, with profit. What have those men of city and state and nation to say for themselves, for instance, who, having a right which amounts to a duty to help govern themselves, are too inactive even to go to the occasional polls?

St. Louis Globe Democrat: A great preacher once startled a great audience on a summer day by beginning his sermon with the words: "It's damned hot." His stupefied hearers wondered whether he suffered from sunstroke or whether he had fallen from grace far enough to profane the pulpit, until their anxiety was relieved by what followed. "That is what I overheard a man saying as I came here. Of course, that man was not a Christian." Then, in the tonal and verbal eloquence which made him famous, he told how real religion can impose no evil to Omnipotence, and nothing but good, no matter what the weather or other natural conditions. Every act of nature, he said, must to a truly religious mind, appear as an act of grace, good and not evil, sacred and not damned. He laid the greatest emphasis of his condemnation on the profane adjective.

Domestic Pleasantries. "Rather embarrassing to a bashful bachelor." "How now?" "Four engaged girls are on our party line, and you can't go to the telephone without somebody landing you a kiss."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"I have plenty of grit," declared the grocery clerk, boastfully. "No doubt," replied his customer, "but I wish you would find another place for it than in the sugar."—Baltimore-American.

"I suppose she revealed among the beauties of Paris." "The spent most of her time among the gargoyle." "Indeed?" "Yes, she knows she's plain, but she said that beside them she didn't look half bad."—Chicago Post.

"I've just left Walker. He's laid up in bed." "Illness attack?" "Automobilism. He was knocked down and very badly bruised."—Boston Transcript.

"Every study political economy?" "No," replied Senator Sorghum. "If the people out my way caught me sitting down to read a lot of books they'd think I was neglecting my regular job."—Washington Star.

The midnight stillness of the darkened parlor was punctuated by a crash just overhead. "Who-wh-what was that, dud-dud-dud-dud?" exclaimed the timid young man. "Merely father dropping a pin," she replied, as she snuggled a little closer.

Pleasant Memories. Francis Bartlett in Boston Transcript. The drowsy murmur of some timeless river. A sudden gleam of the transcendent sea. Young poplar leaves with April's kiss aquiver. And lilac lives again for you and me. A child's cry through the bush of dawn's breaking. A woman's voice that answers tenderly. Song of a bird, his little soft throat shaking. And lilac lives again for you and me. Ripples of sunlight 'twixt vine tangles dripping. Plaint of an unforgetful hemlock tree. A phantasm through low rustling leaf drifts slipping. And lilac lives again for you and me. Ruffle of wings through apple orchards flying. Fragrance of burgeoning lilacs blowing free. Spilled incense grains 'neath willow censer lying. And lilac lives again for you and me. The Milton hills through vella of violet peering. Platons of gulls patrolling the gray sea. Young Dian toward the west her shallop steering. And lilac lives again for you and me. Greetings, half said, with stress of longing broken. Christ of the look reveals divinity. Silence, through which love's ultimate is spoken. Dear lilac lives for aye—with you and me!

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