

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR. THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETOR. Entered at Omaha postoffice as second-class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. By Carrier per month \$1.00. By Mail per year \$10.00. Daily without Sunday \$1.00. Sunday only \$0.50. Daily and Sunday \$1.50. Send notice of change of address or irregularity in delivery to Omaha Bee, Circulation Department.

REMITTANCE. Remit by draft, express or postal order. Only 2-cent stamps taken in payment of small accounts. Personal checks, except on Omaha and eastern exchange, not accepted.

OFFICES. Omaha—The Bee Building. South Omaha—2118 N. Street. Council Bluffs—114 North Main Street. Lincoln—224 Little Building. Chicago—818 People's Gas Building. New York—Room 202, 286 Fifth Avenue. St. Louis—149 New Concordia. Washington—725 Fourteenth Street, N. W.

CORRESPONDENCE. Address communications relating to news and editorial matter to Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

OCTOBER CIRCULATION 53,818 Daily—Sunday 50,252. Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the average circulation for the month of October, 1916, was 53,818 daily and 50,252 Sunday.

DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager. Subscribed by my presence and sworn to before me this 4th day of November, 1916. C. W. CARLSON, Notary Public.

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

The high cost of campaigning is also disclosed by the expense fund statements.

Neotomism run riot in public office is due for a knockout from the coming Nebraska legislature.

Shoemen predict \$15 and \$20 shoes in the near future. The spirit of the uplift properly grips the sole of business.

Unless President Wilson is so proud to imitate, gratitude bids him write a rival volume on "The Winning of the West."

Seats in the New York Stock exchange are marked up to \$74,000. Shearing lambs' wool comes high as a luxurious indoor sport.

To the ultimate consumer the night stickup is an object of fearless indifference. The day holdup leaves little room for additional trimming.

Kansas jackrabbits have jumped from 3 to 10 cents. The institution of the political somersault set all Kansas products on the jump.

For a bunch who have cleaned the platter, those voracious democrats seem still to be about as teasy and irritable as if they had lost all their bets.

Marseilles is bidding for American bottles by the ton. Business foresight suggests extending the French city an invitation to attend Nebraska's May day auction.

Reports of campaign expenses steadily pile up. These are not strictly a waste of valuable paper. They are useful as an exhibit of the high qualities of political forgetteries.

Political hammers are working overtime in California. It is an uncommonly foggy day in that section when the natives overlook a chance to send some noisy hot air over the mountains.

The country is officially reminded that the national treasury holds \$2,700,000,000 in gold. Doubtless the precious pile wears well and holds its color, though deprived of the personal touch which insures a change of air.

The winter campaign is on in the European trenches. That means that everything is adjusted to carry the war through till spring and nothing but the wholly unexpected will interfere with executing the plans adopted.

Conflicting statements of railroad brotherhood leaders reflect the confusion enveloping the Adamson law. When interested parties cannot agree on the meaning, manifestly the proper course is to secure a judicial interpretation. That is what courts are for.

The Baltimore American points with pride to the Montana congressman as "a good republican, good suffragette, good cook, good fellow, good spell-binder—an all-round corker." Coming from an elderly political warrior, the tribute expresses the ardor and heartiness of youth and insinuates Baltimore's readiness to give the Montana bachelor-maid "a corking good time."

Blue and Khaki

In a passing way, and only on proper occasion, we have called attention to the fact that the khaki uniform is less inspiring than the blue used to be, in crowds which line the streets as soldiers and "Old Glory" go by. There is enthusiasm, of course, but it is for the fighting men and not for the drab uniforms they wear. There is nothing in the khaki that reflects a single one of the virtues of the blue. The broad, better reflecting predominant color in the British flag, which the old-fashioned red coat, with all its faults and dangers, certainly did.

We are glad to find so high an authority as General Bell of the United States army expressing the view that khaki has its bad points. He says that, because khaki was adopted for the reason that it does not show dirt easily, too many men of the line are prone to let dirt accumulate on it, and contrasts that tendency with the one prevailing among the boys in blue, in earlier years, to keep their uniforms free of all dirt and spots. He breathes better than the new, as shown in their admiration of their officers, and even of the United States marines, who still cling to the blue and braid.

It was urged at the time the change was made, and as the particular reason for making it, that the dull drab of khaki affords a much better protection against enemy attack than the brighter blue. This objection may have had force at a time when contending armies came to closer quarters than now, and when reconnoitering in force was still possible and frequent. Under the new conditions of fighting, with long-range weapons, and with aeroplane scouting service making sudden attack impossible, the weight of that argument against the colored uniform would appear to be considerably reduced. At any rate, the blue might be used on dress parade, and generally in times of peace, even if it is thought necessary for the troops to don neutral colors in time of war. We hazard the guess that, with the boys put back in blue when they are recalled from the border, the recruiting officers and agencies would find enlistments much more numerous than they are finding them now.

Farmers and the Middleman.

The suggestion of President Wilson that the farmers raise such crops as will overwhelm the middleman when he undertakes to manipulate prices is the easy advice of an amateur economist. It is hard, even with his record before us, to believe the president meant what he said to the Grangers. Certainly those practical men of agriculture, who for the last forty-eight years have been devoting the closest of study to the solution of the middleman question, were not deeply impressed by the words so glibly uttered. Recent experience rises up to confute Mr. Wilson's proposal. In 1914 a moderate crop was sold at record low prices of recent years; in 1915 a bumper crop went off at record high prices, only exceeded by the exorbitant figures now quoted. Not in many years has the supply of food animals been so plentiful as at present, nor were prices ever so high. It will take something more than a liberal supply to put the middleman out of business. The Grangers, with their co-operative selling and buying, have not been able in more than a generation of well-directed effort to make much of an impression on the system. It is all very well for the president to jolly them along if he can, but these men know something of conditions, and they know the cause lies deeper than is indicated by the suggestion. Price manipulation is not to be controlled by mere precept. It may not be impertinent to inquire why Mr. Wilson did not suggest a law to regulate dealings in "futures" in grain and other food supplies, such as was passed to stabilize the price of cotton?

Why a Water Board?

Approps of the short ballot movement this question suggests itself: "Why a water board?" If there is any part of our local government where the so-called general manager system can be successfully applied, it is to the administration and operation of a municipal water plant. The fact is, though we have a nominal water board, the work is now all done by the general manager subject only to perfunctory approval by his colleagues. For whatever has been accomplished, to Mr. Howell, and to no one else, belongs the credit, and for any shortcoming upon him belongs the blame. It may be safely taken for granted that the present general manager will continue to run the water works just as well, if not better, than he has in the past with or without the assistance or hindrance of a water board.

In no other city in the country (with possibly two or three exceptions) is a separate water board maintained like ours but, on the contrary, water works practice and experience generally favors putting one man in charge with full authority and letting him be responsible for results. If the five other members of the board are superfluous, why then burden ourselves with electing them? Why not do away with the extra water district ballot and the needless names voted on every two years?

Greater Lincoln Consolidation.

Following the lead of Omaha's merger with South Omaha, Dundee and adjoining suburbs, Lincoln is agitating for the annexation of the suburban settlements that are an integral part of that community yet outside of the present municipal limits. With this ambition of our Capital City friends we are in full accord, but we will be interested observers of the maneuvers to secure the necessary enabling legislation.

Will it be "forcible annexation" down there or will it be consolidation only "with the consent of the governed?" We remember the tender solicitude of certain Lincoln statesmen for fear a few South Omaha pie-biters might have their offices extinguished by merger with Omaha without due consideration of their wishes and demands for perpetual segregation. The merger scheme finally put through by Omaha, we admit, was nothing but a gauzy cloak for forcible attachment, yet it was the only way to do the job and we commend it to our Lincoln friends if they find their worthy project blocked by similar obstacles that stubbornly refuse to "listen to reason."

Cost of Running for Office.

Publication of campaign expense accounts may afford moralists opportunity for speculation, and give to economists occasion for study, but to the lay reader they will convey little impression beyond the fact that politics is a peculiar game, and that running for office is not to be lightly considered by anyone who is not provided with a long purse. The old-timers will find some justification in the figures given. In days gone by it was a popular practice after each election to accuse one or the other of the contestants of making an inordinate expenditure of money. Purchased votes were always alleged, no matter which side won. Now, with laws to fix limits on expense, we find that sums of money that would have made the elder generation of politicians gasp are paid out in discharge of bills for purposes admittedly legitimate. Candidates find that running for office costs about all the place is likely to bring in return, and that recompense must be sought in the glory that comes through serving one's country. Election expense bills provide a most eloquent argument for better methods of choosing our officers, one of which will be found in the shorter ballot.

Looking After the Lame Ducks.

President Wilson is back in Washington, making plans for his immediate future, part of which will have to do with caring for those of his party followers who fell outside the trenches in the late engagement. Quite a few distinguished democrats will not answer when the roll is called in the next congress, and pursuing a precedent set in the case of Chairman "Jimmy" Hay of the house committee on military affairs, the president will have to make provision for their welfare. This may explain why he has delayed naming the tariff commission, the shipping board, the board to handle workmen's compensation and a number of other places into which he will be happy to bestow "deserving democrats." He has intimated his intention to push his program for legislation, that it may be all out of the way before the new congress comes in with its republican domination, if not control. This, therefore, is notice to those who will write "former" along with their names in days to come that the president will expect nothing but loyalty from those who are looking for jobs. Otherwise they may have to go to work.

The same folks now charging the high prices to redundancy of the gold supply once upon a time insisted that, unless silver were made the primary money metal, increasing scarcity of gold would soon work the utter ruin of all trade and industry. And they persuaded themselves, too, that they had their arguments backed with incontrovertible facts and figures.

A Voice From Minnesota

Minneapolis Journal.

"I don't carry a label any more; I vote for the best man, regardless of politics." This is a typical utterance from many Minnesota voters—these days of nonpartisan legislatures, personal politics, and anemic party organizations. Independent voting, long extolled as a virtue, has grown in Minnesota to such a degree that it has broken down the political fiber of citizenship. Personality rather than principle is what counts now with the great mass of the voters.

The presidential campaign of 1916 has accentuated this condition. Not only is party organization nearly destroyed, but a large percentage of the voters really belong to no party. They claim no political allegiance. The reaction against the old "political machine" has gone to the opposite extreme, which is chaos.

Political conditions have been unsettled all over the country this year, but probably worst of all here in Minnesota. The once strong party spirit, the party allegiance that could give a reason for the faith that was in it, is weak as dish-water in these days. Real leadership has almost disappeared. Young voters, for the most part, did not align themselves at all.

"Thinking men," politically speaking, were scarce, especially among the younger men. Thousands "made up their minds" with the least possible effort. They hadn't studied the issues on their merits. They made their choices through prejudice, through some whim or catchword.

"I'll never vote for a man who wears whiskers," said one who had found "a reason" for opposing Hughes. "I can't stand for a knocker," said another, forgetting that every opposition candidate for president in the country's history has necessarily "knocked" the administration in power. Everywhere the same sort of trivial talk was heard from men who boast of their independence.

These men are not republicans, democrats, progressives or anything else. The fact is, they are nonpartisans, which means "neither fish, flesh, fowl, nor good red herring." Priding themselves on their independence, they really advertise their lack of political principles, the lack of solid ground beneath their feet.

The "mugwump" of thirty years ago was a thinking, independent, force for progress in political affairs. The honest independent thinker in many campaigns has turned the scales toward better things. But the unthinking independent is a ready tool of demagogues, a dangerous factor in the electorate.

Is it merely a coincidence that this condition has come about in Minnesota, with its peculiar nonpartisan system? Is the weakness of party organization a danger?

Party organization in Minnesota was weakened first by the direct primary. It was fairly strong, up to the time the primary was extended to state officers, thus going away with gatherings of party men in convention. The state-wide primary sapped the strength of party organizations. Then came the nonpartisan law and dealt them a death blow. First judges were made nonpartisan, a move to take the judiciary out of politics. Then came nonpartisan city elections, looking to "business administration" of cities.

Then came a bill to extend the nonpartisan law to county officers. There seemed no good reason to draw party lines on these minor public servants. But unexpectedly the nonpartisan legislature idea was grafted onto the bill. It took instantly, was backed by the solid "brewery" influence, and was put through the 1913 legislature without a glimmer of the consequences.

Nothing is left for the party ballot but national and state officers and members of congress. No candidate running in a territory smaller than a congressional district has the party label. The local candidate, without exception, is a pale-blue "nonpartisan," generally fearing to say his soul is his own and avoiding party issues and candidates as if they were small-pox.

Without local organization, there is no longer any party solidarity, no propaganda, no community leaders interested in preaching political principles. As a result, there is little clear thinking on the issues of the day. The tariff is "too hard," and few voters seem to realize how it concerns them. It is "dry stuff." They no longer realize that the nation's tariff policy is vital to the individual, that it is a most practical business proposition, not only for the business man, but for the farmer and the wage-earner, that the nation's "trade balance" is a vital factor in the prosperity of all of us, that American labor cannot compete with 30-cent labor abroad and keep up its standard of living and its purchasing power.

Instead of studying such questions and forming principles for themselves, many voters in present-day Minnesota take their politics from billboards, headlines, campaign lithographs, or mouthy street talkers. In this way they lose no time from the "movies."

Public men in Minnesota are beginning to realize the condition and its cause. They blame the nonpartisan craze for the political indifference and silliness of the day, and from all parts of the state is coming a demand for repeal of the nonpartisan law, at least as to the legislature. Coupled with it is another demand for restoring political conventions to an extent that will bring men of like faith together once more to deliberate, to voice their ideas, and as leaders to light the way for the rank and file of parties built on real principles.

People and Events

One of the pioneer brides of the plains passed away in the death of Mrs. Juliana Ann Richardson, 90, at Junction City, Ore. She was married on the trip across the plains in 1848 and homesteaded in Oregon. Fifty-one descendants survive her.

A California professor told his class of male students that spooning is a waste of time and that men should seek beauty of the soul rather than of the skin. An impertinent youngster asked how beauty of soul could be measured without snuggling up and caused the professor to switch the subject.

A score of women and several men who loaned money to, or endorsed the notes of Annie E. Sharpley, just naturally came together in a Chicago court to look over evidence of debts totaling \$181,000. Miss Sharpley is a chicken farm manager, "an energetic woman of disarming simplicity" and demure glims. The pen-picture is life-size and fairly accurate, as is shown in her ability to borrow money without security. One woman friend advanced \$47,000.

The freak better persists in spots. At Findley, O., a woman sported die the wheelbarrow act for the winner. Another Ohio loser at Lorain walked twenty-one blocks clad in bathing suit and straw hat. An Indiana man shaved off one side of his mustache, and an Illinois man at Pana cooled his disappointment by jumping into a well. One admirer of socialism in New York proposes to let his beard grow until Benson is elected president, and a neighbor of J. Frank Hanly promises to remain dry until J. Frank hangs his hat in the White House. So the saving grace of political humor brightens the gloom.

The outcome of judicial inquiries into the whereabouts of the fortune of Edward W. Morrison, Chicago's millionless millionaire, confirms early suspicions. Morrison was trimmed for \$8,000,000 and is considered a bankrupt. All kinds of people of the crooked world worked on the senile pioneer and knocked off chunks. The biggest job of all was put up by his alleged attorney and reputed guardian, James R. Ward, who sequestered \$2,000,000 worth of Morrison's real estate. The federal court has its hook on Ward and is reaching for other crooks with the object of making them disgorge.

TODAY

Thought Nugget for the Day.

Perpetual pushing and assurance put a difficulty out of countenance and make a seeming difficulty give way.—Jeremy Collier.

One Year Ago Today in the War.

Bulgarian offensive against Monastir checked. Vigorous bombardment of Ostend by British warships. Lord Kitchener had audience with King Constantine of Athens. German guardship reported sunk by Russian destroyers near Libau. French guns destroyed German defenses at points in Belgium and south of Somme.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.

At an entertainment of the Wyman Commercial College Ex-Graduates association, the following assisted in the program: Prof. F. P. French, G. T. Zimmerman, Miss Nellie Rapp, D. D. McDonald and Ella McEldred. Dr. J. A. Eitzen of What Cheer, Ia., was in the city for the first time since Sherman's march to the sea, to meet his old friend, O. E. Bewick. Sam Jones, the evangelist, accompanied by the singers, Rexell and Maxwell, indulged in a little dissipation in the city of a hungry riot. Ex-Rev. J. W. Harris, formerly of the First Baptist church, held the ribbons very tightly over the backs of a very worldly looking team. As the ex-Rev. Harris has graduated into a real estate man, it is not unlikely that he may induce Jones to invest in corner lots in Omaha. Through his attorney, Park Godwin, John H. Penman, the noted jockey, has commenced suit in the



district court attaching the race horse "Jack Gumble," which has been for several months past quartered at the fair grounds.

E. Ryan of West Omaha has been appointed notary public, and the parchment upon which the authority has been outlined has been rendered doubly impressive by the frame which he has placed around the document.

Neil McLeod, one of Himebaugh & Taylor's clerks, was married to Miss Mollie McKennis. They will make their home at Twenty-fourth street and St. Mary's avenue.

This Day in History.

1771—Fort Mifflin and Mercer, on the Delaware below Philadelphia, captured by the British. 1827—Queen Victoria opened the session of the first parliament of her reign. 1848—Opening of the Galena & Chicago Union railroad. 1866—First national convention of the Grand Army of the Republic met at Indianapolis. 1870—Paris was engirdled by the Germans with a second line of investment. 1893—Several prominent young French Canadians were arrested while preparing to blow up with dynamite the Nelson monument in Montreal. 1894—Anton Gregor Rubenstein, famous Russian composer and pianist, died in St. Petersburg. Born 1830. 1899—The German emperor and empress and their sons arrived at Windsor castle on a visit to Queen Victoria. 1906—United States circuit court decreed the dissolution of the Standard Oil company of New Jersey. 1911—Ramon Caceres, president of Santo Domingo, was assassinated by two political malcontents, who were captured and shot.

The Day We Celebrate.

Frank L. Haller, president of the Lining Implement company, was born November 20, 1861, at Davenport, Ia. He is a member of the Board of Regents for the state university.

C. C. Troxell, manager of the Nebraska Moline Plow company, is celebrating his fifty-seventh birthday. He was born at Hagerstown, Md., and kept in his present position since 1893.

Warren S. Blackwell is 60 years old today. He was born in Durant, Ia., and devotes his time to the real estate business when not looking after his own property.

D. B. Marshall of the Western Iron and Wire Works is 39 years old. He was born in Boston.

James Allan is 45 years old today. He is in the ice machine manufacturing business and he first saw the light of day in Dyarst, Scotland.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, former premier of Canada and now leader of the liberal opposition, born at St. Leon, Quebec, seventy-five years ago today.

Dowager Queen Margherita, mother of King Victor Emmanuel of Italy, born sixty-five years ago today.

Arduke Franz Josef Otto, heir presumptive to the Austrian throne, born at Richenau, four years ago today.

Kenesaw M. Landis, judge of the United States district court for the northern district of Illinois, born at Millville, O., fifty years ago today.

Cranston Brenton, president of the national board of moving picture censors, born at Jamaica, N. Y., forty-two years ago today.

Selma Lagerlof, the most famous of Swedish women writers, born in the province of Vermland, fifty-eight years ago today.

James M. Curley, former congressman and present mayor of Boston, born in Boston, forty-two years ago today.

Rev. Patrick J. Hayes, auxiliary bishop of the Catholic diocese of New York, born in New York City, forty-nine years ago today.

George Stovall, first baseman of the Toledo American association, born at Leeds, Mo., thirty-six years ago today.

The Bee's Letter Box

Demerage Game Just a Trick.

Richfield, Neb., Nov. 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: Yesterday a Bee contains an account of railroad managers having a meeting and discussing the "car shortage" trouble, saying great stress upon the abuse shippers give by the holding of cars too long. From some personal experience I think that if they would look into their own bad management they might relieve things some. Three times within the last year I have shipped hay to the Peters Alfalfa Milling company, Omaha, and in each case it has taken from two weeks to twenty-five days to get returns; the milling company claiming that it unloaded as soon as the car could be gotten onto its track, and then re-mitted at once. While believing the company to be honest, yet it looked very strange to me that when my car went out of town along in the evening and had less of a haul than fourteen miles, they ought to get it within a day or so, and I asked our agent to trace the last car and find out when it had been unloaded after I had waited two weeks, and he found that the same day I asked for the information the car had been run onto the milling company's tracks and unloaded and released. Think of it, two weeks for a car to be held by the railroad company to make a transportation of twelve tons of hay over less than a distance of fourteen miles. We could deliver it by team in less than half the time. One neighbor told me it took a month for one car he shipped from the switch at Rumsy, which is four miles nearer, but, of course, went on the same freight as mine did. I imagine a car that long well, I guess he would pay some demerage. Now the railroads talk of raising the demerage. It is simply a trick by which to bleed the public a little more.

W. D. STAMBAUGH.

Hughes Fought a Good Fight.

Council Bluffs, Ia., Nov. 18.—To the Editor of The Bee: I want to endorse every word in this morning's Bee, "He Fought a Good Fight." Yes, Charles E. Hughes certainly did fight a "good fight." The Bee admits mistakes had been made and always will be made. This is but human, but considering the great popularity of President Wilson (and may his second administration bring better results than his first did), it is open to argument, as The Bee puts it, if any aspirant could have done as well as Mr. Hughes. (While the writer is in love with T. R.) I don't believe he could have been elected. Nor do I believe Governor Johnson could have done any better as a running mate than Fairbanks. We might have gained California and lost Indiana. There were too many voters that really did not know the great and good qualities of Charles E. Hughes, one of the "greats," braver men than America today. I also believe had Mr. Hughes stayed at home during his campaign (like McKinley) he would have pulled through. I hope the time will come in the United States when a presidential campaign will not have to stump the country.

J. G. BLESSING.

As to Churches in Politics.

Silver Creek, Neb., Nov. 18.—To the Editor of The Bee: In his letter on religion in politics, Franklin A. Shotwell says some excellent things which are not too often repeated, but in one or two things rather overshoots the mark. It is scarcely true to say the constitution of the United States "was built upon the foundation of religious liberty; that was only one stone. Another stone in that foundation is the principle of three great co-ordinate departments of government—legislative, executive and judicial—but the structure of the government was not built upon the foundation of religious liberty; notwithstanding that since March 4, 1913, the legislative department, to all intents and purposes, has been absorbed by the executive. I think it will continue to survive for four years more, when I trust we shall be able to elect a president some level-headed citizen, content to keep within constitutional limitation, and a congress of men who will have patriotism enough and virility enough to see that the country is that which we want to be or not.

But when Mr. Shotwell objects to raising religious issues in politics and says we "should treat as traitors to our government those who desire for political reasons to array the members of one religion against those of another," he is treading on absolutely solid ground. But if that be true, we should also treat as traitors those who desire for religious reasons to array politically the "members" of all, or some, religions against those of one religion; for, under the constitution one citizen has just precisely as good a right to no religion as another citizen has a right to any religion. In either case, it is injecting religion into politics, a place where it has no right to be whether the purpose be to benefit politics or to benefit religion.

The Protestant churches, alas the Anti-Saloon league, alias the Dry Federation, with possibly a few exceptions, arrayed themselves together in support of the prohibition amendment and against the non-church people—non-church in the sense that in their opposition to the amendment, they quite unlike their opponents, did not make religion an issue, either openly or covertly. Of course many church people were against the amendment, and many non-church people for it, but such were the exception and not the rule.

If anyone deny, let me ask, how it happened that they worked together at all as churches. (The term "Dry Federation" is a misnomer; honestly the organization should have been called the "dry church Federation"). I would further cite the fact that the Anti-Saloon league have said of themselves "that theirs was a church work; that the saloon was in their way; that they wanted a freer field if they had to fight for it." (I quote from members J. Finley, as quite conclusive on this point, I call attention to the fact

Plea to Forget Party Differences.

Crete, Neb., Nov. 18.—To the Editor of The Bee: Now that the election is over with and we are to enjoy four more years of democratic administration, a review of the campaign, and its effect on sentiment, at home and abroad, would seem to be in order. Any intelligent person, with one grain of horse sense, knows that the "high cost of Wilson" is not due to the present Underwood tariff, but is caused by the increased demand for our products abroad; and the shortage in this year's crops. We wonder if our revered friend at Silver Creek will be able to stand the existing conditions for another four years to come? But as to the sentiment abroad that has been created by this recent election. Are the people of war-stricken Europe too busy to think of America, and the United States? The policy of the present administration, with its faults and virtues, has been highly successful in its foreign relations, and we as a nation, are to be congratulated upon having the services of Woodrow Wilson for another term. The divided front and lack of confidence, that would have been shown by a republican success, would have caused a mighty reaction at home and abroad.

As united Americans, and one people, let us support the present administration, forget party differences and petty dislike, and help to keep the United States a peaceful, benevolent, and honorable nation.

NEIL R. BAKER.

SMILING LINES.

"Now that congress is to have women members, what do you suppose one will do when she gets on the floor?" "Order a new rug for it and have it all stained over fresh."—Baltimore American.

"They sat looking at her engagement ring. 'Did your friends admire it?' he tenderly inquired." "They did more than that," he replied. "Three of them recognized it."—New York Times.

"Son," said the old man, "I think you'd better change the windows." "Aw, what's the use?" "Time to show winter work," declared the man, "the man from the window are full of dead flies. Fine samples, but flies are out of season in November."—Baltimore American.

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