

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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Nothing to stop any family from trying out a diet squad of its own.

It is gathered from remarks on both sides of the firing line that the fighters will Christmas in the trenches as usual.

The "public ownership" slogan is a wonderful mantle to cover all sorts of tubs that won't stand on their own bottoms.

"Get Villat" was the substance of the original order to General Pershing. Looks as if the "getting" had not been very good.

It is by no means sure, though, that this unexcelled brand of weather will continue long enough to give us a green Christmas.

Expert calculators assert there is enough gold in the country to give each person, big and little, \$17.50. Well, who is obstructing the distribution?

Who knows but what the children's petition for peace may reach higher and mightier power than earth holds. Great events of spring from minor causes.

There are many things all Omaha can pull for together, regardless of differences on other questions; for example, a new union depot and a pipe line from the Wyoming oil fields. Any dissent?

Canadian revenue is slowly mounting up to the outgo. The readiness of the dominion in meeting the demands of war, means as well as men, forms an impressive object lesson in colonial loyalty.

Extinguish the Congressional Record, as Champ Clark suggests? Perish the thought! An editorial sanction not receiving that diurnal document during the sessions would be absolutely lost in darkness.

Eighty-six known dead and forty-one injured constitute the human "bag" of the hunting season in fifteen states. Still our statute books are jammed with laws safeguarding human lives, but none safeguarding hunters from themselves.

The citizen who does not shirk his duty will vote at the special election tomorrow. Either vote "yes" if you want the city to have 1,000 more street lamps without extra cost, or vote "no" if you want the street lighting to remain as it is.

Members of the Federal Reserve board might as well look for holiday hospitality at home or distant from the seaboard. The recent hunch against foreign treasury notes banishes the prospect of cutting a Christmas cake on or about Wall street.

A note of grave alarm is heard in New York over the painful reach of the income tax. One-fifth of the total collections for the fiscal year was paid by New Yorkers. Higher rates enacted last August greatly increases the reach during the present fiscal year and promises to swell the note of alarm into a mighty scream.

Some of the rural papers are deploring the failure of re-election of State Superintendent Thomas as a blow to the cause of education in Nebraska. To Superintendent Thomas, however, it will probably be a Godsend in relieving him from obligation to fill a \$2,000-a-year job when his talents can earn much more.

Artificial Remedies. If the vociferous element of the population would cease demanding artificial remedies for every evil and would turn its attention to more natural, if less obvious, remedies, real progress would be made.

There are two ways of meeting the high cost of living. One is by individual effort, devoted to economies in purchasing foodstuffs and in household management. Another way is for the government itself to evolve policies which will bring about economies in manufacture and agriculture.

Those who are advocating an embargo on foodstuffs apparently overlook the fact that the short crops are more of a factor than the increased demand from Europe. There is sufficient land available for an immense increase in the crops of the nation. Moreover, if the United States were producing as much per acre as most of the foreign countries, the supply of foodstuffs in this country would be greatly beyond any possible demand.

No good can come from the movement to check the natural flow of trade. Whenever that experiment was tried in the past it failed wholly in its object. There is no reason to suppose that this country can be independent of foreign sales at the present time when a considerable portion of the nation's prosperity is based upon the \$5,000,000,000 export trade.

There is every reason to believe that President Wilson's leadership will prevent the establishment of any false economic policy which would lead to the undermining of prosperity.

Farmers and Food Prices.

When the Nebraska farm congress meets in Omaha it will have for one of its leading topics the question of embargo on food products. Quite naturally, the farmers are opposed to this, as the artificial restriction of the market thus brought about will have a reflex effect on the prices of their commodities. The point is one in which the entire public is concerned, for the increased cost of food products touches everybody.

Playing the Postoffice for Perquisites. One of the unique communications we have just received comes from a democratic postmaster in an interior town (name and address we mask out of consideration for the writer) which reads as follows:

Somewhere, Neb., Nov. 28.—To the Editor of The Bee, Dear Sir: My name has been placed on some of the state dailies free and I would thank you to extend me the same favor if not against your business methods.

Packing House Prosperity. During the greater part of the year all the agencies of publicity exploited the huge profits of war realized by many American industries. Munitions plants have been pictured as golden mints, steel mills rivaling the richest days of the Klondike, and "war brides" yielding profits surpassing the dreams of avarice.

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Boston and Billy Sunday

Boston wants the same things of the base ball evangelist that the rest have had, but Mr. Joseph Edgar Chamberlain says he is not giving it. Instead, he seems to be "deliberately doing less in the way of shocking and startling than he did in Paterson and Philadelphia—toning himself down, diluting himself, cajoling the Unitarians (part of the time), throwing bouquets to Dr. Channing, Charlotte Cushman, and Fanny Davenport, cutting out the roughest passages."

He is himself up against diminishing energy and a weakening voice. And then, even though the tabernacle audience may be very receptive, it has probably the Boston habit of analyzing a speaker in a pretty thorough fashion. No doubt the audience, or the major part of it, will demand the full rendition of the regular "Billy" Sunday thing. What came we out for to see? Not a dignified rhetorician, surely. Generally speaking, the more extraordinary the things reported of Sunday in the last seven or eight years since he became a national figure, the more fierce the demand is upon "Billy" for shocking words and antics.

And yet, is that what he is doing? Manifestly not. One effect will be that if Sunday has great spiritual powers, he will have to reveal them more truly and strikingly than he has ever revealed them before. That is the direction in which he will really have to make good. Just in the proportion that he suppresses the mountebank, he will have to make the prophet appear. If there is no prophet there—then, as he would put it himself, there is nothing doing.

The Hair of the Dog. One of the kind of boys that almost anyone who has ever been a boy can understand shied a stone at a small girl acquaintance the other day. By way of punishment the judge sentenced him to throw 1,000 stones at an old tin can, and the truant officer saw that the sentence was carried out.

People and Events. Here's one way of bringing the H. C. L. down a peg. "The cash and carry" system inaugurated by a grocer at Fond du Lac, Wis., cuts the cost 5 per cent for cash and an additional 5 per cent to the customer for delivering the goods.

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TODAY

Thought Nugget for the Day. There is always a best way of doing everything, if it be to boil an egg—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

One Year Ago Today in the War. Henry Ford's peace crusaders sailed from New York for Europe on the Lusitania. Kitchener, Asquith and Haifour met French chiefs in council of war at Calais.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago. An entertainment was held at the residence of A. J. Poppleton in the way of a fair for the benefit of the Vassar fund.

This Day in History. 1783—Washington bade farewell to his officers at Fraunce's tavern, in New York.

The Day We Celebrate. Constantine J. Smyth is 57 years old today. He served on the school board and in the legislature and as assistant to the attorney general under the Wilson administration.

Timely Jottings and Reminders. The Sixty-fourth congress assemblies today for its final work of legislation. Pope Benedict will hold a secret consistory today and a public consistory Thursday, at which he will create new cardinals.

Storytelling of the Day. The district trustee was addressing a school in Ohio. "Children," said he, "I want to talk to you for a few moments about one of the most wonderful, one of the most important organs in the whole world. What is it that throbs away, beats away, never stopping, never ceasing, whether you wake or sleep, night or day, week in and week out, month in and month out, year in and year out, without any volition on your part, hidden away in the depths, as it were, unseen by you, throbbing, throbbing, rhythmically all your life long?"

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The Bee's Letter Box

Push for Tanneries and Leather Works. Council Bluffs, Ia., Dec. 3.—To the Editor of The Bee: As one of the first subscribers of The Bee, in 1871, I must confess that The Bee has always urged a constructive policy for Omaha. I have not always liked our tannery policies, especially when they got up a joke bill and crammed it down the throat of the Magic City, telling of the great benefit South Omaha would derive by annexation.

Limit the Grist of Bills. Utica, Neb., Dec. 3.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am writing all members of the house asking their cooperation in an effort to reduce the vast number of bills presented to the house for consideration.

Wants Bigger Street Car Sign. Omaha, Dec. 3.—To the Editor of The Bee: Why don't our street car company adopt some better plan, so that a person can tell at night or day which way a car is going. All cities throughout the country have signs, either across the top or on both sides, or at either end on top. The best thing I have seen is the sign across the top, for instance, on the Park Line, could say, "Hanscom Park Line, West Side," then have these signs operate by the conductor by pulling a rod which turns the sign over, showing, "Sixteenth Street, North Twenty-fourth Street, Forest Lawn," and so on. All cars could be labeled so that a person could tell which way a car is going from either side of car. The ancient way we have now, you must get up close to the front of the car or on one side only, to find out where it is going.

MIRTHFUL REMARKS. "I went to our cashier's wedding yesterday." "So was the bride dressed?" "So appropriately. She wore a dress of changeable silk."—Baltimore American.

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bliss can then be given careful consideration and we cannot be accused of prejudicial legislation. And, too, if we limit the number of bills we can escape the embarrassment of introducing bills by request in which we can find no merit.

The Fate of Mexico. La Platte, Neb., Dec. 3.—To the Editor of The Bee: The political atmosphere is pretty well laden with opinion on the subject of Mexico and what action our authorities should enforce in dealing with our near neighbors. In the early days of the Spanish-American war, the prime minister of the British government made a public address in which he classed the powers of the earth in two classes, the living and the dying. The speech aroused great interest, and was accepted as a prophecy, like that made a couple of years before the civil war by Abraham Lincoln, who boldly declared that this nation could not exist half slave and half free.

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Winter Tourist Fares Via Rock Island Lines. Jacksonville, Fla., and return \$54.56. Lake City, Fla., and return \$54.56. Tallahassee, Fla., and return \$54.56. St. Augustine, Fla., and return \$56.86. Palm Beach, Fla., and return \$73.06. Tampa, Fla., and return \$66.16. Key West, Fla., and return \$87.66. Savannah, Ga., and return \$54.56. Mobile, Ala., and return \$44.31. New Orleans, La., and return \$44.31. Pensacola, Fla., and return \$46.91. Thomasville, Ga., and return \$54.56. Augusta, Ga., and return \$52.77. Aiken, S. C., and return \$53.67. Charleston, S. C., and return \$54.56. Columbia, S. C., and return \$53.67. Jackson, Miss., and return \$39.90. Meridian, Miss., and return \$39.90. Havana, Cuba, and return, via Key West, or Tampa and steamer \$94.80. Havana, Cuba, and return, via New Orleans and steamer \$92.15. Jacksonville, Fla., and return, via Washington and rail, or via Baltimore and steamer; same route both directions \$74.40.