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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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It's a cinch that if Mr. Bryan had not resigned from the cabinet before, he would now.

The opportunity for jingoes to make good or shut up is some compensation for the worry.

The league to enforce peace cannot complain of having no work cut out for it.

Before the next move is made, ought the president not to find out first whether Henry Ford approves?

Rest all fears of attack through Mexican Carranza promises to proclaim his neutrality. Only "our good friend" Villa is yet to be heard from.

Mexican exiles to the number of 1,200 have taken gasoline baths on the border. The operation scents a forward leap into automobile society.

Foreign-born citizens may sympathize with the country of their nativity, against other enemies, but it must be "America first" and "America Ueber alles!"

A roster of 1124 legislative bills insures a steady forty-day job for the lawmakers. Unless an average of twenty-eight bills are disposed of each day, waste basket facilities may suffer a blockade at the finish.

A casual glimpse of the future lends a touch of wisdom to the zeal of lawmakers in speeding up irrigation projects. In the circumstance the conservation of our water resources deserves the support of every patriot.

The way to keep the schools out of politics is to make it impossible to use membership in the school board as a stepping stone to party preferment. And the same is true of all other offices filled by way of the non-partisan ballot.

Those indignant senators who jumped on Washington hotel men for boosting inauguration rates, evidently felt the touch at last summer's national conventions. Holding their wrath in check for eight months fairly measures the depth of the touch.

Britain's latest suffrage proposal fixes thirty years as the age minimum for feminine citizenship. This standard doubtless fits things English. Over here a like proposition discriminating against bachelor maids would clutter the highways with the debris of raised roofs.

Unless events reshape themselves quickly, it will be necessary to convene the new congress in special session immediately after the expiration of the present congress despite the understanding that it was not to meet until next December. Again the best laid plans of men and mice "gang aft agley."

The chief factor behind the immigration restriction propaganda is to be found in the labor unions, whose leaders believe it to be their interest to make labor scarce although the vast majority of immigrants do unskilled labor, which the American workmen will not do under any circumstances. It is to be hoped the senate will sustain the veto and it is difficult to understand how any senator, representing the west with its vast resources undeveloped for lack of population and workers, can favor such arbitrary exclusion.

Shafts Aimed at Omaha

Hay Springs News: The Commercial club of Omaha has passed resolutions to help saloon men and barkeepers to new jobs. This may or may not be the proper thing to do. We believe, however, that they are better able to take care of themselves than many others who are out of employment.

York Republican: An Omaha lady painted a picture of the Niagara Falls several years ago, which The Bee at the time said "shows considerable dash and vigor." Of course, the question of vigor is relative, but one who tried to paint the great falls without dash would not paint the falls at all. It's all dash, if you ever noticed it.

Nebraska City Press: A grand jury is at work in Omaha trying to locate some of the spots of evil we country folks like to talk about. One thing to get its attention is the rumor that certain portions of the city have harbored places where liquor has been sold illegally. The grand jury may have a very fine little piece of work cut out for it before it gets to the end of the rope.

Fremont Tribune: There is no good reason why there should not be a cutoff on the Lincoln highway to bring traffic by way of Blair instead of detouring by way of Omaha. With the two routes mapped out it would give tourists an option. If they preferred to go by way of Omaha, well and good. If they do not then let them have a marked road between Fremont and Missouri Valley that will dispense with the fifty-mile kink taking in Omaha. This may mean a great deal to Fremont when it gets its palatial Pathfinder hotel going.

Exeter News: The high cost of living has certainly produced a lot of stickup men and burglars in Omaha this winter. These fellows who are after "easy" money get busy early in the evening and keep it up until late at night. The chief of police of that city has at different times shown out hope what to do in case of a holdup. The best thing to do, we should judge, is to turn over all the money you have and apologize to the fellow for not having more. There are people fighting shy of Omaha this winter on account of the stickup men. The police seem to be doing all in their power to capture these parties. Regardless of the tough class of citizens, Omaha is a mighty fine city.

E PLURIBUS UNUM.

The United States is the most cosmopolitan people on earth—the one important nation of the world whose inhabitants are a flux of the people of all other lands.

At the same time, the United States is the most notable example of the complete union of diverse population elements—of old-world sons and daughters remade into true Americans and reincarnated with a single inspiration of devotion to liberty and to their common country.

The most noteworthy, but in no way remarkable, feature of the present crisis is the spontaneous and unanimous response from every state in the union and from every corner of the country, backing the president in the course of action he has taken to maintain the nation's honor and rights as a neutral. The pledge of loyalty to America first may be uttered in many tongues, but the words all have the same meaning.

When it comes to a stand against foreign aggression, political differences are sunk and partisanship laid aside. There is no demarcation by nationality, or creed. There is no north, no south, no east, no west, of territorial division.

The American motto is not a mere high-sounding phrase, but a living fact—"E Pluribus Unum."

A Smokeless Pipe Dream. The first faint whiffs of reform foreshadowing a smokeless nation flock the distant horizons of Nebraska and Kansas. King Nicotine is tagged for a fall. Tobacco must go. That much is a future probability. An impossible task, some will say. Millions said as much when this dry movement started on its fateful spurt twenty years ago.

With the experience gained in that sweep the smokeless reformers needs but rally like agencies and forces to smoke out the smokers and forcibly rescue them from the nicotine demon.

Nebraska statesmanship approaches the bulwarks of tobacco somewhat gingerly, being content, as a starter, with a bill driving cigars out of dining rooms. Kansas statesmanship strikes at the roots of the habit in a way admitting of no compromise short of herding smokers in public smoke houses. The Kansas measure prohibits smoking in all public places, from highways to halls and vehicles, and forbids the indulgence in one's home.

As a means of tapering off, communities are authorized to establish smoke houses, where smokers may congregate and smoke up without limit.

The fate of these measures is of little consequence at this moment. They are interesting chiefly as forerunners of coming events calculated to sprout pin-feathers in the concealed wings of mankind. Progress in that direction may be slow. Still, it is possible even now to visualize a happy home minus the pipe, a stag banquet bereft of a smoke cloud, a smokeless lodge meeting enjoying fresh air, or a gathering of men serenely content with whiffs of their own breath.

Is Money to Be Cheaper? Unless changed by new war conditions, the most significant fact facing the coming building season in Omaha is the cheapness and abundance of money and the dearth of building material.

It is a condition never before experienced. Usually the reverse has been the case. To a large extent one offsets the other and results in a constructive situation as near normal as the world upheaval permits. This is due to the action of leading savings and loan associations, which have announced reductions in interest rates from 6.6 per cent to straight 6 per cent. In many ways this is the most important step mutual associations have taken since their birth in Omaha thirty-three years ago.

Reductions have been progressive in that period, but never before have they reached the standard of money cost prevailing among eastern associations. It means a substantial saving for borrowers of \$25,000,000 of home money employed in home getting and the general upbuilding of Omaha. Moreover the interest rate is down to stay. Other loaning agencies may advance terms as conditions justify. When associations reduce rates there is no return route, no possible "come back." Consequently the reduced rate fixes the maximum cost of money for first-class loans in Omaha for all future years.

Where "Daylight Saving" Makes a Hit. One place has been found where the "daylight saving" plan makes a real hit—almost a home run. President Tener of the National league pauses for a moment in the business of arranging schedules, adjusting players' salaries and anticipating the threatened strike and points out that daylight saving will be a boon to the game.

It will blow the work whistle an hour earlier and naturally the quitting whistle also an hour earlier. This will liberate a lot of potential patrons in time to see the game start and President Tener conjures up visions of bleachers packed to overflowing with horny-handed sons of toil now kept away from the ball parks by reason of a working schedule that does not let them off in season.

Here is real boon and the move, thus promoted, will surely receive the enthusiastic support of all fans. And base ball needs all the help it can get from any source at this particular time.

Senator William Alden Smith contributes a postscript to Manila bay history. He says Admiral Dewey told him two weeks before he died that the German admiral, Von Diederichs, "came to Manila for the purpose of taking possession of the Philippine islands in the name of Germany, which had agreed to buy them from Spain."

Birth-Control and Race-Suicide

Do we need birth-control, or are our births "controlled" to much already? That would appear to depend on what class of the population we are considering. Prof. Robert J. Sprague, who holds the chair of economics and sociology in Massachusetts Agricultural College, tells us, in an article contributed to The Journal of Heredity, that our wealthy classes need more births and our poorer fewer—"birth-release" in the former case and control in the latter. Control he thus considers as simply a phase of the general problem of population, and he urges the adoption of a "program for eugenics" that shall include this and many other things.

The survival of the merely strong, Prof. Sprague says, may result in the survival of "the strong hog." Pressure of population develops brutality, selfishness, and disregard for human life; it crushes leisure, generosity, and art and makes impossible some of the finer virtues of a race. On the other hand, race-suicide is destroying the social balance and is becoming a real menace where this pressure is not felt. He goes on:

"For one great section of the population we need birth-control and for the other birth-release. Massachusetts is the only state that has for many decades taken birth statistics on a basis of race, and these show that the birth-rate of her foreign-born population is about three times the birth-rate of her native, mostly Anglo-Saxon, people, the birth-rate being 14 per 1,000 and the death-rate 18 per 1,000 in the same native group. There are many reasons to believe that practically the same situation holds in other states among the people of the same class. Merely to sustain the population and not to increase it, every married woman capable of bearing children must, as an average, bring to maturity at least three children.

Of the graduates of our women's colleges only one-half ever marry and the average number of children per graduate is less than one. Birth-control among the poor is needed for themselves, but birth-release among the upper classes is a great necessity, both for their own welfare and the salvation of the nation. Excessive birth-control by those well able to have families sufficient for the nation's growth weakens the nation at every point, necessitates the importation of indigestible foreign elements, good people in themselves but poorly adapted to American life, weakens patriotism, and brings about a mixture of races which makes confusion of morals, dearth of art and literature, and conflicts between classes. Birth-control among the poor is a problem, but race-suicide among the middle classes is a racial menace which threatens by its influence to defeat the highest ideals of the nation.

There ought to be reasonable birth-control by all classes based upon high ideals for the nation and family, responsibility for offspring, and refinement of soul and character of the parents. Gradually man has been reducing his life from a world of chance to one of human control and order. Finally, his children will be the result of foresight, plans, ideals, and self-control. Birth-control does not necessarily mean smaller families, but it does mean better families, brought forth and developed according to the right mingling of reason and love. America needs at present a higher quality of population more than she needs a greater quantity; she needs more normal families of the successful classes, not larger families of the unsuccessful. The number of children reared into decent citizenship, not the number born in poverty, is what makes the American family happy and the nation strong."

Birth-control, however, must not stand by itself, for it is only one important factor in the problem of population and vitality. How is our population to increase in the future? Race-suicide is decimating the middle classes of the industrial regions. If the radical birth-control advocates are to prevail, there will be no pressure of population upward among the poor. The men that we shall surely need most therefore come from the poverty-stricken classes of the Russians, Italians, Syrians, Portuguese, Mexicans, and negroes."

The writer goes on: "If the insufficient birth-rate of the upper classes were to continue and we were obliged to get our increase in numbers either from the overflouring poverty-stricken families of foreign countries or from the poor classes of our own population, I should say, from the point of view of national welfare, let the increase come from our own people, reared under our own flag, language, and customs, even though in poverty. The adoption of birth-control by poor families to the extent that it is practised by the economically higher classes will condemn this continent forever to be not only the mixing-bowl of the world, but the scrapheap of the races. These people may be themselves as good as any of us, but forever mixed together from the ends of the world, they cannot make a nation. Nations composed of mixed races are weak in most of the things that make for national strength and progress. Lacking the unity of traditions, idealism, and national spirit, they are liable to have excessive individualism and turn to materialistic goals.

"If in America we are to develop a national unity, a great American art and literature, a full realization of American gains for all classes and races already with us, and a respectable and influence in the world's progress and affairs, we must have a birth-rate among all classes sufficient to maintain, increase, and unify the people of the United States into one great social and national body.

"This nation must set up a goal of the normal American family and racial independence. It must idealize the family instead of the individual and work for its success by all forms of legal, social, and economic readjustments that are necessary for the accomplishment of these ends.

"If we are ever to ripen and perfect our civilization we must not depend upon the pauperized villages of Europe, the deserts of Asia, and the jungles of Africa for our population. We must determine to rear our own population from our own best stock, and so organize and utilize the resources of the country that all classes may bring their families up to the high standards that are possible to us.

"America was founded on great principles which the world needs to have preserved, but without a sufficient birth-rate the old population will pass away and her mission to the world will not be fulfilled.

People and Events

A New Jersey matron who penetrated the disguise of a married man paying court to her daughter declares the task is easy for the experient married men, she says, can always be distinguished by certain marks and tendencies. "You can see it in their faces," she asserts.

Every time Oslerism shows its head the hammer gets into action. Isaac Isman, 92, of Spark Hill, N. Y., excels in hammer welding and his aim is good. Just to show 'em, the other day Isman chopped a cord of wood and then went fishing through the Hudson ice for pickerel.

TODAY

Health Hint for the Day. If the baby or young child appears to be troubled with pain in the ear or nose it will be well to investigate and see whether the youngster has not been playing small objects, like beads or peas or bits of wood, therein when time hung heavy on his hands.

One Year Ago Today in the War. Germans closed frontier between Belgium and Holland because of movement of troops to western front. Germany in memorandum to United States on Lusitania sinking refused to admit legality of action, though conceding all other American demands. Berlin officials announced through press that Germany had reached limit of concessions.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago Today. C. B. Horton, inspector of the West-end Union, returned from a visit to Deadwood, S. D. He had both his hands badly frozen in an intensely cold stage ride through Rapid City to Deadwood. He reports that the ice on the telegraph wires in the vicinity of Valentine was as thick as his arm.

President Max Meyer of the Exposition association received a telegram from Mr. Abbey, manager of the Adeline Patti concert company, stating that Patti would arrive in Omaha on the 24th.

Miss Maggie Mitchell played "Little Barefoot" at the Boyd to a house which was packed from the carport to the plaster.

Fred Cunningham, the well-known four runner of Kansas City, is in Omaha looking for a race.

One of the latest real estate firms in the field is that of Smith & Welch, who have opened an office on Fourteenth street in the rear of the Burlington ticket office. Note the firm of Ross & Kunath, 621 North Sixteenth street, has dissolved partnership, C. J. Ross going out and R. Kunath continuing to conduct the business.

The Board of Public Works opened the one and only bid for the grading of Douglas street between Twentieth and Twenty-fourth. The bidder was G. W. McKinney, who will be required to do about 6,000 yards of filling.

This Day in History. 1621—Roger Williams arrived in America. 1676—Indians attacked Lancaster, Mass., and after killing all the men carried the women and children into captivity. 1782—James Otis, orator and statesman, born at West Barnstable, Mass. Died at Andover, Mass., May 23, 1758.

1810—Ole Bull, world-famous violinist, born at Bergen, Norway. Died there August 27, 1880. 1849—Cunard line's first steamer, Britannic launched. 1862—Jesse D. Bright of Indiana was expelled from the United States senate.

1865—The federalists made a second unsuccessful attempt to turn the confederate right at Hatcher's Run, Va. 1880—Adolph E. Borie, secretary of the navy in Grant's cabinet, died in Philadelphia. He died there November 25, 1899. 1909—The Hay-Pauncefote treaty, amending the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, was signed at Washington.

1901—Henry E. Youssay was sentenced to life imprisonment in Kentucky as the assassin of William Goebel. 1904—The last American soldiers left Cuba. 1911—The Missouri state capitol at Jefferson City burned.

1915—The Arkansas senate passed a state-wide prohibition measure. The Day We Celebrate. Dr. Frank W. Slabaugh, the dentist, was born in Randolph, O., February 5, 1873. He was a professor of the Creighton Dental college for four years.

Marshal Count Selki Terauchi, the new premier of Japan, born in Samurui, sixty-five years ago today. Mahlon Pitney, associate justice of the supreme court of the United States, born at Morrilton, N. J., fifty-nine years ago today. Maxine Elliott, celebrated actress, now engaged in motion pictures, born at Rockland, Me., forty-four years ago today.

Giulio Gatti-Casazza, director of the Metropolitan Opera company of New York, born at Ferrara, Italy, forty-eight years ago today. Simeon E. Baldwin, former governor of Connecticut, born in New Haven, seventy-seven years ago today. John Walter Smith, United States senator from Maryland, born at Snow Hill, Md., seventy-two years ago today. Rear Admiral Charles T. Hutchins, U. S. N. retired, born in Erie, Pa., seventy-three years ago today.

Roger T. Peckinpaugh, captain and star pitcher of the New York American league baseball team, born at Wooster, O., twenty-six years ago today. Timely Jottings and Reminders. Founder's day will be celebrated today at the Northfield seminary, East Northfield, Mass., in honor of the birthday anniversary of the late Dwight L. Moody.

The Bee's Letter Box

The Federal Land Bank. Omaha, Feb. 3.—To the Editor of The Bee: Will Omaha live up to its reputation as a financial center? If so, it should get busy at once in subscribing for stock in the land bank. Subscriptions will be received at the internal revenue office, postoffice building until the close of business Friday, February 9. At that time the books will close and no more subscriptions will be received. Omaha business men should show their appreciation of the location of the bank in this city by liberal subscriptions to the stock while there is yet time.

Another Street Car Pest. Omaha, Feb. 3.—To the Editor of The Bee: Much has been written and said concerning the "rod seat hog" and also the passenger who blocks the way 'near the entrance of the car, thus leaving the front empty and the rear very much crowded, but what about the "mother" hog, who boards a car with a couple of children and very much crowded. A slight young woman whom I assume was employed downtown, asked the lady if there was not room for her in the same seat. The reply was that she thought not, but an effort was made to vacate about a couple of inches of space, which the young woman then occupied. But when the mother was told that unless she had paid a fare for her child, that he was not entitled to a seat while adults were standing, meaning, of course, that the natural and proper place for the child under those conditions was on its mother's lap, she replied, "Where would you put him; hang him on a nail?" And with that, gave a shove which led the young woman to resume her position standing in the car.

While scoring one for the above actions, we might give credit where it is due also. Occasionally you see an instance on a street car where a mother and child will board the car and no seats vacant, and a young woman (childless, in all probability) will take the little one on her lap. In fact, I have seen a comely young white woman take a little colored girl on her lap under those circumstances.

Scope of Federal Road Aid. Omaha, Feb. 3.—To the Editor of The Bee: The opposition to legislation accepting federal aid for highway construction is due to misunderstanding as to the federal law—one big point of opposition is that to receive this aid very much crowded. The following exchange of telegrams was to settle this point and to establish that federal aid is available for any character of construction down to dirt roads, if grading and construction is substantial in character. Note the telegrams which are self-explanatory: Wire sent to L. W. Page, director of roads, Washington, January 31: "Will your department rule that earth road, well graded to line section and surface with good drainage and permanent substructures is substantial construction entitled to receive measure of federal aid?"

Answer received February 1: "Type of road determined in each case by conditions. Graded earth road acceptable if conditions warrant and improvement is substantial as required by law." JOHN W. STEINHART.

Looking Backward. York, Neb., Feb. 1.—To the Editor of The Bee: I wish to leak a little about this very lamentable administration, which came in with so much ado over the H. C. L. and gave solemn promise of relief from G. O. P. conditions. But everything of which they complained then is worse now. And every change they now are offering to make is a fatal confession that they were then wrong.

We were to have economy in government expenses and we had hundreds of millions in debts on top of all these extra and special taxes instead. Then a tariff commission was wrong, but now it is right. The war did not increase the need of preparedness, but lessened it. The trouble in Mexico did not call for the bluff we tried to run on them, for the army units stationed along the border could have done far better there than 240 miles inland, with three-fourths

of their force required to transport supplies and guard the trail and nearly all the National Guard of the country encamped down there, with hard and fast orders to get Villa, dead or alive. Now Villa walks along behind our boys as they retreat, and with one eye shut he says "they never touched me." FRANKLIN POPE.

MIRTHFUL REMARKS. "Pop!" "Yes, my son." "My school teacher isn't married, is she?" "No, I believe not, my boy." "What makes her so cross then, pop?"—Fonkers Statesman. "While in town the countryman thought he might as well call at the fire insurance office and see about insuring his shop and household furniture." "What facilities for extinguishing a fire have you in your village?" the official inquired. "The man pondered for a minute or two. "There's the rain," he said.—New York Times.

"Say, there ought to be some way to make the game laws apply to women's shopping." "How do you mean?" "There ought to be some closed season for 'this bargain hunting.'"—Louisville Courier-Journal. "A fine rush for the first day," said the wife of the tailor who had just opened in Plunkville. "That must mean that the old tailor isn't giving general satisfaction." "If I dunno," responded her husband. "It may mean that he isn't giving general credit."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

DEAR MR. KADIBBLE, WHEN I TOLD A YOUNG MAN THAT MY MOTHER BEATS ME, HE PROPOSED MARRIAGE—WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT?—WINNIE ZINDEL. HE FIGURED IF YOU AND HE QUARREL AFTER MARRIAGE, YOU WONT RUN HOME TO MOTHER."

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