

THE OMAHA BEE

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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
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The safety sign on sea lanes points to the home port.

Bargain terms fall miserably in attracting tenants to Carnegie's Peace palace.

Perhaps, before the grand jury adjourns it may try to discover just why it was called.

The road to good roads for Nebraska is by way of qualifying for our share of the federal good roads appropriation.

While the major league nations are at grips for the pennant, the bush leaguers near by are careful to stick to the role of innocent spectators.

A remarkable rush of aliens for naturalization papers proceeds throughout the country.

The salary-boosters and the fee-grabbers are busy at Lincoln, counting on Mr. Common People, who foots the bill, to remain asleep at the switch.

The Russians want the little neutrals to stay out of the war on the ground that they would only be in the way of the real fighters.

The saving effected by the city on snow removal this winter ought to make possible a little more effort at street cleaning if Omaha's reputation for good municipal housekeeping is to be maintained.

There are pool halls and pool halls and no reason why a pool hall cannot be run as a decent, orderly place of amusement and recreation.

According to the German schedule the U-boat campaign will sweep the seas in two months and Great Britain "starved into submission."

Congressman Stephens' postoffice primary does not seem to appeal strongly to his colleagues.

Fifty years ago today congress rejected the veto of the Nebraska statehood bill and cleared the way for admission of the thirty-seventh state in the union, March 1, 1867.

If the legislature expects enough paying guests to enjoy all the modern conveniences of an \$80,000 hog barn, business prudence suggests launching an educational campaign among the grunTERS.

In putting in a public comfort station, the Young Men's Christian association recognizes the increased need of such facilities with the advent of the "dry" spell, closing over 300 saloons in Omaha.

Congressman Stephens' vindication of the morality of free seeds constitutes a lively chunk of unfinished business for the Farmers' union and the state house solons.

Puck's gridle has been put around the earth and in less than forty minutes, by means of wireless telegraphy, all the nations of the earth fitted with radio stations can be brought into instant touch.

In these dark days of almost universal warfare it is indeed a comfort to know that however powerful are the forces making for a reversal to barbarism there are still at work those energies and that inventive genius which pave the paths of progress and prepare for higher forms of civilization in the future.

It is a tonic to the imagination to read of the performance of the new naval radio station at Chollas Heights, near San Diego.

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Do the American People Want War?

Do the American people want war? Propounded in these blunt words, the response would necessarily be overwhelmingly against becoming needlessly involved in any war that can be honorably avoided.

Most of us are convinced that if the people of the various countries engaged in the terrible conflict in Europe had had the say, there would have been no resort to arms at the time the outbreak occurred.

If the only way the United States can get into this war is to have it thrust upon us by aggression that makes resistance imperative, the question presented to the president is: "What constitutes an overt act of hostility that calls for more drastic action than has already been taken?"

The American people will unquestionably, without division, support the president in upholding the honor of the nation, but they will also second his every effort, as they have heretofore, to find a way to keep us out of war without sacrificing our standing among nations or destroying our own self-respect.

In the meantime, let us hope for the best and prepare for the worst.

Timely Though Unseasonable.

The move of the Associated Retailers of Omaha for a more satisfactory system of street sprinkling next summer is timely, though unseasonable. Omaha is one of the few otherwise progressive cities that still sticks to the ancient and antiquated method of pay-as-you-please street sprinkling by a private contractor who wets down only those thoroughfares from whose merchants he can collect voluntary contributions, passing by sections where there is no one willing to put into the pot.

If street sprinkling in Omaha is imperative, or even desirable, it ought to be done in an effective way throughout the business district and the cost ought to be assessed to the owners of the property who enjoy the benefits of profitable traffic because they collect the rent. We believe the charter authorizes this to be done, but if it does not, the law should be amended forthwith to that purpose.

Incidentally, street sprinkling during the summer months in a city of Omaha's size and climatic conditions is demanded for sanitary as well as for business reasons, and with our water works publicly owned and operated, the water needed should be furnished at nominal rates so that its use may not be stinted or the assessment on the street sprinkling district be unduly burdensome. It would not be a bad idea for the water works management to buy a few sprinkling carts and do the job itself as a part of its public service.

Ambassadors and Hostages.

All thoughtful Americans will share with Secretary Lansing his reluctance to believe that German authorities have purposely detained Ambassador Gerard in Berlin. Ages ago, when whatever of comity held between nations subsisted on a basis of force, the stronger held weaker to compliance with agreements through the persons of hostages. This time has passed, and under all considerations of civilized usage, the ambassador is sacred, and is entitled to every possible assistance and accommodation in his free movement when for any reason he leaves the country to which he is accredited.

In the case of Count von Bernstorff, he was present at Washington as the personal representative of the German emperor, and as such was not only entitled to but received all courteous consideration. Mr. Gerard represented in Berlin the people of the United States, and so far as is authoritatively known, he has had at all times the treatment due to one holding so exalted a commission. It is but natural that the German government should express solicitude for Count von Bernstorff, and should seek by all reasonable means to secure his safety on his journey home.

Apprehension on this point has justification in the recent refusal, afterwards withdrawn, by the Entente Allies to grant safe passage to Count von Tarnow Tarnowski, Austrian ambassador to the United States. Even this can hardly be expanded into cause for detaining the ambassador of the United States in Germany. However, the incident seems to have come to the conclusion certain to be reached by great nations careful of their own dignity.

Postscript Omitted.

Examination of the legislative bill files, at last available, discloses the usual number of measures which aimed to lay extraordinary exactions upon people engaged in some particular line of business, if not to make it altogether impossible for them to continue in their business as previously conducted with scrupulous regard to all the requirements of law and good morals.

Where these bills may have originated is open to speculation, but the purpose is illy disguised by tempting titles and high-sounding language. They all conform to the regular rules of bill drafting, from the enacting clause to the last section, and sometimes to the emergency declaration. The distinguishing thing about them, however, is the omission to print the postscript, plainly to be read between the lines, "You are urgently invited to come down and see us."

Sending Our Corn South.

Conditions of the grain market just now serve as a reminder of the fact that a great deal of Nebraska's produce finds its end in the southern states. This applies especially to the corn raised here. Southern people for many years have devoted their agriculture mainly to cotton and other staples that require the stimulus of the warm climate of the region, excluding corn to a large extent. But nowhere in the world does corn form so large a part of the daily bill of fare as in the southern states of the union. It is not only the negroes and the poorer whites who use it, but the aristocracy is on easy terms with the delicious corn bread, made in traditional fashion, and its fragrance arises from many a dinner table where it is esteemed a food beyond compare. No corn grown out of ground makes better corn bread than that produced in Nebraska. Of course, the south also has to have something to feed the mules it uses in its industries, and this, too, provides a use for the corn bought in the north, and to which Nebraska is just now contributing most liberally.

Railroad managements deserve public sympathy and encouragement these troublous times. Winter weather unequalled in severity, with its accompaniment of blockades, wrecks and delays, tested their resources to the utmost and strained the physical strength of employes to the limit. Preparedness for such conditions is impossible, since human agencies crumble before winter's storm king.

Our Last War Loan

The present international crisis, with the possibility of our entering upon more or less extensive military operations and raising the necessary funds through war loans, directs attention to the public debt of the United States. For a country of such enormous wealth, the fact that the interest-bearing debt is no more than \$72,400,000 bears eloquent testimony to the potential resources the United States can throw into the balance of the present conflict in Europe. Our public debt pales into insignificance alongside of the colossal debts of the great belligerent powers.

The present revenue bill, under the preparedness measure, contemplates bond issues that will increase our national debt by from \$300,000,000 to \$400,000,000. Should we enter the European war as an active participant there is no saying what the further addition to the debt will amount to. There is little doubt that our government could come into the money market, in the present state of the general patriotism and raise several hundred million dollars before the rates for money became seriously affected.

Our last war loan was made on the occasion of the Spanish war in 1898. That was a highly popular loan, and it may be of interest at this time to recall the public participation on that occasion. As at present would be the case, the war in 1898 involved the government in expenditures which could not be met by the revenues then being received. Accordingly, the war revenue act of June 13, besides providing for increased revenues, authorized an issue of bonds to the sum of \$400,000,000, "or as much thereof as may be necessary."

It was a 3 per cent issue. The law stated "that the bonds authorized by this section shall be first offered at par as a popular loan under such regulations prescribed by the secretary of the treasury as will give opportunity to the citizens of the United States to participate in the subscriptions to such loan; and in allotting said bonds the several subscriptions of individuals shall be first accepted, and the subscriptions for the lowest amount shall be first allotted."

In furtherance of this idea to make the loan popular, the bonds were issued as low as \$20 denominations, or multiples thereof. The issue was redeemable after ten years and payable after twenty years.

Only \$200,000,000 of these bonds were offered on June 13, 1898. Every effort was made to give the public an opportunity for subscription. Every newspaper in the United States was supplied with information relative to the issue, which, with few exceptions, was patriotically and prominently displayed free of charge. Circulars and blank forms for subscription were supplied to more than 22,000 money order postoffices, to every express office and to all the banks. A period of thirty-one days was allowed for the receipt of subscriptions.

The number of subscriptions received was 320,226, applying for an aggregate of more than \$1,500,000,000. The most popular subscription was for \$500 bonds, of which the number was 180,573. There were 11,483 subscriptions for less than \$100 and 14,974 subscriptions ranging from \$100 to \$180 each. Subscriptions for more than \$4,500 numbered 28,376. The total amount of bonds issued under this act was \$198,792,660. Under the terms of their issue, these bonds were redeemable any time after August 1, 1908, and are payable next year on August 1. Of the original amount issued \$132,449,000 have been redeemed into the 2 per cent consols at 1930 and \$2,396,800 have been purchased for the sinking fund and cancelled, and \$500 have otherwise been purchased and cancelled, leaving outstanding at the present time \$63,945,460.

Regulating Newspapers

There is epidemic at Washington just now a tendency to try to shift upon newspapers responsibility which do not properly belong to them, and to take away rights which are undeniably theirs. The latest example to obtrude itself upon our notice is imbedded in certain sections of the corrupt practices act, now in committee in the senate. The bill provides:

That any newspaper that prints any information, "specific or general," concerning any election bet, wager or pool shall lose the second class privilege and be excluded from the mails. Information concerning embezzlement, misprision, of treason, mayhem, larceny as bailed and the robbery of fire roosts may still be printed with safety, if the act passes.

That no newspaper shall publish any political communication composed by any person not a member of its staff unless the real name of the author of it be appended. That no newspaper shall publish any political advertisement without the words "paid advertisement" printed above it in twelve-point capitals, with a statement of the price paid for its insertion and the candidate or committee in whose interest it is inserted.

That no publisher shall refuse any political advertisement which is not libelous or indecent, provided he accepts any political advertising. That no publisher shall charge for political advertising more than his "usual and customary charges for commercial advertising."

The penalty for violation of the act is to be a fine of \$10,000, or two years' imprisonment in the penitentiary. Printing a political advertisement with the words "paid advertisement" in twelve-point caps above it, is, under the proposed law, the act of a gentleman and a law-abiding citizen; the publisher may perform it and still wear the white flower of a blameless life; but we shudder to think of the degree of moral turpitude connoted—think that the words—by the printing of those same words in twelve-point lower case, or ten-point caps. For such villainy the penitentiary yawns expectant.

The requirement that a publisher who accepts any political advertisements shall accept all violates the right of a publisher to shape the character of his journal to suit its policies and ideals. Do not enough factors operate to produce periodicals that bore the reader without adding to their number by act of congress? The "usual rates" requirement reveals the hand of ignorance; there are as many different rates for different classes of commercial advertising as there are months in the year. The provision regarding the signing of political communications is useless since a newspaper accepts responsibility for everything it prints, signed and unsigned. What purpose could it serve?

We need a well-drawn corrupt practices act. No such measure is yet in sight.

People and Events

Back in "dear old Philadelphia" potatoes are defying food tradition and rising to the dignity of a jilted class dish. Top notch restaurants set the price pace and the hitherto lowly spud blooms under the high brow title of "solatum tuberosum."

An aged recluse living on the edge of Chicago read the war news Saturday morning, saw visions of submarines, shells and things, and forthwith dug a six-foot bomb-proof in his cellar. "They laughed at Noah in Bible days," he told jokers who investigated, "but Noah had the last giggle. I'm the Noah of this ark."

Defying most of the rules of right living which literary doctors expound for the laity, Dr. Charles Hedinger of Canton, Kan., heads toward the going mark at a lively pace. He is 95 and is going some, attending to regular practice as spryly as youngsters of 50. Four meals a day, ten cigars and a pipe between times, keeps his system toned up for duties, though this routine is moderate beside his physical demands while serving as surgeon in the union army. Moreover he has five children, twenty-five grandchildren and several great-great grandchildren to make him lusty.

Today

Health Hint for the Day. If you have, as is very probable, a cold, by all means hasten to do all you can to influence it to leave you as the germs from an inflammation in the throat or head enter the blood and even a slight local injury may result in their selecting the bones as their resting place, and the consequence is a most painful and serious inflammation of the bones.

One Year Ago Today in the War.

Germany admitted loss of part of trench south of the Somme. Russians threatened Austrian communications and aimed at Cernowitz, capital of Bukovina. Germany and Austria-Hungary served notice on neutrals that from March 1 armed merchantmen of enemy powers would be treated as warships.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.

Chief Galligan of the fire department is having a number of badges made, one of which he proposes to give each daily newspaper to be used by one of its local staff. This accord the wearer certain courtesies and accommodations from the fire department in case of fire and will readily acquaint new policemen with the wearer's calling and right to pass lines at fire to keep people out of danger. A gang of toughs made an attempt to break up a meeting of the Salvation Army on Jackson street but were



"nabbed" by Sergeant Mostyn and Officer O'Boyle.

At the last regular meeting of the Omaha Loan & Building association the following officers were elected: John H. Butler, president; James Forsyth, vice president; Eben K. Long, treasurer, and George M. Nattinger, secretary.

At the third concert of the Philharmonic orchestra, given at Boyd's opera house, Mrs. Edith Edwards Franko sang "Ave Maria" with violin obligato. Johnny and Tillie Busch, children of Henry Busch, janitor of the Dodge street school, were badly injured in a housing accident near the Long school.

James E. Boyd announces that he will close his packing house for the winter season but expects to commence killing again about the middle of April.

This Day in History. 1763—Treaty of Paris, by which France ceded to England all Canada and the French possessions from the Alleghenies to the Mississippi. 1778—Charles Lamb, essayist and critic, born in London. Died December 29, 1834.

1784—Nicolo Paganini, the world's greatest violinist, born at Genoa. Died at Nice, May 27, 1840. 1815—The British and French blocked the plans of the British to capture Mobile and the next day the British fleet departed for the West Indies.

1824—Simon Bolivar was named dictator of Colombia. 1840—Queen Victoria and Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg took place in the chapel Royal, St. James' palace.

1867—British North America act, providing for a union of the Canadian provinces, passed by the Imperial parliament. 1892—United States and Great Britain agreed upon France, Italy and Sweden as Bering sea arbitrators.

1899—The president signed the peace treaty with Spain. 1904—The czar of Russian proclaimed war with Japan.

The Day We Celebrate. E. G. McElilton is celebrating his fifty-first birthday. He was born at Ben Gall, Wis. and graduated from the state university and law school of that state. He has been practicing law successfully in Omaha for more than a quarter of a century.

George G. Graeger, captain of hook and ladder company No. 2 is 55 today. He has been in Omaha since 1881 and in the fire department since 1891.

James H. Nickerson was born in Illinois, February 10, 1874. He was for a time employed in the law department of the Northwestern railway, later in the railway mail service and United States marshal's office.

Burt C. Fowler's first appearance was staged in Kankakee, Ill., forty-four years ago today. He is now selling real estate for George & Co. G. N. Anshutz, 40 years old today and his business is selling furs. Dayton, O., was his birthplace.

J. O. Siford chose Napoleon, Ia., as his birthplace just fifty years ago today. He is now making signs at billboards, being manager of the T. C. Sack company, sign painters.

The Bee's Letter Box

What Do Women Want? Omaha, Feb. 9.—To the Editor of The Bee: We are convinced that the only fair and democratic method of settling the question of woman suffrage is by referendum to the women themselves. Ever since 1895 when a referendum was submitted to a women of Massachusetts and only 4 per cent of the qualified women voters of the state signified their desire for the ballot, the suffragists have always feared a referendum to the women. Our own recent school elections show how few women really want to vote. At the last election only about 2,300 women voted, out of a qualified electorate of 40,000.

The Anti-Suffrage association of Ohio is taking a poll of the state on this question. This is the first verified referendum poll ever taken in any state among the women on woman suffrage. The poll at the present showing stands:

Table with 3 columns: Name, Septs., Anks. Columbus 2,417 20,825 Cincinnati 808 46,600 Chillicothe 91 11,174

The canvassers who are now working Cleveland report at this date 12,000 anti, 1,406 suffragists. Thus the poll stands 7,103 suffragists and 101,905 anti.

Furthermore, in a factory employing 385 women not one suffragist was found. Of 500 women interviewed in retail stores, there were but twenty-two in favor of suffrage.

We think it probable a like indifference to woman suffrage exists in New England. Until we know it does not exist there can be no wisdom or justice in forcing the ballot upon Nebraska women.

NEBRASKA ASSN. OPPOSED TO WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

The Traveling Men's Profession. Columbus, Neb., Feb. 9.—To the Editor of The Bee: Kindly permit us to answer briefly the charge made against the traveling men's profession by J. F. Brillhart (that they are largely responsible for the girls going wrong). He says that he knows, that he "has been there" and "can speak first hand." A man that speaks or writes like that ought to have had extensive personal experience to be qualified to judge why the girls go wrong. We have been on the road a good many years but have always been too busy to hold our position to acquire that knowledge, with which Mr. Brillhart handles the subject. However, we have observed a few fellows in our time getting on the road who seemed to think it a part of their business to acquire that knowledge of which Mr. Brillhart seems to boast, but those fellows never lasted long on the road.

We take it from Mr. Brillhart's letter he is not on the road now; there is a reason, of course. If a man makes good on the road he usually stays there till he dies or gets killed and in order to make good he must be industrious and put in about fourteen or fifteen hours a day looking for business and getting enough to satisfy the firm that he is worth keeping and we don't see where he has any time left to acquire the experiences and qualifications Mr. Brillhart claims to possess. We resent the charge he makes when it is made against the traveling men's profession at large of today, of which we are members.

P. G. LEWIS, Omaha. J. H. REUELL, Lincoln. O. D. YOER, Lincoln.

Moral Standards of Men and Women. St. Mary, Neb., Feb. 9.—To the Editor of The Bee: I note in The Bee a traveling man makes the statement that "fallen women lead such a life because they prefer it." I would like to ask him upon what theory he bases his authority for the assertion. I am inclined to believe it is more from necessity than from choice. We well know that an employer will not pay the employes what they earn, but only the least amount at which he can possible retain their services, for a certain number of hours.

"How is it possible for your lady clerks to live on such wages as they are receiving?" The employer replied ("I was told by a traveling salesman") "I pay them enough for board and room, and a girl that cannot stand enough on the side for clothes and other expenses is a d—n poor girl."

It is a deplorable fact that there are so many fallen women. But why continually prate about women? What assurance is there that the men have them not beaten, two to one, on an actual count, if the whole truth were known?

There are some men who seem to delight in everlastingly prating about

the immorality of women, when they know that there is no traffic or business so degrading that no one can be found to embark in it, providing there is a prospect of profit in it. Will some of these defamers of women inform the public why it is that no one embarks in a resort of men for women to patronize? Is it not because the standard of morality and respectability of the women is so far superior to that of the stronger sex that they concede it would be a financial failure for want of patronage.

SUNNY GEMS.

"So you have taken to motoring, at last, have you?" "How did you find that out?" "I saw you on your machine yesterday."

"By George, I'm glad to hear that. All the rest of my friends saw me when I was off."—New York Times.

NEAR MR. KABISBLE I AM GOING TO JULY MY FINANCE—DO YOU THINK HE WILL PLAN REVENGE?—YENHEE

WE WILL INFORM YOUR NEXT YOUNG MAN THE EXACT DATE OF YOUR BIRTHDAY!

"He's a crack shot!" "Never knew he handled firearms!" "Doesn't. He can send a full shovel of coal through the furnace door without covering the floor."—Buffalo Express.

Willis—Bump has a very up-to-date office. Gillis—Yes. He has one of those office systems where you can find just what you want when you don't want it by looking where it wouldn't be if you did want it.—Life.

EDUCATE THE FARMER.

When time hangs heavy on your hands with nothing much to do, and your brain is just a-seething with ideas when the world is toppy-turvy, and the wisest man's mission is to eradicate the rube.

First tell him what a brainless clod a farmer is from birth. How no one but an idiot would try to glean the things that are so toothsome—the liquids and the "meats," the many business mowths that a jaded palate greets.

In just the way he does it, so cumbersome with nothing scientific 'bout his ways, the farmer's business makes us laugh. Consider not his feelings, fear not the vacant mind.

To treat him as a being so stupid, this strange boogie him that a college sharp with a three-day leg of lorn.

Can make four blades of foxtail grow where none ever grew before. And that the hen, the lowly hen, whose harsh, nerve-racking cluck has been his chief asset for the wealth he is going to be transformed to a critter that is instead of one lone egg a week, some three or four a day.

And that the silver-tongued, bold ruler of the roost, who makes his wife a boast. While "speck," the pride of Creamville, is the best butter makes us laugh.

Will give us triplets every year instead of one ill calf. Raise one-half without odor and madders without spiles.

And the hen without the "thriller" that And the hen when you strike, and cook the luscious cabbage, a secret from his loved sodas—with Gemint and Taurus.

With Scorpio and Pisces, and the gentle and the "sign"— M. O'CONNOR, Greeley, Feb. 17.

CANDY

See Us For Fine Chocolates. Liggett's Elect Chocolates, a very choice, high-grade confection. 1/2-lb., 40c; 1-lb., 80c; 2-lb. box for \$1.60

1-lb. box Martan Chocolates for 50c 1-lb. box Maxire Cherries 39c 1-lb. box Triola Sweets. 39c Liggett's Dainty Dutch Delight 1/2 lb. for 30c; 1 lb., 60c; 2 lbs. for \$1.20 1-lb. Fenway Pink pkg. 60c

Sherman & McConnell Drug Co. Four Good Drug Stores.

Everyone Needs a Tonic to Withstand the Rigors of Winter

A Few Bottles of S. S. Will Thoroughly Tone Up the Entire System. Keeping well and in thorough physical trim is simply a matter of resisting disease to which the system is subject every day.

You can readily see, therefore, the importance of keeping the system in proper condition, strong and vigorous, and free from all manner of impurities.

Pure blood is the first essential to perfect health, for the blood is the source of all vitality. Keep your blood absolutely free from all impurities, and your health is assured.

The rigors of winter are unusually severe on the average system, and it is just now that assistance is needed. A few bottles of S. S. will do you a wonderful amount of good by thoroughly cleansing and purifying the blood and putting the entire system in tip-top condition. It will improve your appetite, and by increasing your supply of rich, red blood throughout the circulation, new life and vigor will take the place of that weak and good for nothing feeling.

S. S. is sold by druggists everywhere, who will tell you that it has been on the market for more than 50 years and is thoroughly reliable. Valuable books and free medical advice can be had by writing to Swift Specific Co., 30 Swift Laboratory, Atlanta, Ga.



To be heard distinctly over the telephone one must talk directly into the mouthpiece, with the lips about an inch away.