

THE OMAHA BEE

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No politics in the schools? In the lingo of the street, "Aw, fergit it."

The subsea score board is being watched more intently than was ever the base ball score board.

Clean up the pool halls that need cleaning up! Likewise, clean up all other places that need cleaning up!

A \$4,000,000 shell fire at Pittsburgh strengthens confidence in our ability to do some execution on this side.

Damage suits against the city remind us that pulling the municipal leg is not the least of municipally-conducted pleasures.

Fair warnings to keep out of Villa's danger zones should not be ignored. Spring activity among his firing squads lends to distance the charm of safety.

The folks who know so much about paid-for protection and graft in Omaha, when talking to the gallery, evidently do not know it when invited to talk to the grand jury.

The president of the Swiss republic does not stand on strict ceremony with the ambassador of the American republic. Let him visit us some day and we will return the compliment.

An Omaha lawyer is trying to revive the demand for the recall of federal judges by popular vote. He is evidently unaware that that movement was recalled shortly after it was launched.

Another probe into the rising cost of living is about to be launched. The oppressed consumer may rest assured that the new probe will touch the right spot at the public treasury. They all do it.

It is said the German war chiefs, in view of the diplomatic break with the United States on the submarine issues, would like to back up but don't know how. Where there's a will, there's a way.

The youngest person who can have a distinct remembrance of Lincoln must now be over sixty years old. In another decade men who knew Lincoln personally, or even saw him, will be few indeed.

Blessings brighten as they wing their flight to the right spot. The approach of the Roumanian bag of food supplies to Austria and Germany constitutes the most satisfying evidence of military thrift in sight.

The salary boosters and fee grabbers are all on the job at Lincoln, either in person or through hired agents, lobbying for their pocketbooks. It is up to the lawmakers to see that the taxpayers who foot the bills get a square deal.

A Chicago congressman solemnly assured his associates that he never saw a woman drinking or smoking in a cafe. Do you get that? Unless the congressman is properly chaperoned somebody may sell him some wild horses.

Maud Ballington Booth takes pains to explain to her hearers that she carries no "Bible Sunday organization" around with her to work up a flow of contributions. The comparative returns prove that the explanation is unnecessary.

Congress will tomorrow canvass and declare the result of the presidential election held last November. The time between the voting and taking the office is altogether too long. It makes this day of steam and electricity hark back to the age of the ox team and the stage coach.

Omaha Heaven by Comparison

San Diego Union: There hardly can have been failure to note a certain malign activity in which lawyers of the adjacent and sufficiently esteemed county of Los Angeles have participated.

One young member of the bar there was put in jail the other day because of the charge that he had forged a paper. The bail asked was comparatively small, but he could not give it. Another has just had to meet a charge of conspiracy, and though he was not convicted, he lost his suit for a fee, his former attempt to obtain this fee having been the basis of the accusation. Still another recently was rebuked from the bench for having coached a witness to give perjured testimony, the judge telling him that a proper realization of such baseness ought to induce the offender to leave the country. For several weeks there has been suppressed excitement in legal circles in the same community over the allegation that certain lawyers maintain "capers" at the local jail; that through these scurvy agents they obtain access to prisoners whom they rob of such money as may be available, and then desert without even pretense of giving any service.

Of course, the legal profession is known to have a code of ethics well flawless, and the bar to contain many members who strive to live up to this fully. It would seem wholly just that in self-protection they proceed to weed out the undesirable. A man who lives by his wits is at best a dangerous character, but when his wits have been sharpened by professional training, and still are directed toward the accomplishment of evil, he becomes more dangerous. For the Bar association to deal with some of these offenders seems a natural and proper course. As to the bores that invade the jails to do their crooked work, the matter ought to be simple, consisting largely of locking the doors while they are inside and treating them as vagrants.

As Plain as A-B-C.

The urgency of some action by our present legislature to qualify Nebraska to apply for and receive its quota of the federal good roads appropriation must be as plain as A-B-C to those who know the facts and ponder on them. Congress has already set aside and made available the money for a nation-wide road improvement movement to be executed through the co-operation of the different states. Whether Nebraska shares in this appropriation or not, our people will be paying into the federal treasury their full share of the taxes from which the good roads appropriation is drawn. Other states that meet the requirements will be getting back what they put in, while by refusing to fulfill the conditions Nebraska would be merely helping to foot the bills without sharing in the benefits except as our people might travel over roads built with their money in other states.

The bill before the Nebraska legislature, upon which the good roads advocates have finally united, seems to answer the purpose in a fairly satisfactory manner. True, Nebraska will have to levy a special mill tax to produce a state aid road and bridge fund, but in no way can we participate in the federal appropriation without self-taxation. The method of apportioning the fund to the several counties may not be quite as equitable as some might prefer, being pro-rated in thirds according to superficial area, population and post road mileage, exclusive of cities. Strangely enough, the cities are not seriously objecting so much as the farmers, who, so far as we can see, have no good reason to object at all. The method of providing for the work by high-way districts to cover a road "project" embracing several counties should help to avoid piecemeal construction and to encourage continuity of roadway, which is, of course, the first essential of a good roads system.

The main thing, however, is to work toward good roads according to a comprehensive and unified plan under central direction such as is proposed through a state highway board and thus to keep Nebraska on the map as a progressive state, prompt to take advantage of the federal aid, rather than standing still while the procession goes past.

Plenty of Work for Congress.

Only three weeks of life remain for the Sixty-fourth congress, and practically all the work before the "short session" has yet to be completed. It is true the legislative machinery has been thrown out of gear to some extent by the international complications that have arisen, but this will not be sufficient excuse for the more than two months that have been wasted by the democrats in their play for partisan advantage. The president has been compelled to abandon his paramount program, finding the legislative chutes ahead of his pet measures clogged with the routine business of appropriations and revenue measures. If these laws are carefully considered, the work will fill all the hours that remain before the expiration of the session's life. Danger lies in the fact that the democrats are resorting to the bad practice of attaching "riders" to appropriation bills, thus securing legislation that would not otherwise pass. Another menace is that the experience of the Adamson law may be repeated, and similar ill-advised measures be forced through under party pressure at the last moment. Most significant of all is the fact that the supporters of the administration find themselves unable to agree, as the time to end their power draws near, and any serviceable work that may be accomplished during the remainder of the session must be accomplished through the patriotic efforts of the republicans.

Pleading for the Ex-Convict.

Maud Ballington Booth's advocacy of the cause of the man just freed from prison finds sympathy everywhere. The great question is how can we really help him? Many efforts have been made along this line, through organizations and by individuals and much of good has been accomplished, but the perfect solution of the problem is not yet attained. Society, despite statements to the contrary, always will give an erring member a second chance, and a third, if need be. The convict may be forgiven; his trouble usually lies with himself, by reason of a false pride or an equally false humility. His success in regaining his standing in society depends more upon himself than on another. He should first of all master himself, reinstate his self-respect, and not expect to be carried through life by some society, his only claim to such service resting on the fact that he once was in prison. The sooner he forgets his stripes, the sooner the public will.

Sectional Jealousy Unwarranted.

Omaha's own weather maker, Forecaster Welsh, voices some doubt as to the verity of a report that dwellers in and around Saratoga, Saranac Lake and other resorts found themselves with a temperature of 40 below. This dubiety on the part of Colonel Welsh is certainly due to sectional jealousy. The utmost he has so far been able to produce in the way of extreme frigidities fell so far below (or above) the 40 mark that he despairs of ever reaching it, at least while he lives in Omaha. With proper pride in his home town, he feels that no effete easterner should be permitted to outdo him. His attitude is becoming in a sense, but is unworthy of him. His experience should have long ago taught him better. Nebraska may never aspire to such depth of ice and snow, such awful cold, nor such visitations of wind and storm as must be endured by those sections that now excite the weather man's doubts. Accustomed as he is to Nebraska's salubrity, he fails to understand what others must put up with. That's all.

Some years ago American authorities in the Philippines sent out a missionary expedition to civilize the head hunters among the Moros. The work is sufficiently advanced to justify the recall of the expedition. Big work awaits in newer fields. If proper representation is made the government might loan the missionaries to Douglas county for active work among the head hunters of the court house.

A string of white feathers flutters beneath the American flag on the city hall at Minneapolis. The socialist end of the city government, headed by Mayor Van Lear, insists on peace at any price, while the city council stands by the president, come what may. Rival public meetings indicate a lineup of a thousand Americans to each socialist.

China shows a disposition to stand by the United States in outlawing subsea "frightfulness." Should the dragon hump its spine in real earnest, it's all over for the kaiser.

Teaching Europe to Bathe

Until a comparatively few years ago, even modern apartment houses in continental Europe lacked the most approved type of bathtub, the zinc or tin tub being still in full vogue. In many pretentious houses it was customary to provide a bath room, but no tub, the tenant being expected to install his own fixtures. Even today stationary wash-stands are rare. Within the last decade or so Europe has learned from America how to bathe, if we are to believe John J. Latimer, who contributes to Domestic Engineering "Some Reminiscences of a Salesman Who Sold American Sanitary Ware in Foreign Countries." According to Mr. Latimer it was the Paris exposition of 1900, where American sanitary plumbers made a fine display, that really stimulated the effective demand for such fixtures.

"The great influx of American visitors to the exposition," says he, "also served to further this demand for better bath accommodations at the hotels, as all Americans would demand rooms with a bath, which hotel managers were unable to provide in any adequate extent. The hotels, finally realizing the need of more and better bath facilities, soon took up the question of remodeling the rooms. The manufacturers of sanitary ware in Europe, upon seeing how perfect was the quality of imitate the patterns, and immediately began to produce the American sanitary ware under the motto, 'American Pattern,' which pattern, by the way, was far different from those used in Europe. For instance, on the continent, where they do not bathe as frequently as the Anglo-Saxon race, they want a very deep bath—twenty-four inches deep, it being their habit to soak in the hot water for an hour or thereabouts.

"In the United States, where the power of advertising is tremendous, we are able to educate the people to the use of the things we wish to sell them. In Europe the power of advertising is less persuasive, the result being that you have to sell the people what they have been accustomed to and what they know by practical experience is best for them.

"American manufacturers have had to overcome many prejudices against their patterns, shapes, fittings, as well as the existing sanitary regulations, so different from those in the United States. When I had made up my mind to go into the propaganda of selling American sanitary ware in Europe I considered it a lucky omen and a 'case of good judgment,' when, upon arriving in Paris, I was greeted with the welcome and familiar sight of the old-time bath house man, pulling his cart of hot water and tin tub ready to deliver a bath to somebody's house, for which luxury his customers paid about 20 cents, and for which sum he might have to carry the five-foot tin tub up six flights of stairs, and then draw the hot water from the cart tank into a bucket, and climb up those stairs as often as necessary to fill the tub. This exercise might be considered a joke, but if so it was on the part of the Parisian, for the tub still prevails in many parts of Paris where modern sanitary methods have not yet been installed. Strange as it may appear to Americans, there is practically no hot water distribution in even the up-to-date French, English and continental apartment houses, but those which are provided with bath rooms have gas water heaters.

"Not only the present king of England, but also other crowned heads and presidents abroad have purchased bathtubs made in America; for instance, the king of Italy for his palace in Turin; King Albert of Belgium, the empress of Russia and other royal personages. I remember a humorous incident in connection with the sale of a number of bathtubs to the late King Edward, which were installed in Buckingham palace. One of the tubs, in which the king was in the habit of disporting himself daily, was ordered by the latter to be encased in mahogany, covering the rim of the tub. The physician to the king summoned me to the palace one day on 'important business.' When I arrived there, he told me that the king was very ill, and that he had decided to have it cased in. 'You see, his majesty is very fond of sitting on the rim of the tub when he takes his bath, but he found it so infernally cold that he thought it a jolly good idea to have it cased in, so that he might sit on wood instead of cold porcelain.' When the physician had delivered himself of this solemn statement I breathed a sigh of relief, for I had expected that something far more serious than the casing on the rim of the tub had transpired.

"The American traveling in European countries, be he salesman or tourist, is certain to happen upon many peculiar customs, some of which are both humorous and vexing. I remember that while touring on the continent I arrived in a small town where the leading hostelry proudly announced in the office that 'baths were to be found on each floor.' These baths I discovered were very old fashioned, copper-lined tubs, much the worse for wear, but to my intense horror and astonishment, I learned that owing to the scarcity of water, I would be obliged to immerse myself in the water that had already been used to excellent advantage by another guest. I absolutely declined the invitation (and without thanks) notwithstanding the hotel manager's kind offer to have the water in the tub skimmed for me. 'It is well known that no civilized nations bathe as much as the American and English, and in France one often hears Frenchmen expressing their surprise to the effect that we must be very dirty people since we have to bathe every day. Perhaps, however, one of the persons most opposed to bathing is the Russian peasant, or whom it is said he only bathes three times a year, before his wedding, and before being put to rest in the grave. It is not surprising that dealers are sometimes asked by visitors from rural districts what bathtubs are for, obviously not having seen such fixtures before.'

Switzerland Sits Steady

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: Switzerland is one country whose only care is maintenance of strict neutrality. It cannot afford to express itself about anything. Not only is it completely surrounded by jealous belligerents, it is doing it to make a mis-step, but its own population is so mixed that the government could not expect support of any course, not actually essential to the preservation of the peace of the republic. It is an artificial country, both in geography and population. The fact that there are three lawful languages recognized in the Federal Parliament, German, French and Italian, illustrates the complexity of the present situation. Roughly estimated, 70 per cent of the people speak German, 23 per cent French and 7 per cent Italian.

Switzerland suffers as much as any neutral country by the unlawful blockades, for it depends more than any other on the outside world. Normally it produces foodstuffs enough to supply its population for 153 days of the year. It is also dependent on imports of raw materials for use in manufacturing. Its chief industry, the entertaining of tourists, is ruined by the war. The importance of the tourist business has not been joyously exaggerated. Over \$150,000,000 is invested in this business. There are nearly 2,000 hotels built primarily for entertainment of visitors and the normal force of employment is about 35,000. Switzerland has not only lost its tourist business, but its exports shut off and been forced to pay extravagant prices for necessary imports, but it has been put to great expense to maintain its neutrality. The customs have been greatly reduced and it has been necessary to borrow vast sums to meet abnormal government expenditures. It is in no position to join the United States in protest against unrestricted submarine warfare. Prudence requires that it sit steady in the boat and hope for the speediest possible end of the great war.

TODAY

Health Hint for the Day. Many diseases of the mouth and respiratory tract may be prevented if you will make a monthly trip to your dentist for thorough removal of tartar and polishing of the teeth so that no foreign substances will adhere to them.

One Year Ago Today in the War. Germans fiercely attacked French positions in Artois and Champagne. Austrian airplanes raided cities across Italian frontier, killing fifteen and wounding many.

French minister of marines admitted Admiral Charner was probably sunk by German submarine.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago. Secretary Nattinger of the board of trade had received a letter from J. P. Miller of Detroit inquiring into the nature of the advantages offered by Omaha as a location for a varnish manufactory.

Mr. Ed Rothery, the well-known sporting man of this city, received from James Patterson of New York a pair of very fine "homing" or carrier pigeons. He also received a very fine picture of the bluechecker pigeon, "Little Steve," which has a record of 525 miles from Charlotteville, S. C.



C. S. Higgins and his son Charley have returned from a three weeks' trip in the east, during which time they visited nearly all the large cities, and in a number of these Mr. Higgins made purchases of many beautiful and useful articles.

P. P. Zimmer has sold his drug store at Grand Island to J. J. Miller, who is the proprietor of the agency in this city.

John Miller, formerly of the Republican advertising force, is now to be found at the office of J. B. Evans & Co., a full-fledged real estate man.

Dr. Peck, one of Omaha's oldest and best known physicians, is dangerously ill at his residence, Eighteenth and Davenport.

This Day in History. 1743—Sir Joseph Banks, who financed Captain Cook's voyages of discovery, born in London. Died June 19, 1820.

1811—Francis Achilles Baines, the marshal of France, who surrendered to the Germans at Metz, born at Versailles. Died at Madrid September 23, 1888.

1815—News of peace with Great Britain reached Boston from New York in thirty-two hours, "thought to be a great effort of speed."

1819—Bill authorizing the people of Missouri to frame a state constitution introduced in congress.

1835—Congress awarded a gold medal to Colonel George Croghan for his gallant defense of Fort Stephenson, at Lower Sandusky, Ky., against the British and Indians.

1862—The federalists began the bombardment of Fort Donelson, Tenn.

1869—Two hundred lives lost in the wreck of the American steamship Herminie off the coast of Japan.

1871—Belfort capitulated to the Germans with military honors.

1877—Alexander Graham Bell sent the first long distance telephone message from Boston.

1878—The British squadron passed the Dardanelles against the protest of the Porte.

1900—Bank of France celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding.

1902—Great Britain and Germany and Italy signed protocols providing for the settlement of the Venezuelan controversy at Washington.

The Day We Celebrate. Victor Rosewater, editor of The Bee, is 44 today. He has been actively engaged in editorial work with The Bee for twenty-four years.

Henry Rosenthal of the Union Outfitting company, was born February 13, 1875, at Baltimore. He became associated with his brothers in the mercantile business and is now in charge of their establishment here.

Frank P. Manchester, secretary of the Omaha Grain exchange, was born February 13, 1880. He is an Omaha boy and a graduate of the Omaha high school and the Nebraska State university.

Sir Joseph Compton-Rickett, M. P., recently appointed to the position of British paymaster general, born in London seventy years ago today.

C. B. Bachewicz, celebrated scientist and Antarctic explorer, born in Christiania fifty-three years ago today.

Joseph C. Lincoln, well-known writer of Cape Cod stories, born at Brewster, Mass., forty-seven years ago today.

Hal Chase, first baseman of the Cincinnati National league baseball team born at Los Catos, Cal., thirty-four years ago today.

Edward C. Foster, third baseman of the Washington American league baseball team, born in Chicago twenty-nine years ago today.

The Bee's Letter Box

Putting Municipal Court on Wheels. Omaha, Feb. 10.—To the Editor of The Bee: I notice by the paper that the municipal court of Omaha intends to hold sessions in South Side, formerly South Omaha, also. I am surprised that such a thing is contemplated. Dundee, which was also merged in Omaha, will probably insist on having a session there, and when Florence and Benson are merged, they will each want a session, and it will be difficult, if the rule is adopted of having separate sessions of the court in all of these communities, which were formerly municipalities, to prevent it, for there will be no good excuse for not granting their request. Then, it would seem also proper to have the supreme court of the state hold sessions in Omaha, McCook, Grand Island, Kearney, Norfolk and the like.

It is establishing a bad precedent, and one that will cause considerable annoyance and delay and confusion in the trial of cases in the home or central court. I know of no other place where such a thing has been done. Chicago, New York, Philadelphia and all of the cities which are as large, if not larger, than Omaha, and of course all other cities, they have one central place for holding courts, that is, municipalities, and in London, they have justices of the peace, which may be scattered over the city, but they are under the constitution and laws provided for the whole state and its precincts or separate divisions of counties. The plan suggested here is a failure, but I hope will never be tried. LAWYER.

The System of the Child. Central City, Neb., Feb. 9.—To the Editor of The Bee: Ever as centuries pass and nations rise and fall, each people sooner or later has faced the problem: "Shall we preserve the system or save the individual members of our institutions. Germany, to preserve her military imperialism, has silenced the voices and stifled the souls, only by whom she could hope to remain a world power. Always in the pages of history we read that, to the nation or people who forgot the individual in its effort to preserve the machinery of a "system," there came a reaction and a nation was lost.

Today our country school is so encased with selves and devices that the child is either passed through unfinishing or thrown out altogether. If he is slow and overgrown he is automatically excluded from what he terms a "sissy" school, for now he finds no "big boys" there.

He has worked in the fields all the long spring, summer and fall. Now, when winter comes he is reared as a young colt. He needs exercise, mental, moral and physical, but the little school does not invite him in and could not give him work if it did.

The school system has swept by on classic wings and left the farm boy to labor on alone.

When the call to arms comes will he be required to have an eighth grade diploma; no, neither does the tax collector, in later years, require it of him. He goes on paying for a great educational system which is building farther and farther beyond his reach. This system is so hedged about that the scholar goes on through and the toiler is thrown aside.

Today here in Nebraska, more than 30,000 country boys and girls are out of school, either pushed through or discouraged, and have no place open to them, unless they go away from home.

That community deliberately commits suicide which sends all of its youth away from home even for an education. On the other hand it will rapidly deteriorate if it keeps these young folks at home in ignorance of all but the beginning of an education. Why do either?

We have been afraid of a shadow—our own shadow. Let us be men and build for our own children.

The legislature is considering bills that will help to restore to the country some strength in our schools. House Bill No. 12 distributes the state apportionment on the enumeration of children instead of on "average daily attendance." House Bill No. 70, by Reed, provides for ten years of work in the one-room rural school at option of the district. The teachers may oppose this but if they will not agree to do this hire some one who will. A bill providing for a winter term in the country has been introduced by Taylor of Custer and ought to pass.

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girls be fined for working by being shut out of school. The rankest injustice has been done these youth and unless a speedy remedy is at hand the cost of living will mount higher for these young men as leaving the land at an alarming rate. These winter terms will be community centers and rallying places for all that goes to make up country life.

The state university and normals will receive nearly \$3,000,000 for the next biennium. These institutions of higher learning ought to be maintained but not to the neglect of the people who produce the larger part of the fund which the schools receive. If we don't go after what we need we may be sure we will not get it. The legislature means well and will listen. Write. W. H. CAMPBELL.

Explanation of the Bill's Sponsor. Lincoln, Feb. 10.—To the Editor of The Bee: The Lincoln reports in regard to a statement I made about Mr. Dufoe, a member of the legislature, who fought my bill in committee and on the floor, were not correct. They stated that I said the passage of my bill would give Mr. Dufoe a profit of \$20,000 upon his privately owned bank at Tecumseh. What I said was that if my bill failed to pass and the banking board would limit the state banks of our state to one or two in the smaller towns it would create a monopoly in banking in those towns and the first effect would be to add 100 per cent to the value of the stock in those banks. A \$20,000 capital bank like Mr. Dufoe has would add \$20,000 to the value of his stock.

The same thing happened when the railroad put a limit of two elevators at each country town. Country elevators went up from \$3,000 to \$7,000 or \$8,000 apiece and when the railroads threw the field open they went back to normal prices. The same would happen if we created a banking monopoly, which our banking board has been trying to do. If, of course, could not last but a few years, for the people would not stand for it and our farmers would soon demand and get co-operative banks the same as they have co-operative elevators.

Our state bankers who fought my bill—making the guarantee off of interest bearing certificates and prohibiting the sale of bank stock above par before the bank was organized, and prohibiting the advertising of the guarantee feature of our guarantee law—did this to make the bank promoter seem to be as short-sighted as our elevator men once were. If my bill had passed and became a law they would not organize banks only when they were actually needed. It would take away the power the bank promoter now has of using our bank guarantee law as an asset for his wild schemes.

JOHN MURTEY, Chairman Committee on Banks and Banking.

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