

THE OMAHA BEE
DAILY (MORNING)-EVENING-SUNDAY
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Universal Military Training.
Much of the opposition to universal military training arises from the confusion of training with service. Practically all earnest advocates of peace—and this includes nearly everybody in the United States—agree that in case of attack resistance must be made. All are willing to defend the country against invasion, and to protect its citizens in their guaranteed rights everywhere.

Good Roads for Nebraska.
As the most consistent and persistent advocate of good roads for Nebraska, The Bee feels justified in congratulating the people of the state on the prospects for improvement of the highways. The appropriation that will bring the state the benefit of the government aid is well on its way and will very likely become law.

Goods Under True Colors.
American textile manufacturers are moving at this time along a course they might well have taken long ago. It is to establish American-made goods as such. According to Dry Goods, a technical trade journal, much of conscious deception has hitherto been practiced by some dealers in catering to snobbery through selling American-made goods as those of foreign make.

Meeting the Man Shortage.
Railroads of the United States, as well as other industries in which unskilled labor is largely employed, are facing the certainty of a shortage of men for the outdoor campaign. This shortage is due to several causes, one of which is the new immigration law, which excludes illiterate laborers, the sort mostly depended upon to do the track work for the railroads.

Trade in Garden Tools.
Robins and scissors grinders are abroad in the land and other harbingers of spring have been noted, but the most encouraging of all signs is the report from hardware men that trade in garden tools is brisk. Men feel the impulse to get out and stir the soil, quite natural with the coming of the vernal equinox, but this time they are impelled in more effective way by the resistless presence of the awe-inspiring prices tagged on all green stuff good to eat.

Uncle Sam in the Caribbean
5--The Town That Was
By Frederic J. Hoakin
Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, D. W. I., March 12--Painted pale blue and green and pink, bright and flat in the tropical sunlight, Charlotte Amalie hangs gracefully upon three hills, like a gay but faded and drooping tapestry. Behind it is a mountain, stripped almost bare by hurricanes. At its feet lies a round harbor of deep Caribbean blue, lapping gently at the roots of storm-battered palm groves.

The agricultural career of St. Thomas came to a sudden and complete end with the abolition of slavery in 1848; for Charlotte Amalie had been made a free port and had become a port of call for the whole Caribbean world. The harbor offered work at high wages to all comers; the planters could get no labor, everyone became a merchant, a smuggler, or in some other way got a share of the money that came to St. Thomas from all over the world.

According to this yarn, Bluebeard was a handsome pirate, with a remarkable aptitude for winning the feminine heart. He finally himself fell deeply in love with a pretty young Creole girl named Mercedita, married her and took her to his tower to live. After a short honeymoon he sailed away on a freebooting expedition, leaving Mercedita to keep tower alone. He also entrusted her with a certain casket which she was on no account to open.

Mercedita was tried for witchcraft and murder and sentenced to be burned on the beach. While she was being tied to the stake and the faggots piled around her, Bluebeard returned, made a secret landing and distributed his men in the crowd. When the penal fire was lit, he chased the populace home, whipped the police and carried Mercedita triumphantly aboard his sloop. It is said that she subsequently divorced him. The island is full of such legends, most of them fanciful no doubt, but made vivid and real to the visitor by the unspoiled quaintness of the place and the people.

Coal sold for \$60 a ton in Paris last month. American consumers, comparatively speaking, got off easy. A Chicago peddler attempted to break the spud market by selling at 60 cents a peck. He paid \$2.75 a bushel wholesale. How did he make a profit by cutting under? He cut the measure one-fourth, and the operation cost him \$25 in court. Several manufacturing firms in St. Louis employing sewing girls and women have introduced overalls, man-style, for all hands, greatly to the delight of the workers. The working togs are modeled after the trouserettes worn by women workers in the mills of England and France. The freedom of movement afforded and the handy pockets.

Health Hint for the Day.
Milk is best sterilized as soon as delivered at your house, by putting it in an enameled iron jug and standing the jug in a pan of boiling water on the fire. The milk treated in this way never boils and in about twenty minutes all the germs are destroyed without rendering it unpalatable.
One Year Ago Today in the War.
Steamship Esperanza reported sunk by Russian warship off Roumanian coast. Russians, after various successes on northern front, made gains at Jacobstadt. Several divisions of French troops on twenty-three-mile front, between Arras and the Somme, replaced by British troops and sent to Verdun.
In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.
Frank Chrysler has made application to join the Le Fevre Gun club and H. C. Winter of Omaha and D. T. Stubbs have made similar applications to the Omaha Gun club. William Dun, the good-looking superintendent at the old "checked" barn on Harney street paid without a murmur a bill for \$16 incurred on account of shooting a bunch of young pigs out at Fremont, mistaking them for rabbits. About half of the \$25,000 stock of the Lake Manawa street railway has already been subscribed and there is every prospect of the stock being soon all taken.

This Day in History.
1775--Continental congress authorized privateering.
1801--Emperor Paul of Russia strangled in his palace.
1815--Signing of the treaty of Vienna, restoring to Austria the Italian provinces and concluding a new alliance between Great Britain, Austria and Russia.
1818--Don Carlos Buell, noted civil war commander, born at Marietta, O. Died near Rockport, Ky., November 19, 1898.
1867--The senate passed an supplementary reconstruction act over President Johnson's veto.
1868--Answer of President Johnson to articles of impeachment read in court by his counsel.
1877--Execution of John D. Lee, Mormon bishop, convicted of being the main instigator in the Mountain Meadows massacre.
1892--Colonel Burnaby crossed the English channel in a balloon.
1892--The great strike on the California Pacific railroad ended, all the men being reinstated.
1901--Agunaldino, Filipino insurgent chief, was captured by General Funston in Isabela, Luzon.
1912--Funeral services were held in Arlington cemetery over the last victims recovered from the wrecked battleship Maine in Havana harbor.
1916--Army reorganization bill passed by the house of representatives.

The Day We Celebrate.
Philip J. Kunz, contractor and builder, is celebrating his fifty-second birthday. He came to this country from Germany in 1885 and is prominent in the Builders' exchange. Dr. James M. Peebles, noted medical scientist, lecturer and peace advocate, born at Whiteingham, Vt., ninety-five years ago today. Lord Milner, one of the five British cabinet officers comprising the war council, born sixty-three years ago today. Rev. Ira Landreth, prohibition candidate for vice president in the last election, born at Milford, Tex., fifty-two years ago today. Valentine Everitt Macy, president of the National Civic federation, born in New York City forty-six years ago today. Bishop Thomas F. Kennedy, rector of the North American college at Rome, born at Conshohocken, Pa., fifty-one years ago today. Cardinal Bourne, archbishop of Westminster, born at Clapham, England, fifty-eight years ago today.

Timely Jottings and Reminders.
The thirteenth national conference on child labor, under the auspices of the national child labor committee, opens today at Baltimore. Vitalization of the rural school problem is the theme for the fifth annual Massachusetts conference on rural education, which meets today at the state normal school at Worcester. By order of the federal court that part of the Pere Marquette railroad system formerly known as the Port Huron & Northwestern railroad is to be offered at public sale today at Port Huron. Teams representing Yale, Harvard and Princeton universities engage in a triangular debate tonight on the subject, "Resolved, That after the present war the United States should so far depart from its traditional policies as to participate in the organization of a league of powers to enforce peace."

Storyette of the Day.
Timothy O'Brien, while passing down Main street one morning, was hit on head by a brick which fell from a building in process of construction. He was taken to the hospital in an unconscious condition, but was soon revived sufficiently to send for a lawyer. Some days later he received a call from his lawyer, who informed him that he had settled the case, whereupon he peeled off seven crisp new \$100 bills. "How much did you get?" questioned Tim, feebly. "Twenty-five hundred dollars," replied the lawyer, complacently. "Twenty-five hundred dollars? An you give me \$700?" screamed Tim. "Say, who got hit by that brick, you or me?" --New York Times.
NEBRASKA EDITORS.
Editor R. O. Chambers of the Military Free Press has installed an intertype. Mr. Chambers is preparing to get his share of the prospect that abounds in the Nebraska valley of the Nile. The plant of the Ragan Journal was practically destroyed by fire last week. Editor Howell moved the remnants to a vacant store building and, with the assistance of neighboring editors, got out his paper nearly on time.

The Bee's Letter Box
Wants a Referendum.
Lincoln, Neb., March 20.--To the Editor of The Bee: Although some seem to stand aghast at the possibility of the state of Nebraska spending a paltry \$100,000 on Senator Norris' proposed referendum on the issue of this nation engaging in the European war, it strikes me it would be a very good investment. In the event that we enter the war Nebraska would be getting off lucky if its share were not more than \$100,000,000, a state per capita amount that would only make \$5,000,000,000, which would give us ample cause to hang our heads in shame at our country being such a piker in comparison with the amounts being put into the game by those now engaged in it. I believe if a new undertaking were before the legislature involving the expenditure of \$100,000,000 or more by the state of Nebraska that it would be submitted for final decision to the people who must pay the bill. This is all we despised pacifists have been demanding. We contend that this is still a democracy and that in a democracy all questions of vital importance are settled by decision of the majority of its sovereign citizenship. Let the people rule. Vox populi, vox Dei--"the voice of the people is the voice of God." C. S. ECKERT.

Charters for New Banks.
Lincoln, March 21.--To the Editor of The Bee: It is apparent that the supreme court, in its recent decision requiring the banking board to issue a charter for a new bank to F. N. Woolbridge et al at Sidney, base its holding upon the same grounds that I did as trial judge; namely, that the banking board is not clothed with power under the law to refuse a charter on the sole ground that the community is already supplied with sufficient banking facilities. Neither the supreme court nor the trial judge made any finding touching the truth of the contention of the banking board that the guaranty fund is liable to be in danger from a surplus of banks. As a trial judge I was much impressed by the testimony bearing upon that question and I think the whole matter deserves the serious attention of the legislature. Most men believe that with unlimited credit they could get rich. Want of credit has prevented many a man from acquiring wealth. What possession do successful men hold in higher estimation than their credit? I am of opinion that the present banking law, giving, as it does, to a man entering the banking business a credit which is not likely to invite into that business men lacking the qualifications and the character needed for it and to create a surplus of banks and sort of banking which may finally end in disaster. The people are bent on having a guaranty of bank deposits. On the other hand, they are probably equally determined against anything tending towards a monopoly in the banking business. What shall be done? In my opinion, the proper way to secure a guaranty of bank deposits is to require banks going into business to insure depositors, the insurance to be of a character preferred by and approved by the banking board. It will be said that is what the present law amounts to. Each bank contributes something to an insurance fund for all and so each bank is watching every other. This argument involves a radical error. Under the present law it is a forced insurance upon the part of existing banks in favor of the one applying for a charter. Under a law such as I propose banks applying for charters where the facilities are already sufficient and more banks would not pay will find it difficult to procure insurance, and where the applicants for charters are not of a character likely to make them successful bankers they, too, will find it difficult to procure or retain insurance. I am constrained to write this letter, not so much because I have given attention to the question and believe our present banking law contains a vicious and deadly principle--that of forcing one man to lend his credit to another, or the state, by operation of law, giving to a man credit he has not earned--but because I believe danger to the banking business of the state may be impending. A. J. CORNISH.

Kidnaped Boy Released.
Frank Viviano, 8 years old, kidnaped from his home in St. Louis, March 2, was released by the kidnapers last week on payment of \$4,000 by the father. The youngster was found wandering on the streets, dazed and almost starved.

She loves VASSAR Chocolates
Give her a box for Easter
LOOSE-WILES COMPANY OMAHA

SUNNY BROOK THE PURE FOOD WHISKEY
The Inspector Is Back Of Every Bottle
GROTE BROTHERS CO. General Distributors Omaha, Nebraska

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56th and Q Sts.
Remember how to reach the sale: Take a street car to 43d and Q Streets. Salesmen will be there to take you to this garden land. Or take the Ralston or Papillion and interurban car and get off at 56th and Q Streets, the southeast corner of the garden land.
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A tonic containing the elements that enable your body to build itself up to perfect normal strength.
The famous Sulpho-Chlorine Mineral Water is delivered in Omaha in five-gallon jugs, at \$1.65--50c refunded when jug is returned.
BROWN PARK MINERAL SPRINGS 25th and O Sts., South Side. Phone South 879. DR. JOHN A. NIEMANN Osteopathic Physician in Charge.

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VENUS is bought by all who want the best. 17 perfect black degrees, and 2 copying for every possible purpose.
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American Lead Pencil Co., N. Y.

Headaches come mostly from disorders of the stomach, liver and bowels. Regulate these organs and keep free from headaches by using BEECHAM'S PILLS
Largest Sale of Any Medicine in the World. Sold everywhere. In boxes, 10c., 25c.

Now watch the scare makers work overtime and the crowd.

It begins to look as if Colonel Richmond will displace Brother Charley as the first citizen of Lincoln.

The spring drive of the spade and the plow promises more decisive war results than military strategy.

The pulsing breath of spring no doubt infused the joy of good roads among lawmakers. More power to spring!

"Fifty or more towns taken," says a west front war report. Insert the word "sites" after "towns" and the report accords with the situation.

Next time Railroad Commissioner Wilson projects a legislative bill no doubt care will be exercised in picking a number less suggestive of the hook.

Water courses shed their winter overcoats with befitting gentleness. Kindly Nature thus advances toward a proper state of preparedness for May day.

Cheer up! No danger of a famine in postage stamps exists. The home patriot may do his bit of licking as readily as the man at the front. Only more so.

The Russian revolution, like all movements of its class, shows signs of running from one extreme to the other. Safety lies in choosing a middle course and sticking to it.

A naval officer reports U-boats lurking off the coast of New England. By the scales of the Sacred Codfish, can such things be and Congressman Gardner on deck? Perish the thought!

The substitution of red flags for the royal colors in Petrograd means much, as revolutions go. Should the "reds" reach the helm of state the span of Russian progress measures the distance from the frying pan to the fire.

The court of last resort long ago concluded that its deliberations could not please both sides at the same time. Still, having given the whole loaf to his friends, Sam Gompers might spare the country the spectacle of demanding the bakery and the works.

Every organized power in Omaha should back up the movement for fair and just railroad rates for hay market shipments. That gross discrimination in this and other Omaha interests still persists constitutes an aggravation which should be resented energetically.

Potato barons delude themselves with the idea that the tighter the grip the greater the profit. As a matter of fact, every round of the sun advances the new crop and loosens their grip. The quicker they let go the less the chances of "holding the sack."

Should the supply of their apparels fall short this year King Ak is at liberty to conscript one or more of Europe's idle monarchs. Besides lending to the fall festival a dash of nude royalty, the emoluments of the job no doubt would lighten the perplexities of imperial poverty.

Semi-official word came from Washington urging women to dress more patriotically during war. Unfortunately the hint lacks diagram and pattern and leaves the women in the dark on patriotic style. Results in this line are hopeless unless the government mobilizes the fashion makers of the country.

For the moment the potato king of Chicago overshadows the egg kings of the lakeside. Percy Miller cheerily admits a stock of 1,000,000 bushels on hand, but repels the suggestion of cornering the supply. Perish the thought. Merely a bit of Yankee forchandedness in stocking up for the family!

War and Literature
Washington Post.
The war, as might have been expected, has given impetus to the production of a vast amount of military literature, as well as of novels and stories based upon the tragedies, heroism, sacrifices and passions engendered by such a struggle. Nevertheless, there has been a notable decline in all publications in the belligerent countries. In France, for instance, there were 11,460 book publications in 1913 and only 4,274 in 1915. In England, where 10,665 books were published in 1913, there was a decline to about 9,000 last year, and an even greater decline has taken place in Germany. Probably it is not because the noncombatants are less inclined to read, but because energy has been directed to other channels, that the decline has taken place. This explanation is supported by the surprising increase in the number of books published in the United States since the war began. It might have been expected that the increasing price of paper would have retarded development in the book industry, but the statistics show that the contrary is the case. In 1915 there were 9,734 publications, while in 1916 there were 10,445, and the increase took place in spite of the fact that in 1915 2,538 books were imported, while the output in 1916 included importations numbering only 1,648. Theaters and amusements in the belligerent countries as well as in the United States have been patronized just as liberally during the war as before the struggle began.