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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETOR

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The tumult and the shouting ends. Now to the business of making good.

The revived slogan of bygone days: "Millions for defense," now becomes billions.

Our first congresswoman has written herself down a suffragist, but not a militant.

Patriotic Americanism recognizes no color line—neither does it know sect or religion or ancestry.

Prospects for an early tenant for Carnegie's peace palace remain wrapped in the Schvengelen fog.

Yes, the man behind the hoe can do almost as much to bring "peace with victory" as the man behind the gun.

Looks now as if there might be serious doubts as to Colonel Roosevelt keeping his speaking engagement in Nebraska in June.

State lawmakers profess profound regard for public sentiment, yet persistently ignore the call to go home and stay there.

Considering the facilities for prolonged conversation the house of representatives achieved a record in finishing the run in seventeen hours.

That "dollar-above-the-man" talk has been heard before in this land of the free and home of the brave and everybody knows whence it emanates.

Some votes were also recorded against the declaration of war with Spain, but they did not interfere with Dewey at Manila or with Schley at Santiago bay.

President Wilson's war address, as made public in Germany, suffered severely from censorship ruthlessness. Evidently a few things the president said struck home!

Amateur towns pushing for a place on the news map are handicapped from the start. El Paso has too much experience to suffer eclipse as the capital of the rumor belt.

It is to laugh—this denunciation by our amiable hiphycanted contemporary of other folks for doing exactly what the senator and his paper have been doing up to the moment of his last flop.

Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg is reported to have unloaded his Texas land holdings. The German leader takes no chances on depreciated values which would follow the transfer of "a lost province" to Mexico.

The Emergency Peace federation urges as a sure means of averting war that President Wilson adopt measures to start a revolution in Germany. Means of getting in and making a start are details conveniently overlooked.

Restriction of wearing apparel is the latest government edict in Germany. The regulation applies to both sexes regardless of age, and carries with it the customary ticket good for so much clothing and no more. If there is anything left unregulated in the empire Berlin is not aware of it.

Omaha people stop now to gaze at the balloons passing over the city. It will not be long before aeroplanes and dirigibles on the sky-line will be so common that they will attract no attention whatever. If skeptical about this prediction, hark back to the first appearance of the automobile—only a few years ago.

Note that the most scathing indictment of the work of our present democratic legislature comes from democratic members who feel ashamed of the record and not from republicans "playing politics." The democratic promise and performance, or rather lack of performance, will be submitted for popular verdict at the next election.

Warriors of the Farm
New York World

There is nothing spectacular in Secretary Houston's appeal to the farmers to grow bigger crops, but it contemplates war measures as important in their way as any yet undertaken by the army and navy.

Most of our farmers have heard exhortations like those of Secretary Houston many times before. They know that as a class they are not thoroughgoing in their tillage. They know that by improved seed, fertilization and methods of cultivation they could materially increase their crops. They know they are wasteful with their land and the products of the land, and they know that to the injury of the consumer as well as themselves many of them do not study market opportunities as they should.

For the betterment of such conditions there are now two powerful incentives. With war at hand, the men of the farm who put forth their best energies will be serving their country as truly as the men in the ranks and on the ships. With the prices now prevailing, the money reward is certain to be as gratifying as the consciousness of duty well done. In times like these the man who as a result of idleness or ignorance grows only half a crop is to be compared with the other slacker who, being qualified, refuses to take his place with the colors.

Secretary Houston should have generous financial and moral support in his undertaking. It is national defense of the highest order. Perhaps in the grim days to come its results will be recognized as part of the very foundation of victory.

In the War in Earnest.
The signing by the president of the resolution declaring the existence of a state of war, as passed by an overwhelming majority in both houses of congress, means that we are in the European conflict—and in it in earnest.

It need hardly be repeated that all peace-loving citizens were for a long time hoping against hope that we might be kept out of the war to its end and nothing would have given more satisfaction than to have had that hope realized, but circumstances wholly beyond our control have been shaping themselves steadfastly to draw us into the maelstrom in defense of our rights and the rights of humanity.

It is really the irony of fate that President Wilson, after being re-elected on the strength of his record for maintaining the country at peace, should be destined to affix his signature to a proclamation of war and it only goes to show again how short is the distance any of us can look ahead.

Being in the war, it behooves us to make our strength count for the accomplishment of the purpose. To proceed this far without going the whole length would be worse than continuing to sit idly by without attempting to resent our mistreatment.

A nation engaged in war has a right to expect the ungrudging service and the full limit of support of all loyal citizens, regardless of birth, color, creed, politics or previous condition. This the president as commander-in-chief of the nation should have.

Mobilizing the Nebraska Farms.

Steps taken by the regents and chancellor of the University of Nebraska to better co-ordinate and conserve the productive capacity of Nebraska farms are in line with prudent foresight. The farmers of the state must realize fully the vast importance of their relations to society, never so impressively emphasized as now. In war or peace they have a tremendous share in securing the welfare of the world and the fidelity with which they play their part will have its direct effect on all. People must be fed and because of this state's place among the leading producers greater responsibility rests upon it. The world's food supply is short now and extra efforts are called for to bring it up to normal. Thus the appeal to the farmer is direct and imperative. Patriotism may be shown in many ways and one will be to see that every acre of our fertile soil is made to bring forth its capacity of foodstuffs. The Nebraska farmer never has been found lacking when called upon and he may be depended upon to do his share along the lines suggested by President Haller and Chancellor Avery and to co-operate willingly and effectively in any movement to restore the balance between food supply and hungry mouths.

Seizure of the Interned Ships.

One of the first defensive acts of our government in the newly recognized war with Germany is to seize upon the German ships interned in American waters. In its first application this move is a precautionary step, although it may easily lead further. The United States is responsible to the owners of the vessels, although it is contended by some that under existing treaties with Prussia property of citizens of either country may be confiscated by the government of the other in time of war. If need be these sequestered ships may be employed in the service of the United States and any payment to be made deferred until peace is restored.

One of the interesting sidelights of the war is here brought to view. In the midsummer of 1914 German commerce on the high seas was suddenly abandoned and many of the finest vessels afloat were laid up in safe harbor in American waters. The spectacular flight of the Kronprinzessin Cecelia, which put in at Bar Harbor in the haste of its master to secure safety, was one of the sensational incidents at the beginning of the war. Demolition of the machinery of this boat under orders from high German authority forms one of the unpleasant lines in the later chapter of the relations between the United States and Germany leading up to the war. It serves to support one charge made against the imperial government of Germany, that it was not acting in good faith with the United States at the time.

The German-owned vessels now in possession of the United States amount to almost the total tonnage of all ships sunk through U-boat operations in the last two months and can be used to replace the lost ships. Their employment in commerce or transport service might raise another delicate question. If one of them should be sunk by a submarine, could the owner hold the United States responsible for an act of the German government which in itself is held to be unlawful and not permitted by war? It is not likely, however, that for the present a great deal of hair-splitting will be done by the federal authorities as to the disposition of these ships.

Tinkering with the Banking Laws.

Much of the time of the present session of the Nebraska legislature has been expended in tinkering with the banking laws, the theory evidently being that if every possible act of a banker is carefully prescribed by law no danger can come to depositors or patrons. In the latest manifestation this spirit is shown in amendments that have to do with state funds on deposit. Limitations on the sums that may be deposited in any one bank, on the rate of interest that may be paid by the banks to the state and for other purposes are proposed, all aiming to safeguard the state on the one hand and protect the public on the other. This is well enough, but the efforts put forth seem to imply that the democrats no longer repose unquestioning faith in the deposit guaranty law, or the dependability of the banking board or the impeccability of the state treasurer. The whole proceeding points to the fact that Nebraska needs a better banking law and that one of the early duties of some not distant legislature will be to provide for a complete revised banking code at once workable and free from complicating features.

Back in 1912 the anthracite wage boost of 6 per cent slipped down to the consumer fattened to 25 cents a ton. Coal carrying roads in nearby bituminous fields secured permission to advance freight rates 5 cents a ton. In the localities affected confidence is felt that the soft coal crowd will put over an equally smooth job of price inflation.

Easy Money
By Frederic J. Haskin.

Washington, D. C., April 3.—Some months ago many people all over the country were amazed to receive a communication from an obscure silk firm reading something like this:

"To introduce and advertise our ready-to-wear goods in the least time, we give to anyone model silk petticoat, remitted at \$4.80. (Give size of hand, length of skirt and color wanted). Make five copies of this and send to five different friends. Then mail their names to the National Order Broker, Globe building, Minneapolis, Minn., and you will receive a silk petticoat. Enclose 10 cents to cover the cost of wrapping and postage."

While the offices of the mysterious National Order Broker, dispenser of silk petticoats, were closed within two weeks by the United States postal authorities, the letters, once set in motion by some member of the trusting public, are still going on. Women, young, old and middle-aged, throughout the entire country, are still trying to take advantage of this remarkable opportunity to get a silk petticoat. One woman even confesses she wrote for the very largest size in sheets, to that she, being a small woman, might cut it up and make two out of one. She was very much disappointed when her letter came back to her.

Apparently, only a few of the recipients of these chain letters suspected the validity of the offer and the majority of these were men, who, having no interest in the wearing apparel offered, were able to regard the matter with an unprejudiced mind and quickly pointed out its flaws to the nearest postal authorities. But, on the whole, the trustfulness of the public in matters of this kind is almost incredible. Here the swindle was for only a small sum—10 cents—but there are hundreds of such cases on the postoffice records in which the investment is anywhere from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

Barnum's historic remark concerning the world's population of fools appears to be justified by a glance at the files of the United States postoffice, and the authorities themselves will corroborate it. Walk into the office of the chief inspector of mail frauds in Washington and you will be greeted by a tolerant grin. "Poor devil," whispers the office boy to the stenographer, "I wonder how much he subscribed for?" For here it is known that the public contributes between \$60,000,000 and \$70,000,000 to various more or less clever fraudulent propositions every year.

It used to be much worse before the government stepped in. Half the mail of the country was made up of fake circulars and letters, until it got so you felt disappointed if you didn't receive at least three mining frauds and a couple of lottery notices in the morning mail. But when several of our most eminent statesmen were induced to buy shares in an agricultural project which existed only on embazoned note paper congress rose up in wrath and passed a law making it a prison offense to send such offers through the mail. Even so, however, it keeps the government postal authorities extremely busy tracking down violations of this law.

The Postoffice department has a secret service bureau of 420 inspectors, including some of the best-trained detectives in the country. Experience, expert judgment, strong nerves, keen eyesight and a sort of sixth sense which warns him when a new game is about to be "pulled" are some of the requisites of a postal inspector, but there are many others. He must know the principal criminals of all the large cities, their personal characteristics and their method of work; he must know the "fences"—men who buy the criminal goods—he must be an expert accountant, so as to detect discrepancies in postal accounts, and, lastly, he must be a man of some imagination, and his work is primarily with the imaginative and intelligent criminal.

Fraudulent stock schemes are, of course, the most popular form of swindling in this country. Out of the \$70,000,000 swindled out of the public every year it is safe to say that at least \$50,000,000 is obtained through bogus stock companies. And the most unfortunate part about it is that the victims are not the affluent nor the people who make money easily, but usually those who, by means of much hard work and saving, have managed to accumulate a small hoard.

As may be supposed, it is somewhat discouraging to the secret service men of the Postoffice department to exert every effort in apprehending a notorious swindler, perform the often more difficult task of collecting sufficient evidence to convict him, and then have him receive a sentence of a comparatively small fine and a prison term of a few months. It is not, however, the purpose of this article to encourage swindling by first emphasizing the gullibility of the public and then the impotency of the law in the matter of punishment. It is, on the contrary, to warn the public that no punishment yet devised will ever stop a man from swindling if he sees the opportunity. Don't give him the opportunity!

The World's Breadstuffs
Wall Street Journal

Since August 1, 1916, world exports of wheat have amounted to 345,000,000 bushels, or about 3 per cent less than the average of the corresponding period of the two preceding years of war conditions.

In the current eight months, Russia, India, Argentina and Australia furnished a larger proportion of the world shipments than in the two preceding seasons. But at this time, when Argentina should be making its heaviest exports, it has laid an embargo on shipments of wheat and flour. This will not only interfere with the usual European shipments, but will turn Brazil toward North America for its bread supply.

Australia has a surplus, but owing to transportation difficulties, shipments in the last few weeks have been less than 600,000 bushels a week. Russia has doubled its shipments over those of the corresponding period of last season, but its total exports of 6,000,000 bushels in the eight months do not bulk big against a world need of 11,000,000 bushels a week. British statesmen, it is claimed, hope that Russia will be free to ship wheat before the end of the calendar year. Should that happen, and the Russian reserve prove to be a reality, another change in world shipments may be seen.

In this period of under consideration, North America furnished less wheat than in the two preceding seasons. The United States shipped in this period 135,000,000 bushels of wheat and flour as wheat, for which it received \$229,600,000. In the same period of the preceding year it exported 164,000,000 bushels, for which it was glad to get \$201,000,000. Its surplus now is low, but high prices have induced economy in use, and are a temptation to sellers as long as possible.

Canada still has a large surplus. The final official estimate was for an exportable surplus of 150,000,000 bushels as of August 31, 1916. Private estimates are still larger.

People and Events

It is stated officially that the California state treasury will have at the close of the fiscal year a surplus of \$7,500,000. State appropriations have almost doubled in four years, but the shakedown of taxpayers exceeded liberal facilities for getting away with it.

Henry P. Davison, a partner of the Morgan banking house, is esteemed a good risk for \$2,000,000 life insurance. The banking house carries half the policy, which has just been issued. The banker is one of the most heavily insured in the United States.

Professional safe-crackers regard Chicago as the easiest proposition on the loot route. Between Saturday night and Monday morning the gang dynamited ten safes, four of them in one building, secured several thousand dollars' worth of loot, and got away with it. The record tops the score-board.

PROVERB FOR THE DAY
A stitch in time saves nine.

One Year Ago Today in the War.
Austrians recaptured ridge near Monte Christabel.

Italians took by storm Austrian positions on Chiese river.

Canadian driven out of part of the mine craters at St. Etienne.

Germany completed commercial treaty with Roumania, designed to facilitate purchase of Roumanian grain by thirty powers.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.
F. M. Sprague and Miss Amelia E. Sylvester were married at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Sylvester, by Elder Mark H. Forsyth.

P. E. Her closed a contract for the building of a shaft which is soon to be constructed to work the coal deposit which it has been ascertained lies beneath this city.

Austin M. Collette was tendered a pleasant surprise party, the occasion being the twentieth anniversary of his connection with the Union Pacific, of which he is superintendent. Among those present were noticed the following: Messrs. Isaac and Madeline Terry White, Daley, George Hess, C. A. Leary, Nelson Martin, Joseph Miller, James Wadsworth and Philip Dorr.

The Imperial club gave a delightful party on Cherry Hill, Louis Littlefield acting as master of ceremonies. Among the guests, the following were noticed: Mrs. W. H. Lacey, Mrs. J. P. Shipman, the Misses Bailey, Lacey, McMenamy, Whiting, Hubbard, Redman, Clark, Mackay, the Messrs. Nelson, Byron, Smith, Brown, Clark, Argo, Christie, Pickens and Epeneter.

Miss Lizzie Isaacs of London, England, a soprano and pianist of long standing, has decided to locate here and give instruction in these branches.

The police have shut down on prize fighting and robbed Johnny Clow of his vocation. Therefore Johnny has left for Minneapolis.

H. E. Smith, of the advertising department of The Bee, has returned from an extended eastern trip.

This Day in History.
1781—Lord Cornwallis, the British commander, arrived at Wilmington, N. C.

1817—George Graham of Virginia became secretary of war in interim in the cabinet of President Monroe.

1862—Surrender of Island No. 10, Tennessee, to Admiral Foote.

1864—British, French and Austrian governments remonstrated with Russia for cruelties in Poland.

1891—P. T. Barnum, famous showman, died at Bridgeport, Conn. Born at Bethel, Conn., July 5, 1810.

1891—The great powers of Europe waited on President McKinley with a plea for peace in the crisis with Spain.

1913—Rear Admiral George E. Belknap, U. S. N., who fired the last shot at the evacuation of Charleston in 1865, died at Key West, Fla. Born at Newport, N. H., January 22, 1832.

1914—Carranza asked the United States how far the punitive expedition would penetrate Mexico.

The Day We Celebrate.
W. F. Megenth has reached his twenty-sixth birthday. He is an Omaha-born but is residing down the position of secretary and treasurer of the Bull Mountain Trading company.

Rear Admiral Nathaniel R. Usher, commander of the New York navy yard, born in Indiana, sixty-two years ago today.

Captain Ellsworth P. Berthoff, commander of the United States coast guard service, born in New York, fifty-one years ago today.

Walter Camp, celebrated as a writer and authority on athletics, born at New Haven, Conn., fifty-eight years ago today.

John J. McGraw, manager of the New York National league club and the highest salaried man in base ball, born at Truxton, N. Y., forty-four years ago today.

Adrian C. (Pop) Anson, one of the most popular ball players in the history of the game, born at Marshalltown, Ia., sixty-five years ago today.

Benny Leonard, noted lightweight pugilist, born in New York City, twenty-one years ago today.

Timely Jottings and Reminders.
One hundred years ago today the first institution for the instruction of deaf mutes in America was opened at Hartford by Dr. T. H. Gallaudet.

A battle-line as war drums beat, the party is to assemble at St. Louis today to determine the policy of the party in the present national crisis.

The new chemistry building at the University of Cincinnati, recently completed at a cost of \$150,000, is to be formally dedicated and opened today.

The University of Michigan base ball team leaves today for a southern tour that will include games with the University of Georgia, University of the South and Vanderbilt university.

Storyette of the Day.

Little Marie stood in the doorway, one hand on the doorknob. For a moment she gazed at her mother, who was preparing to go out.

"Mother," she said, "do you know what I am going to give you for your birthday when it comes?"

"No, dear," answered the mother. "Please tell me."

"A nice hairpin tray with gold flowers on it all around," said the little girl.

"But, my dear," exclaimed the mother, "I have a nice one like that already."

"No you haven't, mother," Marie answered. "I have just dropped it on the floor."—New York Times.

THE SUMMONS.

Baltimore American.
To arms! To arms! Columbia calls: Each hero-heart responding, three: From mill and mart, from student-halls. They come! They come! While echoing Repeat the summons, shrill-tongued, To valor that answer oft and true, Where high in patriot hearts enthroned, Love reigns for country, home and foe.

The Bee's Letter Box

Caring for the Poor.
Council Bluffs, April 6.—To the Editor of The Bee: I have a few words to say in regard to caring for the poor.

The other day I and others made a trip to the Pottawattamie county poor farm at McClellan. The place looks more like a mansion of some rich man than a poor farm. The house is well kept; it is clean. The farm to all appearances is a model. I thought to myself what a contrast to the old poor house that used to be.

The poorest thing about the house to look at and which struck me, and made me think and sit down and write these lines, was not the home, but its inhabitants. Those poor, sick, feeble down-and-outers appealed to me. They need a good home, good eats and good care. They have, perhaps, lived in vain. Some of them have lived a life of misfortune; disease has ruined their strength and made them unable to fight life's battles. Some, perhaps, have given all their strength in the service of some employer, who let them go for some better servant and then they had to go to the poor farm. It struck me when I looked in the poor people's faces that they were starving. Now, I don't say they are starving the poor, but I say it was my impression by looking at them. It might be because these people are not happy that give them a starving look. Also there are two kinds of starvation—if the spirit is not fed it will starve. I think really these people are starving spiritually. It might be an opportunity for some one to feed the poor in spirit, to go there and talk to them. I would suggest that the county or some good person give them an up-to-date musical instrument for amusement, or even a second hand one to brighten the corners where they are. JOSEPH JENSEN.

How to Hang the Flag.
Omaha, April 6.—To the Editor of The Bee: It seems to be now the opportune time to state some simple rules for the proper hanging of our flag. There is evidently some confusion in the minds of our people on this very important point, judging from the lack of uniformity displayed in the hanging of flags.

Mrs. Nelson, Ohio state chairman of the Daughters of the American Revolution on the prevention of desecration of the flag, has spent years of study on this subject and is my authority for the following general rules:

The most approved way is to hang the flag from a staff.

When the flag is hung without the staff in a window, from a window or outside a building, it should be hung for the outside observer. When space will permit it is best to hang the flag with the bars running horizontally and the blue field with the stars in the upper left-hand corner. When the flag is hung with the bars running perpendicularly the blue field should be in the upper right-hand corner.

The flag should never be draped. Nothing should ever be placed upon the flag but the Bible.

The fact that our beautiful banner Use Zemo for Eczema

Never mind how often you have tried and failed, you can stop itching eczema quickly by applying a little zemo furnished by any druggist for 25c. Extra large bottle, \$1.00. Healing begins the moment zemo is applied. In a short time usually every trace of eczema, tetter, pimples, rash, black heads and similar skin diseases will be removed.

For clearing the skin and making it vigorously healthy, always use zemo, the penetrating, antiseptic liquid. It is not a greasy salve and it does not stain. When others fail it is the one dependable treatment for skin troubles of all kinds.

The E. W. Ross Co., Cleveland, O.

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lends itself so readily to decorative purposes should not be taken advantage of. When it is desired to use the national colors in draped decorations it is allowable and proper to use red, white and blue blunting without stars, but not the flag.

SARAH S. ADAMS,
Chairman Committee to Prevent Desecration of the Flag, Omaha Chapter Daughters of American Revolution.

Comfort Kits for French Soldiers.
New York, April 4.—To the Editor of The Bee: In view of President Wilson's address to congress on April 6, when he urged America to assist its allies in every way available, the La Fayette Fund committee held a meeting and decided to redouble its efforts to secure subscriptions in order to send over as many comfort kits as possible to the French soldiers.

The La Fayette Fund since December, 1914, has been sending over to the French soldiers for every \$3 contribution a comfort kit, comprised of the following articles: "Poncho" (combination rain cape and blanket), one pair of socks, combination knife and spoon, creol ointment, soap, pencil, note paper, pipe and the name and address of the donor on a postcard.

It will be many months before our soldiers will require such kits as these and in the meantime the La Fayette Fund appeals to the Americans to redouble their efforts to help the soldiers of France.

If you will be good enough to co-operate with us by publishing this we shall be more than grateful to you. FRANCIS ROCHE, Secretary the La Fayette Fund.

WHAT IS LAX-FOS