

THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING)-EVENING-SUNDAY
FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR
THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETOR

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION
By Carrier, \$5.00 per year
By Mail, \$4.00 per year
Single Copies, 10c

REMITTANCE
Send by draft, express or postal order. Only 2-cent stamps taken in payment of small accounts.

OFFICES
Omaha—The Bee Building, 211 N. B.
Chicago—People's Gas Building, 100 N. Dearborn St.

CORRESPONDENCE
Address communications relating to news and editorial matter to the Editor, The Bee Building.

FEBRUARY CIRCULATION
54,592 Daily—Sunday, 50,466

Price manipulators, like other plotters, are heading for a hard fall.

But April showers can't dampen the inspiration of that stary flag.

Get the clean-up spirit. Clean habits are promoted by clean surroundings.

Turkey seems fated to lose both feathers and spurs to the bear and the lion.

If Gotham does not now "brighten its corner," it will not be the fault of either "Billy" or "Roddy."

The formal declaration of war of "Billy" Sunday still further jolts the celebrated partnership of "Me und Gott."

Now we know what will fill the ranks of the volunteers. A kiss from a pretty girl should go with each signed-up enlistment blank.

Professional auto thieves have no claim to the mercy of the court. A few prison sentences will be the best deterrent to continuous performance.

It is six to one, or half the man power of the human race, against the Central powers. No wonder the little fellows seek an Ark to escape the deluge.

Not a single vote recorded in the house against the \$7,000,000 appropriation. The kaiser should be persuaded by this time that Uncle Sam means business.

No one anywhere seems to be wasting sympathy on the Turks. The verdict is unanimous that the worst they may get will be less than is coming to them.

Besides the advantages of the retirement on the west front enumerated at Berlin, there is the need of bringing the guns in closer range of republican soldiers.

The make-up of that press censorship board, including on it the secretary of war and also the secretary of the navy, suggests that the cabinet members all believe in safety first.

King George and Queen Mary plunge into the simple fare of bread ration. In these perilous times prudence impels monarchs to make some sacrifices for the honors of the job.

Peace feelers through socialist channels undoubtedly reflect public sentiment at the source. Intense pressure on the west front lends impressive eagerness to the Copenhagen hunch.

So the wet and dry deadlock in the legislature hangs on a disagreement about only one thing. Well, disagreement about only one thing is all that lies between the warring armies over in France.

"Shut up the distilleries and save the grain," about Kansas dries. The need of alcoholizing powder for war munitions does not matter so long as Kansas may be drawn upon for atmospheric artillery.

The price of ice for domestic consumption is largely in the cost of distribution. If we are to have a municipal ice factory, it will not attain its full usefulness without a home delivery system. That is the problem now for the water board to solve.

Four of the German ships seized by the government come under the flag with inspiring names. President Lincoln, President Grant, George Washington and Martha Washington are names fitting action to the deed, and promise service worthy of their title.

A vast amount of inventive talent is going to waste in the field of war devices. Very few of the sure thing propositions with which the government is bombarded receive a moment's attention. Meanwhile, genius gives no heed to the hurry call for an effective automobile lock and shoes for fine and fame away.

Press Freedom in War Times

New York Journal of Commerce.

When we are in actual war, with good reason preventing various movements and public information from coming to the knowledge of enemies, it may be well to have some judicious censorship to prevent publication of anything that is liable to injure or embarrass the service of the government, or cause conflicting criticism to disturb public judgment.

Unless it is liable to do harm in some way, it is much better to have it known and freely discussed. Public opinion is much safer when enlightened than when blinded or kept from knowing what is going on that concerns the public. Whatever censorship is to be exercised should be clearly defined and put in responsible hands and should have due regard for that "freedom of speech or of the press" which the constitution declares that congress shall make no law "abridging."

The whole question of press censorship needs to be fairly and intelligently dealt with. Thus far the newspapers have not been consulted in the matter. Some fair and definite rules of censorship should be established, not upon arbitrary one-sided dictation, but as a result of impartial hearings and discussion. At present we seem to be blindly adopting British methods, which have been open to much criticism and which are not adapted to the much less serious situation on this side of the Atlantic. Why not establish a board of censorship, representing various interests and with authority to make and enforce such rules as seemed necessary in public interest without undue suppression of useful information?

Repurchase of Foreign-Owned Securities.

Some extremely interesting figures are given in the monthly circular issued by the National City Bank of New York, bearing on the amount of foreign-owned American securities that have been repurchased and brought back to this country since the beginning of the war.

So far as they relate to railroad stocks and bonds, these figures are a compilation made by President Lorce of the Delaware & Hudson company, who has been conducting a continuing inquiry into the movement of railroad holdings, and indicate the cash values of these securities repurchased to January 31, last, to be about \$1,200,000,000. Further data has been obtained from the books of the United States Steel corporation, the industrial concern having the largest flotations abroad, disclosing that in all more than \$125,000,000 of the stocks and bonds of the corporation have been returned since the war began. The conclusion is that the repurchase of the industrial securities, municipal bonds and foreign property-holdings, other than railway securities, may be reasonably estimated as not less than \$600,000,000.

Net gold importations, furthermore, during the same period, have been about \$1,000,000,000 and the net amount of foreign loans publicly issued in this country reaches almost \$2,500,000,000. The authority quoted, therefore, figures the total American securities repurchased, foreign loans and net gold imports as, in round figures, \$5,275,000,000, and the net trade balance on merchandise account, in round figures, \$5,750,000,000.

These tremendous totals, to be sure, are hard to grasp, but they may conduce to a faint idea of what has been happening. The United States has practically paid off all of its debts owed in Europe and, at the same time, has taken Europe's surplus gold, and become a creditor of Europe in the huge amount of the foreign bonds taken here.

Setting the Example for Food Economy.

If we are in for an indefinite period of still higher living cost—as a result of the war, the sooner we adjust ourselves to requirements, the better, and to this end the example that is being set in Washington official circles of a return to the simple life is both timely and salutary.

At the latest cabinet dinner, attended by the president, the menu was, we are told, limited to three courses, and it goes without saying that none of the guests suffered from lack of variety on the table or went hungry. On the contrary, it is a reasonable inference that the three-course dinner is quite sufficient to satisfy all the inner wants, and to do so in a way to avoid the after effects of overeating and also to put a brake on the too common waste of food.

The example set by the "higher ups," however, will be useless if it is not followed in degree by our people all down the line. It is accepted almost as an axiom that a large part of the high cost of living is the cost of high living and that the food that is removed from the table, uneaten, in the average household, would easily more than suffice to keep another person well-fed.

These food economies have been forced upon the inhabitants of all European countries, neutral countries as well as belligerent countries. We must not delude ourselves that we can take part in the war without feeling the necessity of husbanding the food supply and making what we eat count for nutrition rather than for simply tickling the appetite.

Opium Throttled in China.

An event of great importance to the Orient and world at large signals the advance of democracy in China. The young republic has definitely throttled the opium business, virtually thrown off a "white man's burden," imposed and perpetuated by greed. A report to the state department from Consul General Anderson at Hong Kong records the end of the infamous trade in the Far East. The government of China has taken over all stocks of opium in private hands, which will be converted into medicinal extracts. Cultivation and importation are also forbidden, thus bringing to a close a struggle of a quarter of a century to rid the people of a frightful European curse. The beginning of the end occurred some fifteen years ago, when an international agreement was made, gradually reducing cultivation and exports from India. China entered into the compact with outward zeal, but the greed of the Manchu dynasty prevented practical results. Power exercised from above gave help to the needs of the multitude below. Not until the republic became a living force was the voice from below heeded and restricted cultivation and use vigorously enforced. The gratifying result officially announced constitutes a mighty uplift for China and a distinct triumph for celestial democracy.

War Opens Way for Woman.

Over in Europe war opened the way for woman, through which she sprang, eager to show her ability and capacity for matching man on his own ground, and well has she taken advantage of it. Will we not have the same experience here? In field and factory, in city and country, the British and French and German woman has donned the trousers and taken up the tools the men laid down and with them she has wrought out for herself a new place in the scheme of things. Tramway conductor, railway porter, postman—is that right? And now she has scaled the last wall of medieval prejudice and ranged herself in the last trench wherefrom egotistical masculinity had banished her. English churches, finding their choirs disrupted by the call of Mars, first had recourse to the aged and decrepit, but the cracked and cacophonous voices of the substitutes produced such dissonance that it seemed better to go without the vested choir at all. Yet the service required something of the sort and finally a rector less timid than the rest ventured to admit women into the professional. She must wear the surplice and otherwise demean herself as if she were really not a woman, but the anthem of the church now swell up on the sweet soprano or mellow contralto tones of clear-voiced women and nothing is left for her to conquer in England save a seat in Parliament. The last barrier of prejudice, corroded by the biting acid of war, has given way and woman sings as well as works for Europe's safety.

German critics enjoy themselves by poking fun at "America's little army." It may be recalled that similar sport was made of the British army, thirty months ago. Should the critics survive the present British drive a while, Uncle Sam's little army will take pleasure in "showing 'em."

Efforts to show that republics are ungrateful seem fated to fail. Here are the paper makers, after solemnly promising to be good, called in for a session with the judicial swatter. Where are the rewards of compulsory righteousness?

The Department of Agriculture Awakening the Nation

By Frederic J. Haskin

Washington, April 13.—In the United States of America there are more than 100,000,000 people. This is a figure too large for the human mind to grasp, but the human mind can grasp its significance. It means, among other things, that the smallest movement which gets started among the American people takes on importance like a snowball rolling down-hill. Habits of thought and speech and action sweep the country from end to end, because we are one people with the finest means of communication in the world. If it is the national fashion to be a little wasteful, it means that the total national waste reaches an absolutely staggering figure. Now, on the other hand, if it were only the national fashion to be a little saving—

One of the things that the Department of Agriculture is working vigorously to bring about is just that establishment of the little habit of economy. Economy in the little things is all that is asked so far; for the little economies will be multiplied by a hundred million, and without being the less happy or the less comfortable, we can save enough to feed Belgium. Our national waste bill in food crowds the billion dollar mark. We lose every year \$200,000,000 worth of eggs alone, that might be saved.

The food needs of America are likely to be urgent within a few months, not so much because we will not be able to produce all and more than we need for home use, but because one of our greatest parts in the war, and one of the greatest services we can do for our cause, will be to supply our European allies with every possible pound of food. Moreover, particular sections of the United States itself are likely to feel a shortage, because there will be an unprecedented demand for freight cars to carry munitions and war supplies from interior points to the coast.

The motto of every American city and county should be, to produce as nearly as possible enough food for its own use. By so doing, it will not only assure sufficiency at home, but it will release the surplus from the great farming regions for shipment abroad, and release, too, the cars that are necessary to carry other things. These two phases of the matter are clearly stated in recent utterances of prominent men. Lord Northcliffe, the leading English journalist, stated that for the moment the greatest service America could render the cause lay in a lavish supply of munitions, money and food. The munitions question is an industrial one, and a hard industrial expert is already at work on it. The food question is being met by the monster loan proposed in congress. The food question can only be solved by the co-operation of every American.

In recognition of this national food problem, the Department of Agriculture has launched its two great campaigns to check waste and promote the economical use of food on the one hand, and to increase the supply by means of the city-lot and back-yard and suburban garden campaign on the other.

The experts of the department, according to Secretary Good, estimate the annual American food waste at \$700,000,000. This enormous waste results largely from bad preparation and bad cooking, and much of it can be avoided. Another point is the custom that has grown up in many American families of serving an over-abundance of food. There is among some of us the feeling that to put on the table just enough food, and no more, is rather a mean economy. This notion, as the department points out, is entirely mistaken, and shows rather bad taste as well. Waste is never admirable, even in the most prosperous times, and too much food cooked means that some cooked food is thrown away. In a time like the present, such a habit must be banished at once. In Europe today, the people take pride in economy, not in liberality; even the women pride themselves on the simplicity and cheapness of their clothes.

The department is urging the American people to avoid throwing food into the garbage pail, to keep perishable food clean, cool and covered, to stew fruits and food vegetables that threaten to spoil, to cook carefully, to avoid waste in preparation, and to cook enough and no more. Some people peel potatoes in such a way that 20 per cent is wasted. In Germany a law provides that all potatoes must be boiled, to avoid waste in peeling.

Another thing for which the department calls on Americans is a more catholic taste in foods. We have too many groundless prejudices against certain foods that are cheap and nourishing, and against new foods in general. In the rice districts of British India, in time of want the government sometimes sends trainloads and shiploads of fine northern wheat. But the ignorant peasantry are unfamiliar with wheat; and they have been known to starve within arm's length of plenty, or to trade enough wheat for three meals for a handful of dirty rice. Americans are too intelligent a people to cling to food prejudices. By an increased use of rice, the wheat supply may be conserved. The use of cornmeal may be greatly increased.

Such substitutions are particularly desirable, because all indications point to a wheat shortage at the coming harvest. The latest crop estimate showed a probable decrease of 52,000,000 bushels over last year's crop, and of 243,000,000 bushels over the crop of 1915. From the American representative at the International Institute of Agriculture in Rome comes the news that the crop situation is bad all over the world. The only way to make up for a wheat shortage with a minimum of hardship is to be ready to eat substitutes, and in this case, used intelligently, substitutes are really "just as good."

But there are three sides to this question—production, distribution and consumption. The people who eat the food have it within their power to prepare it and use it as economically as possible. Here is one thing that every household can do to co-operate with the government and help the nation. Let your motto be, "No waste, and a home garden."

People and Events

In the race between the recruiting officers and Dan Cupid in Chicago, Dan maintains a strong lead and is not in danger of being overtaken.

Jess Willard expresses a willingness for a finish go with the Fotsdam eagle. If Jess sets the pace war bulletins will soon enrich the sporting pages.

The record breach of promise suit is on file in New York. A million dollars is sought as a punitive for heart fracture and to line the mitten with golden fleece.

A Missouri crook caught with the goods at Carrollton nervily suggested to the judge that if paroled he would join the army. The judge exploded on the spot and gave the crook the limit.

Ross Matkins drifted into Salt Lake last week, bringing a package of gold nuggets from a placer mine in the interior of Alaska. The largest nugget has an intrinsic value of \$1,914, but the owner refused an offer of \$4,000 for it.

Three wireless operators in Chicago who neglected to dismantle their plants when ordered by the government suddenly disappeared from their haunts without indicating their new address. It happened that the navy wireless "listened in," heard a few things in the air, and secret service men did the rest.

A workman in a mill near Salt Lake City indiscreetly coupled a refusal to chip in a dime to a flag fund with a slur on the government. Old Glory had an exciting experience on the spot. Mounted on a rail and carrying a flag, he was escorted around the plant, set down outside the gate and warned to hike out of sight.

A divorce case in court at Grand Rapids, Mich., turns on the question of a "submarine kich." This class of osculation is said to be a great favorite in swimming circles, particularly popular among divers. The weight of evidence seems to favor the plaintiff in the case, since she solemnly affirms she cannot swim or dive.

TODAY

Proverb for the day. A guilty conscience needs no accuser.

One Year Ago Today in the War. British airmen dropped more bombs on Constantinople. Both French and Germans claimed advantage in severe fighting at Verdun.

Turkey admitted one of its submarines sank the Russian hospital ship Porosk.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago. Miss Maggie Epeneter, one of Walnut Hill's bevy of charming and accomplished young ladies, was married to W. G. Sauer of Council Bluffs.

Miss Elsie Stunt has gone to Le Mars, Ia., on a visit to her friends. The young couple will make their home in Council Bluffs, where Mr. Sauer is delivery clerk in the city postoffice.

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Patriotism by Our Poets

Uncle Sam. See that old man with stars upon his hat

And coat and trousers striped with red and white, With piercing eye and pointed beard?

Well, that is Uncle Sam. He will not seek a fight— Would rather suffer long to keep the peace

And never dodges at a random shot; But after patience and forbearance cease

To bear the fruit of virtue, he is not responsible for what transpires. And when He shuts his teeth, rolls up his sleeves and bows

His teeth in righteous indignation, then, Be under the successful friends or honest foes,

Who try to scare or capture this old scout— Well, all we have to say is this— Look out!

Lincoln, Neb. —Willis Hudspeth.

Lines to Our Flag. Flung out on the breeze the stripes of Old Glory,

Proclaim to the world the time-honored story Of peace and protection, love of country—all these

Proclaim to the world with our flag on the breeze. For Power, for Right, let our flag be unfurled,

For Justice, for Peace throughout this whole world; Peace and Protection, our gifts from High Heaven,

To all under the shadow of Old Glory was given. So now do not falter, pray for strength in the name

Of Him who rules over us, forever the same. Fling, fling out the flag! 'Tis the pride of our Nation,

Loved by its subjects, whatever their station. Fairfield, Neb. —A Reader.

The New Columbia. Siberian exiles today are returning Along the same trail they once trod in despair,

While Liberty's lamp through all Russia is burning To light up their journey and answer their prayer.

The rule of the despot is banished forever; No longer they're fearing the heel of the czar— The great revolution was handled so clever

That Russia's dark shadow has turned to a star. 'Tis the new star of Hope, in all of its glory— Another Columbia in Liberty's sky,

Reflecting from Heaven Democracy's story— The soul of true justice that never can die

The shame of the world that has long cursed a nation Is lifted from millions who knew not the light; May it fill every soul with determination

To stand by their guns though they fall in the fight. Though the wrongs of the past can never be righted,

Nor banished completely from memory's wall, The conscience of mankind will soon be united,

Then Peace, Love and Justice shall rule over all. May the spirit of Freedom move onward ward today

Till cruel Autocracy crumbles to dust. And the Rule of the People shall flourish for aye In lands that are happy—in ways that are just.

Then here's to the flag of the Russian revolution, Now kindled by the breeze o'er a country redeemed;

May her peace-loving sons in deepest devotion Build up a Republic—by mankind esteemed. Omaha. —R. F. Williams.

"Onward, Christian Soldiers." "Onward, Christian Soldiers," Marching on to peace With the flag of freedom

While all the nations of the earth Are struggling to be free? Shall France, whose blood and treasure Helped us to freedom's light, Be crushed beneath the heel Of autocratic might?

Shall the War Lords go unpunished? Shall the Junker rule the world? Shall the starchy flag of freedom Be never more unfurled? Ten million freemen answer "No,"

It rings from sea to sea, From mountain top and valley, 'Tis the answer of the free. Your Uncle Sam has heard the yell And he's fixing up his guns; He is getting good and ready And he's going for the Huns,

So we're coming, Father Woodrow, Our hearts are staunch and true, Our fathers fought with Washington And we will fight with you —Reuben Cartwright.

Our Flag of America. Our flag is an emblem of liberty, It symbolizes freedom so true, It waves proudly on America's breezes, It flutters bravely o'er zephyrs so blue.

Our flag is a symbol of love For our heroes who died on the field; Its honor we'll guard thro' the ages To no monarch our flag will yield.

Our flag is a banner of freedom, If under its colors you've found Protection from Europe's tyranny— Why dare you now pull it down?

Our flag is the flag of the brave, Whose blood was on battlefields shed; No traitor would dare pull it down, Lest a saber would cleave off his head.

Our flag is an emblem of liberty To all who love liberty call, And who dare to say to all nations, America's flag is the flag of them all.

All hail to Old Glory, our flag, To our banner we'll ever prove true; No nation would dare haul it down, Our beloved Old Red, White and Blue. Sidney, Ia. —Willis Grant Morris.

The Tocsin Has Sounded. Take heed, beware, be watchful and stop, The great revolution was handled so clever

Keep steady and faithful, be it e'er so long. Our country in danger, we all grasp the flag

And fight for it manfully, tho' few of us lag. The tocsin has sounded, stand up! Be prepared!

The enemy threatens, Americans are daunted. Our commerce must cease, they shout at us loud.

Stop sending provisions to that other crowd. Our patriot, to my mind, has been too polite,

And waited in vain for replies to be right; But patience at last as a virtue has ceased.

And a call for congress to be war or peace. Large liners have been prominently stopped,

And passengers on them deliberately dropped; No matter at all what flag they sailed

Under that flag of freedom. The submarine acts were "you go to thunder."

The submarine has proved to be a deadly thing And caused the old Eagle to move its right wing;

And now Uncle Sam has issued his call For our men to rise and cause Germany's fall. Seward, Neb. —C. H. Young.

CHEERY CHAFF. "There is something reminiscent of the fortune of war" is the motto which the Deutschland seized in New London.

"What is it?" "You know it was the Wilhelm. Now it is what Wilhelm has!"—Baltimore American.

"So you call your freight steamer 'The Pea'?" "Yes; isn't it as good a name as any other?" "Oh, nothing the matter with the name; but I thought you might be afraid of its getting shelled."—Baltimore American.

Locomotive Auto Oil. The best oil we know. The L. V. Nichols Oil Company. J. P. Nicholas, President. Grain Exchange Bldg., Omaha, Neb.

The Man of the Hour Is the Fighting Man

The honor and the safety of America are in his hands. By land and by sea the fighting forces of the nation are preparing for the supreme effort of history.

Half a million men for the beginning of a new army—the National Guard on duty—the regular army enlisted up to war strength—the navy on a fighting basis, recruited to the limit—the marine corps increased to the emergency limit by special order of the president—these are the steps with which the United States prepares to meet the crisis.

The best men of the nation step to the guns. The hearts of all Americans go with them. Every eye is turned on the fighting man. Every patriotic American, young or old, man or woman, is more keenly interested today in the army and the navy than in anything else. From every corner of the country comes a demand for more information, for more details about them both. To answer this demand, to give the full facts about army and navy life, the government has published special books.

Our fighting men are divided into three forces—the army, the navy and the marine corps. There is a book on each. Each of the books will be sent free on request, on receipt of a two-cent stamp to cover return postage. All three books sent for six cents.

Send for the books you want today. There is the army book, the sailor's book and the marine's book. A 2-cent stamp will bring you any one of them; 4 cents any two, and 6 cents all three. Write your name and address plainly and address The Omaha Bee Information