# Тне Омана Вее

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Every peace feeler coming out of central Europe seems foredoomed to "bite granite."

Besides other material advantages immunity from draft speeds the rush back to the farm. Safety first.

Patriotism, like charity, may express itself in

the home garden or any other cultivated plot. Don't be a slacker. Now suppose congregations take seriously the

fairy tale about ministerial fat purses, what would happen to the contribution box? Secretary Vrooman's artillery is working fine,

but he would get more in the way of results if he would concentrate on a definite target. No matter what befalls other monarchs, so long as he delivers the goods King Corn's throne

is secure. Delivering the goods is his specialty. No doubt Senator Thomas meant what he said about food gamblers. Still he sticks around

Washington and ignores tempting oportunities to test his rope. Just as Berlin shows a disposition to forget war indemnities Paris jumps into the ring with

tall demands. The detail of enforcing payment remains a future gamble. Help for the farmer's wife is also quite essential, if the full measure of efficiency is to be attained. Here's a good field for the women folks

who are eager to do a bit, While the country at large responds to appeals against waste, congress persists in squandering time. Come to think of it, congress never could

work up a reputation for economy. In its onward march democracy plants a signpost here and there. The khan of Khiva grants his people a modern constitution. Celerity in

reading the sign averted the khanning. "Plant corn!" shouts the cast to the farmers, and all over the west the check-rower and the lister are clicking in unison, as the foundation for a four-billion bushel corn crop is being laid.

Reports from the fields of Nebraska are far more encouraging since the rain has had a chance to revive the drooping grain. Give us a normal season, and the crops will surprise even the na-

"Settlement day" is no longer a nightmare for the shorts in the wheat pit, but will they learn the "Stabilizing" prices by gambling in lesson? futures may have its attraction, but it also has its drawbacks.

The executive department now competer with the legislative in publishing a daily vehicle of official news. In both cases the editors radiate official gossip unvexed by the problems of in-

Food and fuel speculators will save considerthat profiteering on public necessities will not be tolerated. The road roller of public indignation is equipped for effective work where needed.

Boston, Philadelphia and New York presented to the French commissioners substantial purses for the orphans of war. These remembrances, like many that have gone before, lend life and light to innocents and ennobles the souls of the

"Old Hutch" and "Charley" Partridge will rest more quietly for knowing that the shearing of the shorts didn't cease when they did. But what would those famous figures have done if they had had present day aid in running their unforgettable "corners?"

# Canada Forgives Us

-The New Rep Participation by the United States in the war will have one result in which all good Americans can rejoice without misgivings and without qualican rejoice without misgivings and without qualifications. It will help enormously to remove mis-understanding between the Canadian and the American nations and to lay an indispensable foundation for their future co-operation.

If the United States had refused to come in,

our Canadian neighbors would, rightly or wrongly, have always considered us recreant to the ideals which underlie their institutions as well as ours, and they would have cherished a resen-ment which would have interfered with the future

ment which would have interfered with the future ability of the two countries to act and think along common lines. We have been saved from such a calamity. Of all the disasters which could have overtaken the foreign relationship of the United States permanent or radical estrangement from Canada would have been the worst.

Of all the positive needs of American foreign policy the working out of some basis of common action with Canada is the most essential. The facts of geography, the circumstances of a common experience and similarity of institutions and ideals all help to make Canada the nearest relamon experience and similarity of institutions and ideals all help to make Canada the nearest relative and the most fruitful ally of the American republic. At the present time Canada and the United States are the only two nations participating in the war which have nothing to gain from their labors and sacrifices except political goods which will benefit all free and democratic nations no less than themselves.

nations no less than themselves.

It should consequently be the deliberate policy of the American government to use every opportunity afforded by the participation of Canada and the United States in the same war to convert that common participation into the most immediate and many sided practical co-operation.

### Advice Good, But Application Poor,

Calimet officers are giving Americans good adace as to how to conduct themselves under the strain of the present situation. The trouble is that the application these officials make of their own suggestions is decidedly poor. For example, take the verbal pyrotechnics emanating from Carl Vrooman, assistant secretary of agriculture. For many months charges of manipulation of food prices have been made. The government is fully possessed of the power to investigate these, and this is backed up by the greatest of corrective forces, that of publicity. If the officials will tell where the stored-up quantities of food are hidden and give the names of those who are holding back supplies to extort higher prices, the remedy quickly will be supplied by an indignant public. If Mr. Vrooman knows that speculators are crowding the capital to influence legislation so that their hold on the food of the world will be perpetuated, why doesn't he give their names; Pitiless publicity will apply here is anywhere, and the people certainly would like to know who these men are. A steady stream of scolding is of no good unless supported by some action. The public needs reassurance rather than a scare, and government officials should provide something be sides sensational charges.

## Reviving Traffic on the Rivers.

The conference at St. Louis of men representng the bodies interested in revival of traffic on the rivers was productive of the usual resolutions prospective plans for barge lines and similar un dertakings, but of nothing definite as to the future All talk of inland waterway usage in the great central valley for years has been coupled with expenditure of public money. Appropriations to pay for magnificent improvements have filled the imaginations, and dazzled the public, but very little practical good has come from any of these

The question is one of economics, purely Water flows in the rivers just as it has through the ages, and just as it did in the days when the screech of the steamboat whistle disturbed the silence of the primeval forests that have gone in their turn to join the steamboats. All these streams are as susceptible of navigation today as ever they were, but the railroad has taken the business, because it can give better service. Adjust commerce so that the rivers may bear their share of the work, and the steamboats will float

One of the greatest obstacles in the way of the proposed revival is that the main trade route is from east to west, while the rivers run from north to south. If the course of trade can be modified to meet this factor, the problem will be greatly simplified. Railroads just now are hampered by the greatly advanced cost of operation, and might welcome some relief, even the competition of water-borne freight, but so long as promoters hesitate about the establishment of a line of steamers between St. Louis and New Orleans, the outlook for the upper Missouri is not en couraging.

### Death Rate from Tuberculosis.

Death from tuberculosis is on the decline in the United States, at least that is the statement made by the medical officer of one of the largest of the insurance companies, who has just completed an exhaustive analysis of statistics on the point. This will be gratifying to all, for the campaign so energetically conducted against the "great white plague" has been participated in by the people of the whole country. In thirty-five American cities in 1906 the ratio of deaths from tuberculosis to each 100,000 population was 195, a figure that had fallen in 1916 to 146.8. In other words, forty-eight fewer people out of each 100,-000 die from tuberculosis now than did ten years ago. This appreciable gain will encourage the workers, to the end that in time the rate may be brought to a point where the scourge may be said

to be under control, Some interesting conclusions are drawn by the doctor from his survey of the figures. One of these is that religion has a direct influence on the prevalence of tuberculosis. He cites records of a study made at Buda-Pesth, which show the lowest death rate among the Jews, 20 per 10,000, as against 38.3 for Protestants and 45.4 for Catholics. Racial conditions as well as employment influence the disease; fewer Italian males die from tuberculosis than any of the races concerning which figures have been segregated; Russia, Austria-Hungary, Germany, United States and Ireand following in the order named. Among the females the lowest rate is among those born in Russia, with Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy, United States and Ireland following.

The figures for Omaha are not so encouraging as for the country at large, for while far below the average the local rate shows an increase in deaths from tuberculosis, having risen from an average of 94.4 for the 1911-15 period to 102.1 for 1916. This may be due to the fact that the proper allowance for the increase in Omaha's population has not been made.

## Painful Plea of Innocence.

The light of "pitiless publicity" recently turned on the looting of the Pere Marquette and the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railroad companies draws from the inner consciousness of Wall street a plea of "not guilty," tinged with pain. Wall street was not mentioned in the official indictment, but the street feared the worst and hastened to ward off the finger of suspicion, and for good and sufficient reasons. Wall street is the victim, not the perpetrator, of the job. If the case was reversed the street would remain discreetly silent, smothering criticism with the booty. As it stands silence is impossible while the pain of extraction lingers.

Ground floor details of the wrecking, supplied by the New York Financial World, shows that Cincinnati's coterie of railroad sharps unloaded the property on the house of Morgan for a bonus of \$12,000,000. Subsequently the Baltimore & Ohio system worked its pulmotor on the exploited properties and wasted several millions in the experiment. Precious few of Wall street's experts take in the Morgans and get away with the goods. Cincinnati turned the trick handily and got away with the loot. The barb of provincial superiority thus found the Wall street quick and fashioned the scream of innocence. A \$12,000,000 alibi leaves no room for challenges.

One branch of the Illinois legislature un animously adopted a resolution favoring self-government for Ireland and Poland. Meanwhile Chicago appeal for home rule gathers dust in legislative pigeonholes.

Von Bethmann-Hollweg is paying the penalty of failure to make good. A real victory for the German people doesn't lie in the direction of changing chancellors.

# Guarding Washington

By Frederic J. Haskin

Washington, May 11.—This is probably the only city in the United States where the war has worked a striking change in the appearance of things. The White House grounds, which have long been a public park, now are barred and are closely guarded, while to the White House itself, formerly hospitable to sightseers, none but the president's family and their accredited guests are admitted. Executive departments, which formerly hung out signs "no visitors admitted after 2 p. m.", now admit no visitors at all, while armed guards meet all comers at the door, and question them closely. Very different are these war time department guards from the sleepy doormen of a few months are. months ago.

The greatest change of all has come over the The greatest change of all has come over the War department. Formerly almost anyone could enter, and visitors and newspaper men strayed through the halls in droves. Now a written pass is necessary and every visitor is led to the official he wants to interview by a messenger, while sentries with rifles stand at intervals in the halls. Within the offices, there is such a rush of business and clatter of typing as never hefore, and the winand clatter of typing as never before, and the win-dows blaze with lights until early morning.

Nearly a thousand troops are engaged in the guarding of public works in and about Washington. The center of the system of guarding Washington is the metropolitan police department, under Major Raymond W. Pullman. With it are co-operating the District National Guard units, which have been mustered into government service, the investigating service of the Department of Justice, with its 400 trained operatives, the secret service, and the office of naval intelligence, which is a sort of naval detective force. A full quota of rifles is stored in every police precinct, and the department has 100,000 rounds of ammunition. A citizen home guard, similar to that in New York has been organized to take over the ordinary patrol work in case the police are called to other duty. Every point that could poscalled to other duty. Every point that could pos-sibly be considered vulnerable is closely guarded, while the three government detective services, which have their headquarters in Washington, make it possible immediately to follow any line of investigation which may suggest itself.

The greatest responsibility which falls Washington police is that of guarding the White House. While it is true that the secret service House. While it is true that the secret service is charged with guarding the body of the president, a large part of the responsibility for his safe-ty devolves upon the police; for the secret service has only a few men in his immediate presence, while the police department now has fifty-eight men in the White House and about its grounds. They are picked members of the force and some of them are invaluable for this particular work because of their mide acquaintages are applied.

of them are invaluable for this particular work because of their wide acquaintance among public men. Being able to identify cabinet officers and other government officials by sight, they save a great deal of delay in admitting these.

In addition to the policemen inside the White House and those that guard all the entrances to the grounds, a cordon of police is thrown around the high iron fence which separates the back of the White House grounds from Potomac park. These men are not visible to the public, and do not control the gates; they are there solely to prevent anyone from entering the White House grounds unseen.

In order to make the metropolitan police ade-

In order to make the metropolitan police adequate for its increased duties congress has granted it an increase of 100 men. So far, fifty of these have been employed. In order to maintain the high standard necessary for the capital city police force, 500 applicants were examined. Eighty-five of these were found eligible, and from this number the fifty men were chosen.

Washington police receive higher salaries than those of any except a few of the largest cities in the country, and this high rate of pay is necessary in order to secure the right type of men. For a Washington policeman has the most varied and unusual duties. The handling of sightseers, distinguished visitors, and cranks are all difficult details of the day's police work in Washington. tinguished visitors, and cranks are all difficult de-tails of the day's police work in Washington. There is probably no city in the country where it is more difficult to tell who is who. Senators who look like tramps, foreign diplomats who resemble strays from some of New York's foreign quarters, strangers of impressive bearing who turn out to be lunatics at large, are among the pitfalls in the path of the Washington policeman. He avoids them in part by being very polite to everyone, re-gardless of age, sex. color, or state of intoxication gardless of age, sex, color, or state of intoxication, A Washington drunk may be just a drunk, or he may be someone of importance relaxing from the cares of official life.

Again the Washington policeman must special-

Again the Washington policeman must specialize in giving directions. He will tell you exactly how to get where you want to go, and if he does not know he will look the matter up in a little book which he carries. This service is absolutely necessary, for while the plan of Washington is simple after you get used to it, the Mayday visitor than a small town finds it extended confusing. from a small town finds it extremely confusing.

In guarding the numerous government bu-reaus, the police department has been supple-mented by a special detail of the clerks of each bureau. These men have been put in uniform, given rifles, and placed under the direction of the given rifles, and placed under the direction of the police. There is no branch of the government service, no matter how unmilitary its character, which you may enter without encountering an armed man and a close questioning about your business. Nothing alarming has happened in Washington, and if caution and thoroughness can prevent it, nothing is going to happen.

# Fighting Sons of Noted Sires

A recent recruit in the navy is Wallace Leonce Farragut, great-grandson of Admiral Farragut. Quinton Roosevelt, youngest son of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, has enlisted in the signal

officers' reserve corps. Josephus Daniels, jr., the 23-year-old son of

Josephus Daniels, jr., the 23-year-old son of the secretary of the navy, has been accepted for service in the marine corps.

Franklin K. Lane, jr., son of the secretary of the interior, is a student at the United States army aviation school at Newport News.

Grant T. Stephenson, son of former United States Senator Isaac Stephenson of Wisconsin, is second officer of the torpedo boat destroyer Cas-sin.

Junius Spencer Morgan and Adrian Iselin, jr.

sons of two of America's greatest capitalists and financiers, have enlisted in the naval coast defense Richard M. Fairbanks, son of former Vice President Fairbanks, is among those enlisted for the officers training camp soon to be established at Fort Benjamin Harrison.

Two sons of Carter Glass, the "fighting" mem-ber of the Virginia congressional delegation, have passed examinations for commissions as captain in the officers' reserve corps.

n the officers' reserve corps.

Richard L. Hargraves, son-in-law of William

J. Bryan, former secretary of state, has tendered
his services to President Wilson in any capacity

his services to President Wilson in any capacity in which he may be able to serve.

Marshall Field, 3d, grandson of the famous Chicago merchant and rated as one of the richest young men in America, has taken steps to enlist as a private in the First Illinois cavalry.

Three sons of former Mayor Hempstead Washburne of Chicago and grandsons of Elihu B. Washburne, secretary of state in President Grant's first cabinet, have joined the colors.

Ulysses S. Grant, 3d, son of General Frederick D. Grant and grandson of President Grant, is a major of engineers in the regular army, and Ulysses S. Grant, 4th, son of Ulysses S. Grant, ir., and therefore also a grandson of President Grant, has enlisted as a private in a New York National Guard regiment. And among others who are likely "to carry the salute" to France are men bearing the names of Fitzhugh Lee, Philip H. Sheridan and Joseph Wheeler, as well as numerous other descendants of civil war soldlers on both sides.

Proverb for the Day. The better the day, the better the deed.

One Year Ago Today in the War.

Another Zeppelin reported destroyed off the coast of Norway. Preliminary trial of Sir Roger Case-ment for high treason was begun in London. President Poincare of France de-

clared Germany must ask peace and submit to terms of allies before war

### In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.

A photograph has been received by George Canfield of a pair of boots made by John Neary, a shoemaker, of North Platte, for Hon. William F. Cody. The feet are of the finest French patent leather. The design on the lower part of the leg is an oak and acorn. The lining is of orange silk and the legs of Spanish Morocco. All the fancy stitching is filled in with different colors of silk and satin. The American and English flags are set in American and English flags are set in relief upon a thistle at the top of the

leg.
The fire laddies of No. 2 have secured a substitute for the lamented "Keno" and have put him in active



training. The dog was given to the company by "Dutch Henry," the well known expressman. The celebrated Patrick farm, north-

The celebrated Patrick farm, northwest of the city was sold, the purchasers being Kansas City gentlemen. The deed read: "Eliza W. Patrick and John N. H. Patrick to Nathan D. Allen and S. L. Underwood." The area sold covers 615 acres and the consideration is \$615,000. It is announced that the purchasers intend to make of the farm a splendid addition to the city, platting a large portion of it out and making five streets.

J. A. Hannan of the B. & M. headquarters force has left for Rockford,

quarters force has left for Rockford, Ill., where he will be united in mar-riage with Miss Josephine Pendergast. Ed Mullen will follow Hannan and ar-Ed Mulien will follow Hannan and arrive in time to do the "best man" act.

G. F. Swift, the great Chicago packer, has arrived in the city with his assistants and architects, Messra.

E. Welles, S. Vankirk and H. C. Gardner, to look over the ground preparatory to erecting his large packing house.

### This Day in History.

1761—Samuel Dexter, secretary of war in the cabinet of President Adams, born in Boston. Died at Athens, N. Y., May 3, 1816. 1849-Insurrection in Baden, and flight of the grand duke from Caris-

flight of the grand duke from Caris-ruhe, 1862—Federals under McPherson occupied Jackson, Miss. 1866—Diplomatic correspondence between Austria and Prussia ceased and both powers prepared for war. 1884—Fourteen persons killed in a railroad collision near Connellsville, Pa.

l. 1886—German government issued a decree prohibiting political meetings being held without permission. 1889—North Dakota elected dele-gates to a convention to frame a state constitution.

constitution constitution.

1892—John S. Barbour, United
States senator from Virginia, died suddenly in Washington. Born in Cuipepper county, Virginia, December 29, 1820.

## The Day We Celebrate.

The Day We Celebrate.

Michael R. Murphy was born in Elgin, Ill., May 14 1860. He is now general manager of all the Cudahy plants and also a colonel on the governor's staff.

Ross B. Towle, president of D. J. O'Brien company, is celebrating his forty-second birthday. He is an Omaha born boy, educated in our public schools and graduated from Williams college. He is also interested in the Nebraska Fuel company which his father founded.

Jay A. Russell, manager of the Credit Clearing House collection agency, was born May 14, 1879 at Glenwood, Ia. He is a lawyer by profession.

Judge Alton B. Parker democratic

Judge Alton B. Parker, democratic nomines for president in 1984, born at Cortland, N. Y., sixty-five years ago today. today.

Hall Caine, famous novelist and playwright, born on the Esle of Man, sixty-four years ago today.

J. Donald Cameron, former panesers of pensevirania senior and secretary of

war under Grant, born at Middletown

war under Grant, born at Middletown, Pa., eighty-four years ago today. William Hale Thompson, the pres-ent mayor of Chicago, born in Bos-ton, forty-eight years ago today. Bishop Theodore S. Henderson of the Methodist Episcopal church, born at Milburn, N. J., forty-nine years ago today.

today.

Hila Spong, one of the well known actresses of the American stage, born in London, forty-two years ago today.

# Timely Jottings and Reminders.

Timely Jottings and Reminders.
Industrial problems arising from the war are to form the chief topic at the annual convention of the National Association of Manufacturers, opening today in New York.
The annual convention of the Natural Gas Association of America is to open today at Buffalo and will continue in session through the greater part of the week.
To prove the fitness of the Jefferson Highway for military purposes, a relay

Highway for military purposes, a relay run, in which several thousand auto-mobiles will participate, is scheduled to start from Winnipeg today for New Orleans Orleans.
The distinctive feature of the eighth

annual journalism week to open today at the University of Missouri will be a made-in-Japan banquet, planned by the School of Journalism of the uni-

the School of Journalism of the university with a view of promoting better relations between the United States and Japan.

Pursuant to the call of Governor Cornwell, the West Virginia legislature is to meet in special session today for the consideration of war measures, questions arising from the Virginia debt suit, legalizing the transfer of more than 200 acres of land in Charleston to the federal government for an armor plate plant, and the passage of appropriation bilis that failed through deadlock in the regular session.

## Storyette of the Day.

The young k-nut, unfit for general service, volunteered for work on the land. He went down to his father's "place" and began "farming." A friend passing that way spied him in leggins and Norfolk jacket striding across a wide stretch of moorland. He hailed him.
"Hallo Smutte!" he great as a service of the service of the

"Hallo, Smutty!" he cried as he came up. "What are you doing in this forsaken land?"
"Farming, I've gone back to the

"Any good at it?" grinned the friend.

riend.
"I should think so! See this pies
of moorland? Before I came it we
going to waste—no use at all; be
with a lot of work I've turned it int
a rippin' golf links."—New Yor
Globe.



Ak-Sar-Ben and the War.

Ak-Sar-Hen and the War.

Omaha, May 11.—To the Editor of
The Bee: I notice in your columns
a letter advocating the discontinuance
of the Ak-Sar-Ben initiations and
festivities this year, because of the
war. I do not agree with the writer.
We are entering on what will prove
to be a most trying time for our people. Our merchants and business men
generally, are confronting problems

men must furnish the sinews of war.
Our women must contribute their share to the glorious work. To do so effectually they must keep a sound mind in a healthy body. They must play goif, take all the outdoor pleasures possible. Relax their energies when work is over by attending Ak-Sar-Ben initiations and having a hearty laugh, remembering that "all work and no play, makes Jack a dull boy."

Keep your heads up men and women, and face the future with a smile. Be natural, be cheerful, and repeat frequently to yourself every day. "God is my hope and strength, and a very present help in time of trouble."

God bies our business men and give them strength to face the unknown future.

T. J. MACKAY.

God in the War.

God bin the War.

God bit the War.

Mich mon one with a correct conception of patriotism, will be guilty.

BERTHA GETZSCHMANN.

Note—Mrs. Getzschmann recently presented a twenty-foot flag to be rown has given three flags to the Fourth Nebrusska.

"How Would the Kaiser Vote?"

Omaha, May 12.—To the Editor of the Hee: When a member of the American congress is in doubt as to how he should vote on a pending measure it might be well for him to ask the question, "How would the kaiser vote if he were a member of this body."

Had the kaiser been a member of this body."

Had the kaiser been a member of this body."

initiations and naying a heartly laught remembering that "all work and no play, makes Jack a duil boy."

Keep your heads up men and women, and face the future with a smile. Be natural, be cheerful, and repeat frequently to yourself every day, "God is my hope and strength, and a very present help in time of trouble."

God bless our business men and give them strength to face the unknown future.

T. J. MACKAY.

God in the War.

Hancock, Ia., May 8.—To the Editor of The liese: I almost despair of the human family ever coming out of this war. The vague conception by orthodoxy of God is most intolerable, and yet not so had they charity for many other writers I see take an opposite view and loftior conception of God. By evolution we certainly advance if we do advance and not by any voluntary act of God. No good reason exists as proof of a voluntary act of God ever being performed. His creations are perfect, running without gas, oil, or repair. Man's inventions are imperfect, this auto needing gas, oil and repair. Had God ever voluntarily acted through man, we would long ere this have had perpetual motion. And they who belleve misst continue along the line of auto inventions are imperfect, this auto needing gas, oil and repair. Had God ever voluntarily acted through man, we would long ere this have had perpetual motion. And they who belleve misst continue along the line of auto inventions and invention of Jupiter or Zeus to do it for us. Then evolution will be advancing in the right direction. Everything that has been are men and never became great. Propher become true only to the benefit of the were a member of the war the record would undoubtedly appeared to a strength of the war the record would undoubtedly appeared to a strength of the were a member of the war the record would undoubtedly appeared to a strength of the were a member of the war the record would undoubtedly appeared to a strength of the were a member of the war the record would undoubtedly appeared to a strength of the were a member of the war the re

Omaha, May 8.—To the Editor of The Bee: There has been a great deal of complaint within the last few

The Bee: There has been a great deal of complaint within the last few days of the destruction wrought by English sparrows on gardens. They are not only accused of having eaten up lettuce and radishes, but have even destroyed tomato and cabbage plants that had been set out recently. They have not hurt my radishes any, but have eaten a part of my lettuce and peas. Then I had a large showing of carrots yesterday morning, but by evening not a carrot could be seen. As the sparrow is a wholly worthless bird and very destructive, as well as filthy around porches, it is time they were exterminated. They not only destroy, but they also bring lice and mites to little chickens and cause the death of countless chicks every year, for they always make themselves welcome with pouliry and in poultry yards. I would suggest that the boys of Omaha form elling shot squads and make a systematic effort to exterminate the sparrow. Many of them would soon become expert with a sing shot and would get a bird every time. It would be a lot of sport for the boys and they would be doing a service to people who want to raise services to

shot and would get a bird every time. It would be a lot of sport for the boys and they would be doing a service to people who want to raise gardens this year. But I would advise them to be careful and not kill any useful birds, like the robin, the blue bird, the wren, the thrush, the swallow. Sparrows seem unusually plentiful this year and boys with sling shots could find plenty of them to kill for some time to come.

Whenever I find any nesis of the sparrow. I destroy them as well as their eggs and their young. It is rather discouraging to make gardens, then have worthless birds like the sparrow destroy them. It is hoped that something will be done to destroy large numbers of the sparrow this year.

FRANK A. AGNEW.

Correction and Decleration.

## Correction and Declaration.

Omaha, May 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: I desire to correct a state; The Bee! I desire to correct a state, ment that appeared recently, to the effect that the Deborah Franklin club had passed a resolution at one of its recent meetings, barring flowers from their bridge luncheons. It has also been remarked that the passing of such a resolution was wrong, because it works a hardship on the florists. In answer to the second remark it is sufficient to say that there is no form of human wants, whether of necessaries or luxuries, which, if they cease suncient to say that there is no form of human wants, whether of necessaries or luxuries, which, if they cease to be satisfied, will not work to the detriment of those who supply those wants. But a conclusive reply to both statments is that neither of them is apropos, for the simple reason that never in all its history did the 'Deborah Franklin club give a bridge luncheon. Hence there could be no occasion for such a resolution.

The members of the club have been further criticized on the score of patriotism, because they, "while away" the afternoon at their meetings, according to the critic's idea, when we curtail our amusements we are making a patriotic sacrifice. This is indeed far from being correct. The true patriot conserves his energies so that they may be available in time

that they may be available in tim of need. Innocent amusement in due proportion to the duties of the day. is not only not wrong, but positively

the best means of maintaining a high standard of efficiency. I fear that we Americans have in fact been too much engrossed with the work and worry of life and have allowed ourselves too little respite from the strenuous duties of our calling. We consume our vital forces in our daily pursuits, from which almost all relaxation has been unwisely excluded; and when the solemn summons of the country comes to us in a national emergency like the present, our energies re gone, if indeed we have not, by the over-exertion of years, brought ourselves to an intimely grave, if we could learn this lesson of patriotism men like Herman Bucholz could be saved to the country.

The basts of this criticism of our

to be a most trying time for our people. Our merchants and business men generally, are confronting problems that are most distracting. No one knows what a day will bring forthe Men fear to make contracts for the future, every one is living as if on the brink of a volcano. Shall we add to this unsettled feeling, this feeling of dread as we look to the future, by closing all avenues of pleasure, among them the Ak-Sar-Ben, which furnishes an outlet for the pent up feelings of our nervous, distracted citizens. It would be the worst policy imaginable. There never was a time in our history when men needed "a time to laugh and a time to play" as they do today.

We who stay at hame have a work to do equally as important as those who go to the front. Our business men must furnish the sinews of war. Our women must contribute their share to the glorious work. To do so effectually they must keep a sound effectually they must keep a sound for the particular of the fag: to fact the saved to the country.

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Measure yourself up and decide on which side of the Atlantic you rightly belong.

C. F. McGREW,

"The doctor has just told me," said the dendly neighbor, "that you husbard can-

recently neighbor, "that you husband can-not recover," "Oh!" shricked the troubled wife. "Now, my dear, the question is: Shall we break the news to him or let death come as a surprise to him?"—Detroit Free Press. 



# THE OMAHA BEE INFORMATION BUREAU

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