

THE OMAHA BEE

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Last call for June brides! All aboard!
Easing the strain on the coal pile looks good, even in summer.

Second installment on Liberty bond payments is due. Watch the money roll in.
Put into practice what you learned at the canning school and you will have your garden in your pantry next winter.

Newspapers mailed in London June 15 reached Omaha June 28. Evidently the subsea campaign accelerates full speed ahead.
Judged by the record so far, it is clear Dad Waterman's patriotism outshines that of Auditor Smith as service outshines shouting.

Remarkable as it may seem, complaint comes from Lincoln of a shortage in supply of Fourth of July orators. What has become of all our patriotic wind-jammers?
Persons who purchase medicine from door-to-door peddlers at any time are inviting trouble. If anything is wrong with you, take no chances on tinkering with your ailments.

The bench of the District of Columbia may not be as long as that of the Eighth Judicial district, but it is just as wide, and the title of chief justice sounds a lot better than just plain "judge."
Twenty-four women and forty-two children swell the total of dead, due to the latest German air raid over London. This brings the total score for "kultur" up about as high as it ought to get.

Coal Operator Moderwell told a senate committee that mine owners are selling coal at from 200 to 300 per cent profit. The cut of from \$1 to \$5 a ton then hardly ranks as a major surgical operation.
Omaha is approaching the glorious Fourth with least hubbub noted in many years. If the noise repression is only maintained till the day arrives most folks will try to put up with a little on Wednesday.

Just Between Ourselves.
Omaha is distinctly disappointed at having the army cantonment for this district located at Des Moines without even considering the immeasurably superior advantages which a site in proximity to our city would offer.

But let us not deceive ourselves as to contributing conditions. Let us face the obvious fact that Omaha has fallen down chiefly because of failure again of our United States senator at Washington to stand up for his own home town. Our senator has taken the high and lofty attitude that these matters of army organization should be determined not only free from outside pressure (which is perfectly proper), but also without even permitting the relative merits of different localities to be presented by those who really know them and can furnish the vitally necessary information.

So we have the beautiful spectacle of Omaha, with all its double-track main line railroads, with its inviting military headquarters building waiting to be used, with its capacious army quartermaster's supply warehouses, with its costly army post property at Fort Crook, with its rifle range at Ashland, with its unsurpassed facilities for furnishing provisions and other supplies, with its magnificent hospital and medical equipment, passed by without a look-in, in favor of a one-track branch-line town. Thus we have repeated the unpleasant experience that sent two federal reserve banks to Missouri because our senator was so "in bad" with the administration that his boast for Omaha would be a knock and which we almost encountered again with the farm loan bank when he refused to take any stand at all.

Board of Mediation Stays on the Map.
The refusal of Judge Leslie to annul the State Board of Mediation by sustaining the attorney general's contention that it is without constitutional warrant keeps that body on the map. The peculiar nature of the board and its limitation as to function render its existence one of possible great service to the public.

Can We Win Through the Air?
Great efforts to increase the air-fighting equipment of the American army are now under way and favorable action by congress on bills looking to this end is being anticipated as far as wisdom will permit. This branch of our fighting force has been no more neglected than other elements of the army and navy.

Whether we can win through the air is not fully established, but it is certain we cannot win unless we do control the air. The importance of aviation to the army is fully established, but Europe's experience so far has shown the decisive fighting must take place on the ground. The air scouts locate the armed forces, report on their movements and assist in the direction of great operations on either side, and in the campaigns in the present war have been valuable beyond measure.

One-Idea Reformers Hamper Preparations.
The United States is faced with a serious undertaking in its preparations for the war. Negligence and indifference to a dangerous situation, extending over a long period of years, must now be remedied by the most vigorous activity the whole nation is capable of.

Speeding Up Freight Trains
The Illinois Central during the last month is said to have broken all railroad records in moving all freight cars on its lines an average of forty-two miles a day. This is compared with an average of twenty-five miles for all other roads and an average considered practically by the Interstate Commerce commission of thirty miles for all roads.

Syrians to Fight for Syria

Washington, June 27.—An army of Syrians who live in America, many of whom are American citizens, fighting for the freedom of Syria and for Arabian nationalism under the French flag is one of the strangest and most interesting spectacles which this war of all nations and races may bring forth.

Syria is at present a land sorely beset. Since the war began, the Turks, whom the Syrians hate with a profane hatred, have been trying in every possible way to Ottomanize Syria. They have executed the Syrian leaders and intellectuals, the priests of the Syrian Christian churches. They have put off the flow of foodstuffs to Syria and especially to Lebanon. Women and children in Syria are dying of hunger, although there is abundance close at hand.

Recently a chance to fight for Syria has been tentatively offered to Syrians all over the world. France is the European nation which has been most interested in Syria. A very thorough protectorate over that country is one thing it hopes to win in the war, and one of the very best ways to make that protectorate effective would be to invade Syria and oust the Turks. But France is low in man power. So it has sent out word to the Syrians in all parts of the world that if they will enlist in the cause it will invade Syria and drive out the Turks. The concentration movement has already begun. Thousands of Syrians are gathering on the island of Cyprus in the Mediterranean, which is controlled by Great Britain.

Toward that growing camp of Syrians, bent on revenge for wrongs that are centuries old and wrongs that are growing day by day, the thoughts of the young Syrians in America are turning. In one little midwestern city that contains 1,100 Syrians, 650 have declared themselves ready to go. But now that the conscription bill has passed, they are all potential recruits for the American army, and could not obtain passports to leave the country, except by a special dispensation.

There is reason to believe that special dispensation will be made. Within a week or so a delegation of prominent Americans of Syrian descent are expected to call at Washington and formally ask of the administration that Syrians of military age be allowed to leave this country to fight for liberty and the rights of small nations, in Syria, under the French flag. The attitude of the government has already been sought by some Syrians in Washington and New York, and they assert that it is favorable. They look upon a Syrian army to invade Syria, under the French flag, as a fact almost sure of accomplishment.

For many years Germany has been striving to gain the trade of Syria and Mesopotamia by one of those systematic campaigns of commerce and banking which the Germans have reduced to a science. What the Levant means to Germany is thus expressed by a prominent German Orientalist:

"The Levant is the only territory in the world which has not been monopolized by the great powers." If Germany does not miss its opportunity to seize it before the Cossacks crowd out their hands in that direction it will have the best share in the division of the world.

As to the Syrian himself, he aspires to some sort of freedom for his country. Many Syrians are partisans of the Arabian nationalist movement, which has resulted in widespread revolt against the Turks. Probably most of them hope for some kind of autonomy for their country. Realizing that in a world of land-hungry powers this autonomy can only be had under some sort of a protectorate, they are willing to accept a French protectorate, because the French have treated them well. The greatest object is to drive out the Turks.

The American Syrians who go to fight for Syria will be fighting for liberty and for the rights of small nations and they will be fighting for a land which they love. They have left that country for many reasons, but their imaginations dwell upon it lovingly. They delight to tell you of its wonderful climate, of its rich fields and orchards and the lonely vastness of the desert. A people having the serenity and patience of the Orient in their blood, their faces darken and they talk hoarsely when telling how the Turks have starved and wronged their beloved land. Something of their feeling, set forth with the mental wealth of imagery, is in this poem, which was written by a Syrian poet who lives in America—Amin Mishrik—translated by Mary C. Holmes. The poet apostrophizes his native land:

"I shall return soon to defend thee with my right arm, my oppressed beloved one. I shall come in vengeance upon the spoilers of the daughters of princes. Thy torn robe is ever before my eyes. Thy blood-stained feet are as thorns in my breast. I shall come to crush the enemies who degrade the daughters of the mighties. In my breast have grown, in my veins everlasting rage. I am a hell of retaliation into whose billows of flame, thy enemies shall be cast.

"We shall soon meet, O beloved—O place of my dreams and pivot of my thoughts—O my beloved Syria."

TO DAY

Proverb of the Day.
Domestic infelicity is a thorn in the flesh.

One Year Ago Today in the War.
Italians started vigorous offensive on the Isonzo.
Roger Casement condemned to death for high treason.
Russians in great battle near Kolomoj took over 10,000 Austrian prisoners.

Russian Duma passed bill permanently prohibiting sale of liquor other than light wines.
In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.
Lem Graham, one of the best known actors in the country, has arrived in this city. He is now figuring on the scenic work which is to be placed in the exposition building.



on which she won \$150 in a lottery a year before. The money was sent by express, forming a large bundle, and the cost of sending it was \$180.

The Board of Public Works has declared certain lots in E. V. Smith's and Horbach's first and second additions, numbered and ordered the filling of the same. These lots in the main about upon the old creek a short distance northwest of the bridge on Eighteenth street. The bridge will be torn down as soon as the lots are filled.

This Day in History.
1775—Committee of safety appointed, with Benjamin Franklin as president.
1777—British under General Howe evacuated New Jersey, crossing to Staten Island.
1815—United States signed a treaty of peace with Algiers.

1849—Rear Admiral George F. Pearson, U. S. N., a naval officer of remarkable ability and patriotism, died at Portsmouth, N. H. Born at Exeter, N. H., in 1789.

1903—More than 200 lives lost in an explosion in a coal mine near Hanna, Wyo.
1916—President Wilson delivered a speech in New York, stating his attitude with regard to war with Mexico.

The Day We Celebrate.
Dr. A. J. Foster, the dentist, was born June 30, 1872, at Monmouth, Ill. He graduated from the Ohio college and practiced at Pawnee City, later at Washington, Ia., and in London, England, before locating in Omaha.

Brigadier General Alfred Mordecai, U. S. A., retired, born in Philadelphia, seventy-seven years ago today.
Lord Escher, for many years a prominent figure in English public life, born in London, sixty-five years ago today.

Timely Jottings and Reminders.
The government ends its fiscal year today.
Cardinal Gibbons today completes six years as priest and thirty-one years as a cardinal.

South Dakota climbs on the water-wagon at midnight tonight, by virtue of the prohibition amendment adopted at the last general election.
The time limit fixed by the government for raising the regular military forces to the full quota provided by the law will expire today.

Storyteller of the Day.
We had a friend who had been pretty prosperous, but who came upon evil days. We met him one day and he said that he was pretty close to being busted, but he was still hoping. Then he honked his horn, mournfully, and drove away, and we didn't see him again till the other day when we bumped into him on the street.

"Hello, old scout," he said. "How are things breaking now?"
"Fine," he answered. "I'm on my feet again."
"Really?" we exclaimed. "How did you do it?"
"Sold my car."

The joke was so obvious that we didn't see it till after he had gone—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Bee's Letter Box

Mickle Marks Why to Save.
Omaha, June 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: A man whose I work was telling me about a piece in Collier's Weekly this week criticizing the last letter that I wrote to The Bee. So I went up to the public library and read it.

I don't know what the editor means by saying Mrs. Mickle's hands are still unreddened with my blood. Mrs. Mickle would not commit murder even if she does act up sometimes. I soon show who's boss in my house.

I can tell that Collier's editor some other ways to cut down the cost of living. I got a large piece of ground next to my house this spring and now it is all in garden truck. My four children do the work instead of loafing around and getting into mischief.

Each one has a certain amount to take care of and they are working there from morning to night. Even the youngest, 10 years old, does his bit. My wife and two oldest children spaded it up. I laid it out and showed them how to do it. My oldest daughter has left home and works in a factory and, in spite of all I could do, she boards at a boarding house when she ought to be boarding at home and paying her board money here.

Every evening I look over the garden and point out where it can be improved. Though I am tired after my day's work, I consider it my duty to do this. I sit and smoke where I can watch them at work and offer suggestions.

I have already sold \$18.45 worth of truck. My children sell it from door to door within six blocks of home. The nearby neighbors won't buy from us because they are too mean and are always talking about the way we live. They are busybodies who don't even own their own homes and I could buy and sell any of them.

Our own table is bountifully supplied with the vegetables that aren't good enough to sell.
I keep the children interested by offering a prize. I am going to take the one who sells the most garden truck in the month of June to a moving picture show. Also the same prize will be offered in July and August. This gives them real interest in the work.

If some of these other people that are always grumbling about the high cost of living would use a little common sense and get to work they would own their homes and have money in the bank like I have. The only trouble is they haven't got enough sense to do it. I know because I've got a lot of these old croakers living right around me. Always sticking their noses into my business and telling who don't ought to run my family.

A Rejoinder.
Omaha, June 29.—To the Editor of The Bee: Permit me to "come back" in the same fraternal spirit as Brother Haynes. I am glad he knew of whom I was speaking in referring to a "publicity expert." I have not the slightest fear of anything which Brother Haynes may introduce respecting the principles of single tax, nor of the presumed attacks upon its operation in western Canada. Though everybody knows, who knows anything about it, that the amount of single tax in western Canada is but a partial makeshift for it, still I am willing to meet every truthful statement that may be made against its limited application there. I am devoted to no error, nor am I willing to discard single tax or any other principle I hold, the moment conclusive proof is furnished that it is erroneous. No man can afford to be wrong.

As to any reference to western Canada, however, it must be remembered that in those cities and provinces they have absolute home rule in tax matters. If the people there really believed what these foes of equitable taxation attempt to show they would overthrow the system at once. That they do not overthrow it is sufficient proof of the falsity of the statements made by Brother Haynes and the interests he serves.

There is another element that must be considered by any one wishing to be fair in making comparisons of figures between Canadian provinces and American. Let us remember that Canada, as a part of the British empire, has been at war for three years while the United States has not.

The average person may not stop to think that there is a relation between taxation and tuberculosis. Let me show it. Haskin's letter in The Bee of this issue shows the deplorable state that France is in with respect to this disease. He shows that even before the war, France suffered to an unusual degree from the plague. He shows that the Americans over there undertook to show that fresh

air was essential to its successful control. He adds that the French are learning this fact, and that "windows are being sawed in hundreds of peasant homes which boasted none before the war." What has that to do with taxation? Read Higo's masterpiece, "Les Miserables," and you will see this relation. He shows that France taxed the peasants in the homes of the peasants and even the city population. The people, to escape the tax, closed up their windows and new houses were built with as few as possible. Anyone can therefore see the relation between this disease and taxation. It has only been of recent years that France has seen the wisdom of repealing these stupid laws.

Let us hope that it will not be long before the American people see the wisdom of repealing equally stupid laws. Then we shall see even Brother Haynes become the publicity agent of the new crusade. For even he shall see, that if taxes upon windows close them up, and thereby a nation becomes diseased from lack of fresh air, so must a tax upon enterprise discourage it, a tax upon clothes make a people naked, a tax upon food make them hungry, a tax upon morals and education make them vicious and ignorant.

No argument and no citations of doctored facts will ever succeed in convincing any fair-minded man that it is right for government to take from the people what their own labor has produced while at the same time leaving in private pockets those revenues which society itself produces. A nation in control of its own destiny must attempt to show that today, in the government's extremity, it is right to tax the food and clothing of the people, while leaving \$10,000,000 in land values free from all taxation in support of the federal government.

L. J. QUINBY.

THE YELLOW PERIL.
A saucy little chap,
In flaming yellow cap,
Comes uninvited to our very doors to hide,
And he will not go away,
Nor in how stern and angry tones of voice he chide.

This ill-unwelcome guest—
This little yellow pest,
In flaming yellow cap,
He brings his friends and cousins,
In singles and by dozens,
And in countless thousands they encamp on our estate.

Our velvet laws are dotted,
The very landscape spotted,
Until our sleep is haunted by dancing yellow,
There's just one way to beat him,
We must dig him up and eat him,
And until countless cousins, in dandelion greens!

—ADELLE LOVINOY CURRIER, St. Edward, Neb.

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