

THE OMAHA BEE

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

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If the Canadians hold the key to Lens, watch them turn the bolt.
Dan Cupid's recruiting office experiences little trouble in getting fighting volunteers.

We did not think it would ever be necessary to warn a soldier not to rock the boat.

It seems that Omaha took on some glooms as well as some joys when we annexed all those suburbs.

Saving one pound of flour per person a week, we are told, means millions of bushels released to win the war. Go to it!

Robert S. Lovett ought to make a good fuel dictator if he can boss that job as well as he has the Union Pacific railroad.

Tourists returning from the west say the successors to the old-fashioned road agents are now running summer resort hotels.

Down at Lincoln they are talking now of really enforcing the Albert law. And after all the bricks Lincoln has heaved at Omaha!

Fellows who are holding up potato prices had better prepare for a slide if the appearance of Nebraska "spud" patches means anything.

As an evidence of Mexico's undiminished esteem for the United States the country stands ready to accept an American loan on terms of mutual profits.

Concentration of recruits in training camps is proceeding at a rate that gives a more realistic tinge to the war game. Playtime for our soldier boys is about over.

Douglas county gets off with an increase of only \$140,000 in its annual contribution to the state treasury. There is not enough glory in the figures to stretch to the county assessor's office.

Juncker organs speak of the "ungrateful Poles" and the "irredeemable Belgians." No wonder. Both nationalities have been forcibly inoculated with "kultur" and live only to hate their oppressors.

Omaha is year by year and day by day attracting more and more out-of-town visitors. It is up to us of Omaha to show the stranger within our gates by our hospitality that he is a welcome guest.

If the Associated Press strictly enforced its property right in its news against news pirating a lot of newspapers throughout the country would drop out of sight, including one right here in Omaha.

When the German war office admits a retirement of the crown prince's army it may be safely assumed the French are gaining ground around Verdun. In other words, "nach Verdun" is working in the back motion.

Amid all the crash of thrones and toppling of dynasties nothing is more impressive than the presence of the \$20 hog. His new majesty can give any of his rivals several points and beat them out in the game of imperious exclusiveness.

Just by way of information for people who are confused on the subject in Nebraska, there is no recall of elective state, judicial, county or school officers. Our recall law applies only to city officers. Neither is there any recall of United States senators.

Omaha merchants are this week exemplifying what they really practice fifty-two weeks in each year—hospitable efforts to entertain their patrons and make their visits to Omaha both pleasant and profitable. And the visitors are realizing, too, that the title of "Market Town" was not lightly bestowed.

The virtue of consistency has never had much standing in Germany, and the German press therefore offers no apology for a sudden change in the policy which first sneered at and minimized America's participation in the war, but which now rages impatiently against the embargo on shipments to neutrals. It is but a short time since the kaiser and his press agents were advising the German people that America's entry into the war would have no appreciable effect; that the American army existed merely on paper, and that neither the money nor the measures of this country would influence the war to the slightest degree.

Within the past few weeks, however, the German press has been printing scathing articles on America's export measures. President Wilson's methods are described as "brutal." The United States is charged with starving the little neutrals. Undoubtedly Germany discusses "the violation of international law" by America. According to the characteristic German argument, international law requires the United States to furnish food and munitions to the enemies of the United States so that they may crush the allies and America. Germany's slaughter of the innocents upon the high seas, its attacks upon hospital ships and other atrocities are painted as necessary military measures, while the American embargo is described by the German press as the greatest atrocity of all time.

If Germany is so solicitous of the little neutrals, why did it murder Belgium? Why do its submarines murder Norwegian seamen and Dutch fishermen?

Some patriots are willing to fight when they pick out the place where the fighting is to be done. Some patriots won't go abroad to fight. They are the latter patriots. The country knows where its duty lies. This government knows best whether its honor is to be defended abroad.

Let us challenge all to be true Americans. If they are not true Americans they have not the right of the protection of the flag nor the protection of the honor this country gives them. Put them on transports and send them to China or Japan or whatever country they want to go to.

Soldiers of the United States, congratulate you. You can stand forward when your country called. It is a glorious privilege to be a soldier of America. The great pride of a country is the valor of its citizens. You do your share. We who stay at home will do ours. Never waver; never flinch. Your duty is valor and obedience; valor even to the loss of life, but come back to us with the flag held in triumph.

I wish you of the new army of Liberty to fight like they did in 1861. I was a chaplain in that war. I know what a soldier suffers, but your forefathers are looking down on you and you must do your duty. Go where you are sent.

I always honor the uniform of the soldier. Those who serve their country are honorable citizens. Those who shirk are not doing their duty. Let America tell the world of the valor of its men. After the war let neither friend nor foe question America's valor or what it has done. Never forget your double allegiance—allegiance to the Star Spangled Banner and the banner of Our Savior. Let the banner of your country should be flung in defeat it would be the greatest disaster.

The locality chosen for the retirement of Nick Romanoff once more illuminates "the eternal fitness of things." In the days of his power and glory the ex- czar regarded Siberia as the empire's choicest spot for experiment in reform and eradicating mental illusions. The atmosphere is unchanged and Nicholas may enjoy its bracing reform vigor without endangering the supply.

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Come Down from the Clouds.
Expert advice is all very well in its way and in its place, but expert advice can also be overdone. We have a fine example in the school survey which has just been made for Omaha by a professional expert engaged at a high price to point out to us the shortcomings of our public schools and their physical equipment and to tell us how to bring them up to requirements. The expert has given the school board an exhaustive report, containing many things they already knew and a few things they did not before know, together with recommendations for them to carry out immediately, if not sooner. The trouble with these recommendations is that they are laid down for a city with limitless financial resources, but not for a city like Omaha, that has to count the cost and has other pressing demands all the time almost equally important. To tell us we must undertake at once a school-building program involving several millions just when we are already completing a building program costing one million is certainly speeding us up pretty fast. We have also had imported experts for other departments of our city government, but it is a question whether we could not have spent the money to better advantage. In the meantime we are accumulating several pigeon holes full of fine-sounding reports and enticing prospectuses.

Germany and the Pope's Proposal.
The reception accorded the peace message from the Vatican in Germany was much the same as given it elsewhere. Division of sentiment there is yet sharp along lines of conquest. Annexationists pretend to look upon themselves as victors in the war and demand the full extent of their program. Socialists dislike the phase of the proposal that would leave them with no substantial gain at home and are outwardly inclined to break off the arrangement that gave Dr. Erzberger his present ascendancy in the Reichstag. The note is accepted as explaining some of the things Erzberger hinted at in his cryptic utterances, but not as showing the way to acceptable peace.

Austria finds considerable reason to object because of the tone of the note as to a future settlement with Italy. While Poland is set outside the immediate adjustments and left for later consideration and nothing is mentioned of Bohemia, Austro-Hungarians exceedingly dislike the implication that Italy's aspirations are to be realized through negotiations. Trentino was offered Italy before its entry into the war, but Trieste was then, as now, beyond the intention of Austrian concession. As both these powers are bent on having possession of the same territory, the proposal made that settlement be left to adjustment suits neither for the present.

The whole situation indicates surface rigidity that does not hold much of promise in the way of immediate approach to peace. Discussion of terms by the Central Powers will continue along lines that mean advantage to them so long as no greater change is made in the battle fronts. Withdrawal of the Russians and successes in Roumania have assured the kaiser and his leaders of at least a postponement of ultimate defeat and encourage them to hold out for a better bargain even than that suggested by his holiness, the pope. The war party in Germany is not ready to accept any form of settlement based on the status quo ante bellum, while the peace party cannot ask for more. Therefore peace must yet wait on developments in the field.

Extending an Experiment.
A list of names announced in connection with the application of the food administration law is strongly suggestive of a convention of any one of several organizations that meet periodically to discuss economic questions, but never settle anything. Director Hoover, in launching the experiment of which he is head, has evidently determined to extend it to the utmost and accordingly has called to his assistance a galaxy of talent whose names are well known to Americans as those of persons busy with abstruse propositions, though seldom approaching the concrete. The willingness of these to serve will not be questioned, nor their ability, demonstrated as it has been along various lines. The task will be to secure harmony of action. If Mr. Hoover succeeds in "dictating" to his associates he will have accomplished more even than in attaining real efficiency in the administration of the food and fuel supply. Results can be achieved only through submergence of personal views and giving support without question to a capable leader and this does not seem possible with the group selected by Mr. Hoover. It looks like another army of generals, and, if so, here, as always, "too many cooks spoil the broth."

Good Example of Nathan Straus.
In declining to accept at this time a memorial tendered him, Nathan Straus has afforded a further good example for his countrymen. This man is noted throughout the world for his benefactions, chief of which is the furnishing of ice and milk to the poor of New York. Now he asks those who would compliment him that they divert the means they would thus employ to the relief of the war sufferers and allow any expression of appreciation of his work to stand over until "happier days have again come." As a glimpse at the man this simple act is illuminative. As a bit of true patriotism it is characteristic, for Nathan Straus has already recorded himself in New York by word and deed in favor of now giving all to the prosecution of the war for justice. He has thus built for himself in the hearts of those who know about him a monument more enduring than any statue that might be cast of bronze or cut from stone. Service to the helpless is man's best work and here it has been well done.

Shall the country abandon Hawaiian dances during the coming season and substitute the Chinese toodle? Pedal sentiment on this esthetic movement appears chaotic. Even the master minds of the art perspicuous are perplexed and will seek the answer in an extraordinary session of dancing masters. Now that China is an active ally of the forces of civilization, patriotism suggests that toodle be introduced to occidental society and given a merry whirl.

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The Neglected Tropics
By Frederic J. Haskin

Washington, Aug. 18.—The tropics are to take an increasingly important part in the work of feeding the world, according to agricultural experts of the government, and it is important that American money be put to use in the tropics for new homes. Americans with technical training, and American statesmen should acquaint themselves with the opportunities that the tropical possessions of the United States have to offer. The Philippine islands, American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, Porto Rico, the Canal Zone and our three new islands recently purchased from Denmark make up a considerable tropical area. It is not, however, nearly so vast as the American ignorance concerning it.

The agricultural labor in this country is becoming scarce. Americans of the kind who want to develop new countries must go outside of the continental United States in search of them—many have gone to Canada and Mexico. We use enormous quantities of tropical products, most of which we buy at high prices; tea, coffee, tobacco and rubber are only a few of the better known ones. Other nations are developing their tropical possessions at a great rate. England, Germany, France and Belgium are making money out of their colonies in Africa. They have reduced tropical agriculture to a science and have mastered the difficult art of dealing with the natives. Yet in the United States only one worth while book on tropical agriculture has been printed, and in congress there is a strong sentiment in favor of getting rid of the Philippines, while projects for their development do not occupy much more space in the record than the improvement of one creek in the south where there is fairly good cat fishing, but no traffic except in rowboats.

It is no wonder that Americans have not poured into the American tropics; that there is a strong popular tendency to regard them as a liability rather than an asset. The American does not go to our tropical possessions because he does not know, very often, what or where they are; because he believes them to be extremely unhealthy and uncomfortable; and because he does not know what he might do for a living after he got there, and cannot find much reliable information upon that point in his own country.

The general truth is that the tropics offer splendid opportunities for large capital, good ones for men of technical training in agriculture and chemistry especially; limited ones for men with small capital, and almost none for labor. With its long-growing season, the tropical part of the world ought to be a poor man's paradise. He can raise vastly more upon less land than elsewhere; food is easier to get and fuel presents no problem at all. In fact, it is easy to live in the tropics, but hard to make money. The great majority of tropical natives in the less crowded countries live from large off the main, the cane field, or the transportation as well as the banana plantation, can make large profits. Even so, many of the large profits made in tropical countries are only profits upon the exploitation of labor. The Porto Rican peon who does a dollar's worth of labor for 60 cents is putting 40 cents into the pocket of the corporation.

The need for large capital and organization has been met by some Americans by acting in cooperation. There are co-operative colonies of American farmers in Porto Rico and Cuba which are very prosperous. But the thing that is needed is intelligent study of problems of land, taxation and local government in all of our tropical possessions, and in those, like Santo Domingo, where responsibility for the welfare of the native people has devolved upon us. The tropics should afford an ideal opportunity for the man who has a little money and wants to own a home and productive land.

For many generations the real guarantee of American freedom was our great public lands, from which any man could take what he needed to make him a householder and an owner of real property. Now all of this land has become private property, and there remain millions who own nothing and have little prospect of owning anything. All of our industrial and social problems spring from the existence of this exploited class, which is constantly growing. It is to the interest of all classes and parties, of capital no less than of labor, to make the United States once more a country where every man has not only the right to cast a vote, but a fair chance to own real property. This can be done in part by breaking up great private lands which are held in this country for speculative purposes. It can also be done by making it possible and profitable for our tropical lands to be taken up in small tracts. It takes 160 acres of average land in this country to support a family, but in many parts of the tropics ten acres have enough productive power to do so, if only economic conditions are made such that the small farmer can realize a fair return upon his labor and investment.

Patriots and Patriots
Archbishop John Ireland
(Addressing Soldiers at Fort Snelling)

Some patriots are willing to fight when they pick out the place where the fighting is to be done. Some patriots won't go abroad to fight. They are the latter patriots. The country knows where its duty lies. This government knows best whether its honor is to be defended abroad.

Let us challenge all to be true Americans. If they are not true Americans they have not the right of the protection of the flag nor the protection of the honor this country gives them. Put them on transports and send them to China or Japan or whatever country they want to go to.

Soldiers of the United States, congratulate you. You can stand forward when your country called. It is a glorious privilege to be a soldier of America. The great pride of a country is the valor of its citizens. You do your share. We who stay at home will do ours. Never waver; never flinch. Your duty is valor and obedience; valor even to the loss of life, but come back to us with the flag held in triumph.

I wish you of the new army of Liberty to fight like they did in 1861. I was a chaplain in that war. I know what a soldier suffers, but your forefathers are looking down on you and you must do your duty. Go where you are sent.

I always honor the uniform of the soldier. Those who serve their country are honorable citizens. Those who shirk are not doing their duty. Let America tell the world of the valor of its men. After the war let neither friend nor foe question America's valor or what it has done. Never forget your double allegiance—allegiance to the Star Spangled Banner and the banner of Our Savior. Let the banner of your country should be flung in defeat it would be the greatest disaster.

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Proverb for the Day.
It is a poor rule that won't work both ways.

One Year Ago Today in the War.
Tremendous cannonade continued on Somme front. Vigorous assault on Fleury at Verdun repulsed by the French.

Revere tributes in the Balkans, with British, French and Serbs attacking the Bulgarians at all points.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.
Dan O'Leary, the pedestrian, passed through this city on his way to St. Joseph, Mo.

The observed of all observers at Boyd's opera house was a company of officers in full uniform from Fort



Omaha giving a farewell party in honor of Lieutenant Wilson, who leaves for Fort Leavenworth.

While Frank Edwards, the 14-year-old son of Edward Edwards of Omaha View, was investigating a brand new pistol of the buldog pattern, the weapon was discharged and the ball entered the calf of the right leg, traveling with a downward course and coming out in the right side of the foot below the ankle.

Dr. Rutherford was summoned and found the ball in the young man's stocking.

A resolution was passed by the county commissioners for the erection of a flag staff and the purchase of a flag for the court house.

C. Havens & Co. has been awarded the contract for soft coal for the county at \$3.74 per ton, while the Nebraska Fuel company obtained the award for hard coal, the price being \$9.10 for grate and \$5.30 for stove.

A burglar entered Wilson's boarding house, corner Twelfth and Jones, and invaded the room of A. P. Nyberg, carrying off his valise, containing a pocketbook, \$22, a pocket knife, tobacco case and other articles.

Sumner F. Atkins, more familiarly known as "Saz," died at his room, 1311 Davenport. He was one of the oldest mechanics connected with the Union Pacific shops.

This Day in History.
1784—Enos T. Throop, governor of New York, 1828, born at Johnstown, N. Y. Died at Auburn, N. Y., November 1, 1874.

1808—English and Portuguese allies defeated the French at battle of Vimiera, which decided the fate of Portugal.

1821—General William Barksdale, noted confederate commander, born in Rutherford county, Tennessee. Killed at Gettysburg, July 2, 1863.

1863—Bombardment of Charleston, S. C., by the federals.

1891—The French and British fleets were reviewed by Queen Victoria off Spithead.

1908—Prussian government granted to women the privilege of higher education.

1910—A decisive battle was won by the revolutionists in Nicaragua.

1915—M. Venizelos again became premier of Greece.

The Day We Celebrate.
Frank B. Hochstetler, president of the Wright & Wilhelm company, is celebrating his fifty-ninth birthday. He was born in Nebraska City, a family of Nebraska pioneers and came to Omaha with Rector & Wilhelm company in 1883.

Jack Sharp is 41 today. He is an Omaha-born boy and is secretary and treasurer of the Omaha Transfer company.

Samuel A. Houser was born in Iowa and is just 30 years old today. He is founder and president of the Omaha Taxicab company.

Jake Mitchell, manager of the Laemmle Film company, was born August 21, 1875. Erie Pa., was his birthplace.

James B. Gambrell, president of the Southern Baptist convention, born at Anderson, S. C., seventy-six years ago today.

Henry Tucker Graham, who has resigned the presidency of Hamilton and Sidney college, born at Winchester, Va., fifty-two years ago today.

Frank A. Munsey, well known publisher and financier, born at Mercer, Me., sixty-three years ago today.

Frank C. Murphy, champion American chess player, born in New York City, forty years ago today.

Frank Isbell, president and manager of the Wichita Western league base ball club, born at Delaware, N. Y., forty-two years ago today.

Timely Jottings and Reminders.
The Irish convention is scheduled to resume its sessions in Dublin today.

The Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists meets in annual convention today in New York City.

The annual parade, the big, spectacular feature of the national Grand Army of the Republic encampment, will be held in Boston today.

The annual convention of the Order of Scottish Clans of the United States and Canada is to be entertained at Hartford, Conn., during the three days beginning today.

The war and its effect on credits is to be a leading topic of discussion at the annual convention of the National Retail Credit Men's association, meeting today at Cleveland.

If the people of Texas at a special election today vote favorably on a proposed amendment to the constitution which was submitted by the legislature at its recent session, it will open the way for the reclamation of more than 30,000,000 acres of waste land. The purpose of the amendment is to enable the liberalizing of the laws governing the formation of districts for the purpose of irrigation, drainage and to prevent overflows.

Storiette of the Day.
A member of congress and his wife had been to Baltimore one afternoon. When they left the train at Washington, on their return, the wife discovered that her umbrella, which had been entrusted to the care of her husband, was missing.

"Where's my umbrella?" she demanded.

"I fear I have forgotten it, my dear," meekly answered the statesman. "It must still be in the train."

"In the train?" snorted the lady. "And to think that the affairs of the nation are entrusted to a man who doesn't know enough to take care of a woman's umbrella!"—The Lamb.

NOTES OF INDUSTRY.
X-ray pictures for dentists' use may be quickly made and developed by means of a cabinet which performs all the operations almost automatically.

The phonograph has been made up in shape to be carried on the back like a knapsack, and home guards are training to music from the disk record.

For "holding the wire" at the telephone attachment, the holder is being returned to its place without making a disconnection.

The Bee's Letter Box

Thanks That Are Appreciated.
Omaha, Aug. 20.—To the Editor of The Bee: The officers and members of the Carter Lake Club Cottagers' Red Cross auxiliary wish to extend hearty thanks and appreciation for the great assistance rendered through The Bee in advertising our Red Cross card party of August 8.

MRS. ANNA CHAPMAN, Secy.

Our Obsolete Citizenship Laws.
Oxford, Neb., Aug. 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: It is just beginning to dawn on our statesmen that our laws conferring citizenship upon foreigners are out of date and dangerous to our republic.

An alien in Nebraska can declare his intentions and at once receive the same privileges enjoyed by a native born citizen. They have voted, often held office and sometimes combine through their foreign language propagandas to elect or defeat candidates or laws as they fancy will advance their classish interests.

Our Nockett or foreign language law is a fair sample of the desire to foreignize this country rather than Americanize themselves, and now, when men are called to battle for the life of our nation, these intended citizens ironically reply, "Let the natives do it."

It is estimated that we have 4,000,000 aliens in this country who have not even declared their intentions and they also are exempt from the draft, though probably one-half of this number have been here five years or more and have enjoyed the blessings of home, high wages and often an amassed fortune. This is not right, it is not just, and it causes in some districts that every young American must go to the front while these aliens take their places in home industries and in many instances close the doors to opportunity for them in the future. I can not bring myself to believe that this is fair, right or just.

Every man who asks exemption on the ground that he is a foreigner and don't have to protect the country that has been feeding him should forever be debarred from gaining citizenship and at once deported, as we don't want to breed any more of his kind in these United States.

When a man takes up his residence in a country other than his birth because he believes it offers him better opportunities in life he should be subject to all the laws of the country and exempt from any restriction from his former home. If his adopted country becomes endangered from fire he should assist in putting it out because he is to reap equally in the benefits, and if that country becomes involved in war he should offer defense just as quickly as though it was his birthplace. It is true that such a law would admit of putting Americans who have taken up their home in Germany into the kaiser's armies, and why should they not fight for the country that gave them a home and better opportunities?

I realize that our treaty obligations would forbid the enforcement of such laws at present, but we would be in our rights to tax every foreigner \$300, or better, \$500, for the privilege he enjoys of having our boys go forth to defend his home while the rest of the high wages caused by our soldiers' absence. If congress would hasten such a law it would hearten our soldiers and rejoice every true American in the fact that our country would forget their own political welfare long enough to do a square act.

A. C. RANKIN.

Hold Germany to Account.
Benson, Neb., Aug. 18.—To the Editor of The Bee: The invasion of Belgium by the German army was an open challenge to Great Britain's right to exist and sealed the fate of all peace movements. The British empire will never sheathe its sword until the armies of the central empires have been forced to evacuate all Belgian and French territory and a decisive and triumphant victory has been obtained for law and freedom over Prussian tyranny. As Germany will the state she cannot expect to be allowed to will the end.

THOMAS HENRY WATKINS.

Bully Brought for Bluffs Boys.
Council Bluffs, Ia., Aug. 20.—To the Editor of The Bee: Permit me to express my personal appreciation of your generous article regarding the departure from here of the boys of Company L.

Printed as it was on the front page of your great daily and written in such a fine spirit of enthusiastic commendation, with space enough for full details, was certainly a noble and neighborly generosity seldom accorded an institution of Council Bluffs by Omaha papers.

Thanking you for this manifestation of friendship for our city and for a body of men of whom we are all proud, I remain, JOE W. SMITH.

Riding a Free Horse.
Hawarden, Ia., Aug. 19.—To the Editor of The Bee: I wish that a man says this is his country, his country, right or wrong, but when it is wrong he will do his best to make it right, and it is wrong to fight the kaiser, I must rise up and say, "You are wrong, sir, this is not your country and never will be."

Before the war I did not want war and was glad President Wilson kept us out of war as long as he did. But now that the war has come, I see how the kaiser had his spies and plotters all over this country and I realize that in a few years the kaiser would have had this country as completely under his control as he now has Turkey.