THE BEE: OMAHA, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1917.

School Bond Issue Up to People. THE OMAHA BEE

The Board of Education has put its proposed issue of bonds for construction purposes squarely up to the people. November 20 has been set as the date of the special election, and between now and then our voters should be given full and definite information as to just what is involved, wit both sides of the case covered. The Bee suggests that to-the-point discussion of this matter will be of service, and invites its readers to present their views.

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The present building program is the most ambitious and extensive on which the school district has ever set out. Reasons given by the board for requesting the authority are the increasing needs of the public schools, if they are to be maintained on the present or a corresponding basis of efficiency. Principal items in the building list call for two new high schools and a structure to house the existing High School of Commerce. The new high school in the north part of town has long been under consideration, and several times seriously projected. With the expansion of the city and the addition of Florence the need for such a school has grown if anything. Whether the socalled "junior" or intermediate high school, also proposed for the North Side, is a pressing need may be open to debate. Other projects include replacement of several schools that have outlived

their usefulness. A full month of time is allowed for consideration of any objections on part of the citizens. The Subscribers leaving the city should have The Bee mailed to them. Address changed as often as requested. public is deeply concerned in the school system, and the taxpayers are vividly reminded of its in-Every boost for liberty today makes safer the creasing cost. It is up to them to say if the bonds asked for to the amount of \$2,250,000 shall be authorized. Linking the job with the man takes the pen-

Michaelis and the Reichstag.

For the moment at least politics in Germany Westward the star of empire takes its course are quite on a parity with military affairs as holding public interest. Clamor from the opposition in the Reichstag is rising to a pitch that must can put the new Liberty loan across it is sure to make Chancellor Michaelis aware of the fact that he accepted no sinecure when he relieved Von Bethmann-Hollweg of the task of standing between the emperor and the people of Germany. Socialist speakers and editors are bolder than ever in their criticism of the government, while Matthias Erzberger, who leads the center and speaks for the Catholics in the Reichstag, has said again run for re-election-reserving, of course, the that body will be stronger than ever when it comes together again. All this means but one thing for Michaelis, and that may be summed up Paradoxically speaking, the only side on which as a short shrift in office. Circumstantial reports Nehraska is bordered by water in on the east, are published to the effect that Count Czernin sought a frank declaration of Germany's peace aims, but received from the chancellor such vague Nebraska's quota of the Liberty loan barely and evasive replies correspondence on the subequals 35 per cent of the year's hay crop. Cash ject was broken off. With Austria dissatisfied, and a strong element at home persistently demanding that the emperor tell the world just what Lieutenant Governor Howard's spiel on the senatorship as a sure thing reveals in that quarhe hopes for as a basis of peace, the German chancellor is listed for some unpleasant hours in the near future.

Puzzle In the Excess Tax Law.

The war revenue bill promises to alford occupation for the expert accountants until a definite ruling is made as to the exact meaning of its provisions. One of the already most widely and thoroughly discussed sections is that having to do with the impost to be laid against excess war profits, yet a wide variation of opinion still exists as to what basis shall be adopted for calculating the tax. The wording of the law is not clear as to just the point at which exemption ceases and taxation begins. It is the combination of pre-war and present capitalization that presents the puzzle to which an answer is sought. Whether exemption terminates with the first step in the calculation, or whether it carries on through to the highest rate levied, applying along the entire course of the graduated scale, is debatable, according to the views of experts. Application of one or the other method of calculating the tax will make a great difference in the amount to be collected, and it is therefore of great moment to both the government and the taxpayers that this be quickly settled. Until the intent of congress has been made clear, confusion and delay in collection is certain, and early action by the treasury authorities will be of help to business by relieving uncertainty on this mooted question.

The Coal Mystery B Frederic J. Haskin,

Washington, Oct. 13 .- Price regulation is a good deal of a mystery to the innocent bystander who pays the prices, regulated and unregulated. Various committees, for example, have been regulating the price of coal for the past six months, and yet to the ultimate consumer it still seems a bit unregulated. This coal conundrum is a good example of how price regulation works-and how it doesn't work.

In this coal drama-for it is a drama-are involved the two big forces that are trying to get American industry organized for the prosecution of the war. The first of these in the field was the Council of National Defense, which represents an effort of American industry to regulate and reorganize itself with a certain amount of co-operation from the government. The second is the executive branch of the government, acting under the tremendous powers conferred upon it by congress as a war measure, in an effort to reorganize and control the production of the necessities of life with a certain amount of co-operation from industry.

These two forces have been coming into collision at several points. It is not to be concluded, however, that one of them ought to be eliminated. Friction develops heat and heat is energy. Also, the Council of National Defense has furnished the government with expert help and information which it could not have obtained elsewhere. Right now the fuel administration of the government is using nearly all of the office force of the committee on coal production of the Council of National Defense, which it has practically superseded.

The attempt to regulate coal production began with the appointment by the Council of National Defense of this committee on coal production. The committee was composed of men who own coal mines, headed by F. S. Peabody. It met with Secretary of the Interior Lane who told the coal operators that prices must be regulated. This was agreed to by all. In Pennsylvania at that time the price of coal was jumping up to \$9 a ton. New England manufacturers were panic stricken. In one hotel there were over a hundred coal consumers bidding against each other for the product of a certain mine. Confusion, competition and waste were the order of the day in the coal business. The operators were making big money, and so were some of the retailers and middle men, but it was clear that the condition was one that could not last. And besides government regulation was already looming up portentiously through the haze of congressional debate.

So the operators agreed that it was time to apply some regulation to the industry. At the request of Secretary Lane they drew up a scale of prices-the so-called \$3 price-which they agreed to regard temporarily as a maximum, until the government could make an investigation of costs of production and name its own price, by which they agreed to abide. Since the operators made this price themselves it was not to be expected that it would be unfair to them. It left them plenty of room to make money. But it also reprices all over the country and stopped duced their frenzied rise. They claimed that it would the soft coal consumers east of the Mississave sippi \$15,000,000 a month.

In addition to fixing this price they did a far more valuable work in reorganizing the industry. They eliminated wasteful and competitive haul-They formed a pool for shipments via the Great Lakes by which the waiting of empty boats for loads was reduced. They formed a commit-tee to handle labor troubles. Transportation and labor are the two great factofs in coal production; there is always plenty of coal. Secretary of the Interior Lane, who is a good business man, and who perceived that the first essential was to insure a sufficient supply of coal, heartily con-gratulated the operators' committee on what it had accomplished.

view to fixing the price. The Federal Trade Com-

mission completed its examination of the entire

coal production. Whether because the \$2 price

was really unfair, or whether because the coal op-

erators ielt that their patriotic actions had not

been appreciated, the coal production immedi-ately began to decline. This is shown unmis-

takeably by the scientifically accurate chart pre-

ent anomalous situation. The government has,

gotten its machinery of regulation well in hand,

is enforcing prices at the mine, and has issued

regulations as to the profit retailers may make.

The fly in the government soup is the fact that

of the country, if necessary, to insure production.

After Effects of Gardening

credited to the patriotic speeding up of the tillers

of the soil may never be known. But one 1917

farming fact that stands out beyond dispute is that the production of food by the consumer as a

side line, through the application of idle hours to

idle land, is a large factor in the year's product. Certain results of this garden campaign prom

ise to remain permanent. One is that a few mil-lion men who had hitherto thought gardening

profitless play will hereafter go seriously to work

is that the diet of America will show an increased

vegetable element and a corresponding decrease

his hand from the soil. The very act of growing

things is recreation of a high type; and most mer

have daily hours for recreation. It is possible for

nearly every eight-hour worker to make and main-

tain a garden-a plot large enough to yield per-

A garden overflowing with prime vegetables naturally dominates the dinner table. One cannot

treat slightingly the good things from one's own

mercial foods is necessarily reduced after one has

well dined on the cream of home-grown produce.

Moreover, this season's garden surplus, now being

put away on the cellar shelves, will extend the in-

fluence of the garden throughout the winter's

hand-corn and peas, for example, only an hour

from the garden to the table-is to look with favor upon them ever after. In spite of popular

belief, they may be profitably made to take the place of a portion of the customary meat diet. And this very fact will make it possible to feed

well a larger population in America; because mean as food demands much land in its growing, and

because it will henceforth be comparatively scarce

An old and well demonstrated truth has been

The most expensive fur is that of the black

To become acquainted with vegetables at first

And one's consuming capacity for com-

make the garden lot productive. Another fact

It is not good for any man wholly to withhold

These are the events which led up to the pres-

pared by the geological survey

\$3 than coal scarce at \$2.

meat.

garden.

and high

himself.

haps one-third of his food.

domestic economy.

Perhaps that is the next move.

force.



Right in the Spotlight. Robert Lansing, secretary of state

in President Wilson's cabinet, and the official entrusted by the government with the direction of its foreign policy in one of the most critical periods in the nation's history, is 53 years old today, Mr. Lansing owes his high posi-tion to his masterful knowledge of in-ternational law and diplomacy. Prior to taking up the state portfolio laid down by Mr. Bryan he had filled the position of counselor of the State department and earlier in his career he had represented the United States in several important international arbitrations. Mr. Lansing is a native of Watertown, N. Y., and a graduate of Amherst college. In Washington he is known as an indefatigable worker. Outside of office hours he is a painter, a writer of exquisite verse, a drafts man of great ability, an ardent fisherman, a good goif player and an en-

One Year Ago Today In the War. Russia launched new offensive in

effort to relieve Roumania. President Wilson announced failure

of efforts to induce European powers to agree upon terms of relief of Po-

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago Today.

Maggie Mitchel appeared in "Larle' at Boyd's opera house.

A large number of friends of Mr. and Mrs. Gottlieb Zimmerman were present at their residence on Pierce



street, between Tenth and Eleventh, on the occasion of the sixteenth birthday of their daughter. Louise.

At the regular meeting of the Board of Education it was decided to lease a lot on West Davenport street from H. G. Clark for \$15 per annum and erect thereon a school building for \$1,344. The travel from the west is so heavy

that the overland train from the west arrived in four sections, the last section being four hours late."

The work of enlarging the stock yards has been commenced. When the addition is completed the yards' limit will reach to the railroad tracks. The new Ambler and Bancroft

houses are completed and chool school was opened in time with full attendance. The democratic judicial convention

was opened in the council chamber. Charles H. Brown was elected permanent chairman and Samuel Farns worth was elected secretary. Augustus Kountze of New York is

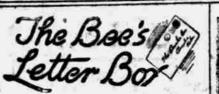
the guest of Herman Kountze. The Omaha Board of Trade held its first session and considerable business was done.

This Day In History.

1775-Burning of Falmouth (now Portland) Maine, by the British. 1777-Burgoyne surrendered the

British army to the Americans at Saratoga. 1806—The French stormed Halle, Saxony, defeating the Prussian reserve

under the prince of Wurtemberg. 1854—First bombardment of Sebas



Farmer on Farm Wage

Peru, Neb., Oct. 13 .- To the Editor of The Bee: I see in your issue of October 11 that the State Council of Defense has acted on The Bee's sugrestion and fixed a minimum price of cents per bushel for husking corn in Nebraska this fall. Now what I would like to know is why the farmer is expected to pay double the wages to such men as he is asked to or being forced to employ as such men can lobtain in any other line of employment. You must remember that the men

we must employ are not the corn husk ers that have been taken from the farm and cannot husk the average number of bushels per day that our farm boys could husk and this means added expense, as the farmer must board his men more days. It also means money to the man employed, as he gets his board free for a longer length of time. Here are some facts that possibly the State Council of Defense did not have in mind when they were fixing the price per bushel for corn husking. First qf all, more than 60 per cent

of the farmers in the best part of Neof the farmers in the best part of Ne-braska, where land sells (when it does sell) for \$200 or more per acre, are renters and are paying from two-fifths to one-nalf of the grain delivered at the elevator, free of cost to the land owner, and that means that when the farmer pays 6 cents per bushel for corn husking that his corn has cost him 12 cents per bushel, with another 1% cents per bushel added for boarding his man, which means that if it has cost the fenter 15 cents per bushel to get his corn in the crib and that is not all-unless the husker makes an average of seventy or eighty bushels a day, which is about the average day's work of our farm boys. and to get his corn to the elevator the rénter must add another 10 cents per bushel of cost to his corn as he must shell and deliver the land owner' share. Therefore it has cost the ren-ter 25 cents per bushel to husk and market his corn to say nothing of his expense of growing the crop, such as \$25 to \$45 per month, and board for a

man and expense of feeding his teams and interest on his investment in impiements which is several hundred dollars. The farmer has been paying better

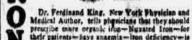
wages for corn husking all along than could be obtained in any other line of employment and now they are demanding double pay-6 cents to 10 cents of bushel, also demanding that the farmer furnish an elevator for unloading or they will not work fo day at an expense of from \$150 to Of the nine farm elevators in \$250.

my immediate neighborhood, seven of them are owned by renters. Now the farmers' expenses have inelse's. Our government and o.r city friends ask that the farmer do his best to increase the crop of foodstuffs, h they did, as evidenced by one of the largest crops of eorn, oats, rye, potatoes, beans and other vegetables our country ever produced.

Then to ask the tarmer to sell his wheat for 75 cents per bushel less than market prices, take away his help and compel him to pay double wages for a poor substitute for his farm boys, and still further threaten him with a reduction in the price of his corn and his hogs, without a re-duction in the price of some of the duction in the price of some of the things he has to buy, to me does not look like a square deal, and is not

a square deal.





But if the Muny coal yard is to do business only intermittently it should have a gentlemen's agreement with the weatherman to make the temperature fit the case.

DAILY (MORNING) - EVENING - SUNDAY

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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SEPTEMBER CIRCULATION

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Average circulation for the month subscribed and sworn to by Dwight Williams, Circulation Manager

and likewise the world series championship.

If the combined pull of publicity and oratory

Former Governor Morehead no doubt visions

County Attorney Magney says he will not

the fearsome size of the senatorial dust cloud

Daily and Sunday... Daily without Sunda Freeing and Sunday Arening without Sund Studay Bee only...

liberty of tomorrow.

be done.

nant as the boss perplexity.

whirling in Platte county.

right to change his mind.

dom on the blink.

which will continue to be dry.

in a few forksful and get a bond.

ter rare skill in the noble art of camouflage.

Vorwaerts of Berlin looms up as the editorial

With a bond market gorged to capacity and

Jesemiah of the empire. Fortunately it reserves

its tears to swell the shower at the coming finish.

high class securities on the toboggan the bond

deal of the school board suggests business wis-

Congress reassembles on December 3 and the woman's suffrage convention nine days later, both in Washington. Still some people imagine congress has little to worry about.

If any other propositions are to be submitted lor popular vote ratification hurry them along so they may be hitched to the school board election and save otherwise duplicated election expenses,

Speeders along country roads imagine they can turn on the gas and escape the goggles of rural sleuths. There is where misplaced confidence wins a golden rule tag. Dust clouds give them ti away.

Once more Holland agrees to play no favorites in the division of its surplus food stocks. If Holland has a food surplus, as the fifty-fifty split implies, the recent appeals for a share of American stocks glimpsed the profitcers working the W dodge of neutral necessity.

Tentative footings of New York's municipal budget for 1918 foreshadow an increase of only at 12 per cent over this year's total. Still the critics wax indignant and pessimistic. They know not how lucky they are. Omaha's tax uplift for 1918 totals 22 per cent, a leap which leaves New York

in the piker class of percentages.

The prospect of a regiment of American Indians going across to fight for liberty is viewed with pleasure in many quarters. As a fighting force the stalwart redskins are not essential. But the coming finish needs a picturesque setting, such as the Indian could supply by tripping the light fantastie ghost dance at Potsdam.

"In the name of Liberty, save food!" exclaims Raymond J. Whitney, an American back from the front in France. The appeal does not fall on heedless cars. Americans have been slow to realize the necessity for sharp economy, but marked progress has been made in that direction since the United States entered the war and greater sacrifice is certain as the country buckles down to the crucial battles for liberty.

Short Lesson on Bonds Investment News

Q. When I loan my money to the United States government, what do I get in return? A. You get a promissory note given by the United States government and hearing interest. This note is called a "bond." Q. What, then, is a United States government

A. It is the direct and unconditional promise of the United States of America to pay upon a certain date a specified sum of money in gold, to-gether with interest at a specific rate, payable at specific dates until the bond matures, or is called

O. In what form is this promise? A. It is engraved upon a sheet of distinctive paper used only for the money and securities of the United States, and is executed by the secre-tary of the treasury and by the registrar of the treasury and sealed with the Treasury department

When are bonds of the second Liberty loan

November 15, 1917, is the date they will scause that is the date on which they will be issued by the government and the date on which interest begins.

Q. When will hese bonds be paid by the gov-ernment: that is, when will they become due? A. November 15, 1942; but the government has the right to pay them any time after ten years from date of the bond

Part of An Imperial Farce.

When the czar of Russia addressed his "be loved Jews" and begged them to rally to his support, the nations of the world turned aside from the war long enough to smile. The smile widened a little later when czar and kaiser entered into competition as to which could make to Poland most seductive promises. "Nikky" has disappeared from the cast, but the kaiser continues the farce, and has just now staged its latest act by appointing a regency for the kingdom of Poland to continue through the war. Why he should have substituted a regency for the rule of his son. Joachim, first named by him to be king of Poland, is not made plain, unless he hopes to later on allow the people of Poland to "freely choose" that young man to be their ruler. It may be just coincidental, but it is nevertheless touched with irony, that the kaiser should name his regents on the anniversary of the death of Kosciuszko. No one longer doubts that Poland will be restored as it was before the second, if not before the first, partition, yet few outside of Germany hold any thought that its people will be burdened with a German princeling as king.

The hyphenated World-Herald tries to persuade Grand Army veterans that they should be offended by The Bee's questioning the propriety of spending \$20,000 of public money on a junket to Vicksburg at a time when every spare dollar is needed for pressing war work. The World-Herald is the same paper that once bewailed the long life of the old soldiers because of the growing pension list. The Grand Army of the Republic veterans realize who their true friends are and we know that many of them share The Bee's opinion as to the trip to Vicksburg.

A sentence of seventeen years, imposed on a treason conspirator in Oklahoma, exceeds by seven cars the penalty won by a San Francisco knocker. These sentences constitute the September record, and clearly indicate the growing peril of doing the kaiser's work in this country.

In passing around bouquets for festival efficiency the street railway managers should not be overlooked. On Wednesday night and Thursday afternoon the huge crowds were handled safely and promptly, and with comparative comfort as big crowds go.

War's sudden demands on certain mineral products in this country necessarily made huge inroads in supplies. Threatened shortages occasion little alarm. With raw material available, opportunity and enterprise will quickly rise to the occasion

About this time Secretary of War Baker, in a Turkish allies. widely published letter, expressed the opinion

1863-President Lincoln called for that the \$3 price was altogether too high. It re-300,000 men. sulted in an examination by the Federal Trade Commission into the cost of mining coal, with a

1867-The pope complained of the conduct of the Russian government to-ward the Roman Catholic church.

1892-James Sloan Gibbons, originator of the movement for the preser-vation of American forests, died in New York City. Born at Wilmington, coal industry of America in a few weeks, and issued a scale of prices just about one-third lower than that agreed on by the operators. Soon Del., in 1810.

1913-Twenty-eight persons, all on board, lost their lives near Johannis-thal, Germany, in the explosion and thereafter the act of August 10 was in force and our present "coal dictator," Mr. Garfield, was appointed and handed this new scale of prices to en-

fall of a Zeppelin. 1914-German troops appeared before Warsaw, 1915-Russia declared war against But Secretary Baker's letter marked not only the climax of the contest, but also the climax of

Bulgaria.

The Day We Celebrate.

John McCook of the Western Com-mission company of South Omaha was born in Pennsylvania October 17, 1863.

Robert 'Lansing, secretary of state in President Wilson's cabinet, born at Watertown, N. Y., fifty-three years ago today. James R. Garfield, who was secre-

tary of the interior under President Roosevelt, born at Hiram, O., fifty-two years ago today, Edwin M. Borchard, international

somewhat scarce, The disgruntled remlaw expert, professor at Yale Law nant of the committee on coal production is now wont to remark that maybe it would have been school, born in New York City, thirtythree years ago today. Childe Hassam, eminent American better for the people to have plenty of coal at

artist, born in Boston fifty-eight years Under the act of August 10 the government has the power to take over and operate coal mines

ago today. Thomas Fortune Ryan, one of America's eminent financiers, born in Nelson county, Virginia, sixty-six years ago today.

William A. Cummings, first base ball pitcher to use the "curve" ball, born at Ware, Mass., sixty-nine years ago today.

How much of the increase of the American food crop of 1917 over that of 1916 should be ac-Timely Jottings and Reminders.

The governor of Louisiana has set apart today as a day for the women of that state to register for national service

Several important questions affecting the policy of the Universalist church are to be brought before the general convention of that denominaion, meeting today at Worcester, Mass.

Medical directors of all the promi nent insurance companies of the United States are to assemble today at Worcester, Mass., for the annual con-vention of their national association.

National health problems arising out of war conditions are to be dis-cussed at the annual meeting of the American Public Health association, which meets in Washington today for

a four-day session. The directors of the Missouri Pa-cific railroad meet today to discuss the proposed re-establishment of the old Gould system by the merger of the Denver & Rio Grande with the Mis-souri Pacific and Western Pacific roads.

A nation-wide movement is to be launched by the National Security league at a mass meeting tonight in New York City for organizing the services of the mothers, wives, sisters and girl friends of the men who are going to the front.

The guarding of American army both at home and abroad, camps, against the ravages of the "white plague" will be discussed at & meeting to be held in Baltimore today and tomorrow by the North Atlantic con-ference of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tubercu-

Storyette of the Day.

John Philip Sousa, who is organiz-ing military bands for the army, was talking to a correspondent about the submarine danger.

freshly and widely demonstrated the past sum-mer, namely, that the nearer the food is raised to "A friend of mine, a cornet virtu-oso," he said, "was submarined in the Mediterranean. - The English paper that reported the affair worded it the mouth of the consumer, the better the con-sumer is fed; and that he feeds best who/feeds

The famous cornetist, Mr. Hornblower, though submarined by the Germans in the Mediterranean, was fox of Kamschatka, the skin of which, when able to appear at Marseilles the foldressed, becomes a very attractive blue. A coat worh by the ex-Czar of Russia, lined with this fur cost \$10,000

roductive of that sort of feeling that the farmer should have at this time. The farmer's best effort is needed, and is necessary to win the war, but such treatment as he is receiving does not inspire patriotism. Now we are going to help feed our allies, we are going to win the war, but we ask that the farmers be given

O. TUCKER, A Farmer.

their patients - Saya anarmia - Iton deficiency - is the greatesticures to the health strength vitality and beauy of the modern American Woman. - Sounds warning against use of metallic iron which may injure the treth, corrode the stonach and do far more harm than good; advises use of only nuzated iron, taken three times per day after messis. It will incruze the strength and endurance of weak, nervous, run-dawn folks fold? in two werks time in many instances, Disposed by all good druggion.

Bee Want Ads Produce Results.



