

THE OMAHA BEE
DAILY (MORNING) - EVENING - SUNDAY
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THE HALIFAX DISASTER.
The explosion of a United States munitions ship in the harbor at Halifax yesterday with its attendant loss of perhaps a thousand lives and its long list of injured and property damage mounting well into seven figures, comes as an additional shock to the people of America.

The Second Draft
By Frederic J. Haskin
Washington, Dec. 5.—In 10 days the preparations for raising further increments for the national army will actively begin with the mailing of the first set of questionnaires to registered men.

TODAY
Right in the Spotlight.
George M. Cohan, who is a member of the national committee of theatrical managers promoting today's national observance of Red Cross Theater day, has an international reputation as an actor and producer and as a writer of popular songs.

BRITAIN IN WAR TIME.
A sample instance of Aladdin riches springing out of war over night was revealed in a row over the division of the spoils which landed in the courts of London. Moisè Mazzini, an Italian "old cloze" merchant, and Marcel Landau, a French manufacturer of a wholesale business in the clothing refuse of the battlefields, cleaning up \$50,000 in army boots alone and \$25,000 from old uniforms. The government handles all the war salvage now and takes all the profit.



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MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Early reports showed that a part of the city was in ruins and that fire was adding to the horror of the situation. Dead were lying thick in the streets, the hospitals were filled to overflowing and many of the injured were compelled to await treatment.

The scheme of the second draft and all future drafts represents a great improvement and refinement over the system of the first draft. It is based on the experience of that first draft, with the advantage of freedom from the need for pressing haste.

One Year Ago Today in the War.
Answering United States protest, Germany admitted sinking the Arabia, but contended she thought it a transport.

A recent observance of the centennial of the institution of savings banks in Great Britain brought together representatives of several savings institutions in London. One of the speakers called attention to the increasing thrift of the people in spite of the drain of war and high living cost.

Mason & Hamlin Pianos \$600 and Better.
Kranich & Bach Pianos \$450 and Better.

NOVEMBER CIRCULATION
58,715 Daily - Sunday, 51,884

The disaster is peculiarly unfortunate because of the dire need for munitions both by the Italians, who are so nobly defending Venice and the Piave front, and the French and British engaged in the titanic struggle following General Byng's smash through the Hindenburg line protecting Cambrai, in the west.

The only way to apply the selective service principle completely is to examine every registered man before selecting the army. This meant examining 10,000,000 men on the first draft, for which there was no time.

Frank Selee, manager of the Omaha baseball team, left for Chicago. He will spend the winter at home in Montrose, Mass.

An organization of London's wholesale butchers has been formed to co-operate with the food department in regulating the distribution of meat and facilitate rationing should the stock fall below minimum needs.

Bush & Lane Pianos \$375 and Up.
Cable-Nelson Pianos \$300 and Up.

Declaring war on Austria merely brands an existing condition.
The gray wolf playing with the red mouse on the Dvina lacks the thrill of sport. Every spectator knows what will happen.

Not only will America mourn the death of the unfortunates at Halifax and the partial destruction of that important city where many of our ships start on their voyages across the Atlantic to supply the needs of the heroes in the trenches, but it will regret even a day's delay at this crucial time when the further advance of allied armies may result in shortening the most terrible war in history.

The chief means of examination will be the questionnaire, with the idea of which the country is already familiar. It is simply a booklet of questions, with blanks for the written answers, intended to show the local board where each man belongs in order of liability to draft.

Charles B. Schrote, living at 1315 Pine street, who sometime ago invested in the Brunswick, Germany, lottery, drew a prize of 10,000 marks (\$2,500).

The food production department picked 100 women out of an excess of applications for the first detachment of farm tractor operators. Preference was given to those with a knowledge of machinery and running repairs.

Healy Player Pianos \$395 Up.
Apollo Reproducing Players \$650 Up.

Where Omaha gets a 15 per cent boost in gas rates it should be known Lincoln gas users are being called to go up 25 per cent—if that is any consolation.

Stop Light and Heat Waste.
For its increased gas rate the gas company makes what looks like a conclusive showing which people, who are paying more for almost everything else they buy, will readily realize.

For practical purposes, after a careful study of the situation the office of the provost marshal general decided that five classes would be sufficient to assure the operation of the selective principle. Since Class 5, the last class, is made up of men such as alien enemies, who are completely exempt under the law, there are really four classes of registered men available for service.

Patrick Perry, John Coleman and Carsten D. Hamann, left last night for the townsite of the Puget Sound co-operative colony.

Some have good, sound excuses, reasons for staying that are sane, Who, if it wasn't for some duty, Would rather stay at home than go. But the ones who are staying to piffle, Who know they are not playing the game, Are not to blame with themselves or the nation.

Cash or Terms
A. Hospe Co. 1513 DOUGLAS ST.

Anxiety of prisoners for reduced sentences must not be taken as a reflection on the boarding house service. Enforced absence from business wraps a pall around state hospitality.

The boast of Postmaster General Burleson that his department has a \$9,000,000 surplus to exhibit for the past fiscal year can be properly denominated by no other term than the word "shameful." The people everywhere want the postal service economically administered, but they also want it efficiently administered and are willing to pay, and plainly have paid, for efficient service, but have not gotten it.

The first division of the first class is the one which will make up the bulk of the class. It consists of single men without dependent relatives. True, there are 14 possible grounds why such a man might be classed in Class 2 or Class 3, but none of these 14 reasons is of such a character that it will affect any great proportion of the 9,000,000 men.

1829—General Sir Redvers Henry Buller, distinguished English soldier, born. Died June 1, 1908.

Some men volunteered bravely, No "ifs" and "buts" about it. Some are already on duty in trenches, Thousands never to return at all, They are giving up everything they have, Their liberty and freedom, too, And now, on the bullet-torn battlefields Of Europe, bloody, sad and blue.

IS IT FAIR?
When the U. S. declared war on Germany Along with the allies so true, Many who were red-blooded Americans Enlisted to help our country.

Why disfigure our beautiful court house approaches with that hideous food-saving sign board? Is not war bad enough without the food administration perpetrating this atrocity? Take it down.

The \$9,000,000 surplus (accepting the figures) cannot be regarded as surplus earnings, but as the result of short-weighting postoffice patrons and overworking postoffice employees in order to make "a showing." The policy of the Postoffice department has been to refuse authority to employ sufficient carriers and clerks to handle the constantly increasing business, with the result that it has not been handled expeditiously and mail transmission and delivery have never been in a more deplorable condition than during the past year.

Men skilled in necessary industries are placed for the most part in Class 2. This class is not to be called until Class 1 is exhausted, but it will be called if necessary long before Class 4, which includes married men in nonessential industries with dependent families. But General Crowder points out that the draft, covering the ages from 21 to 31 years, affects only about 31 per cent of the labor supply in any given industry.

1870—Germans under the grand duke of Mecklenburg attacked the French army of the Loire near Beaugency.

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Take no chances on that little cold in the head.

Publication by the Russian reds of treaty deals among the Allies no doubt will shock the sensibilities of kultur. A mere hint of Allied competition in territorial loot is enough to start a roar of indignation throughout pan-Germany.

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Class 2 will probably not be large, as in addition to skilled workers in necessary industry and agriculture it contains only certain classes of married men whose wives are capable of supporting themselves without hardship, or whose family income is not a product of the man's labor.

1814—Russians routed Turks with heavy losses in Trapezacustia.

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Dr. King's Discovery for Coughs & Colds

Austrian officialdom manifests as much eagerness for peace now as it showed for war in July, 1914. Unfortunately for the dual empire the conflagration passed beyond its control and will remain so until the Allied fire department arrives.

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Class 3 will also hardly be large, providing as it does for such unusual cases as men with dependent prothers or sisters or parents, and certain municipal and federal workers. Highly specialized workers in necessary industries are also in this class.

1892—David B. Hill of New York introduced a bill in the United States senate to repeal the Sherman silver law.

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Though a youngster in the business, Emperor Charles proves an apt pupil in the hands of an expert coacher. His reference to "plundering and rapacious neighbors" who forced the sword into his hands rivets the best efforts of the kaiser and maps Vienna for a royal chapter of the Ananias club.

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The experience of the trapped American engineers in the Cambrai battle readily identifies the nationality. Overpowering their enemy guards and breaking through the lines, unarmed, are distinctly characteristic. Even more so the automobile dash through a machine gun squad. The latter scarcely knew what hit them, seeing only a streak of dust.

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London and Paris interviewers tackled Colonel House, the administration sphinx, by appointment, anticipating a rich store of inter-allied views and news. Courteous and smiling the colonel heard a volley of questions on war topics and parried each with the suggestion: "That seems to me a question for your own government," slightly varied to fit the case. Nothing more.

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It is gratifying to observe that the correspondence school for shoplifters, pickpockets and porch climbers, conducted by our enterprising contemporary, the hyphenated World-Herald, has been discontinued. At the same time that virtuous paper gravely discusses the reported increase of burglaries and thefts, and with feigned innocence asks whether this increase is not due to the war conditions.

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Overfeeding a Crime
Philadelphia Ledger
It is no kindness to offer food to an already well-fed man. And while it is generally true that the shortest way to a man's heart is through his stomach, the well-intentioned people who are trying to make the boys in blue and in khaki feel that they have the sympathy and the appreciation of the whole nation make two serious mistakes when they imagine that by feasting the soldiers and sailors they are taking the best means of touching the hearts of the nation's defenders. It is fellowship, not food, the men-in-the-federal uniform need. Our government is lavish in its provision for feeding the men it has called to its service. If there is any fault to be found with the commissary it is that it is conducted in wanton disregard of the most elementary rules of economy and conservation.

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