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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETOR

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The unprotected grade crossing should go. Dr. Garfield, having tamed the coal man, ought now to try his hand on the weather man.

At that you never saw a picture of "T. R." adorning the front page of Viereck's "Fatherland."

William Joel Stone did not represent Ajax defying the lightning, but rather somebody inviting a thunderbolt.

Bootleggers who run the gauntlet of state and federal sleuths are finding the game is not what the prospectus indicated.

Women's shoes are to be changed in style to save leather. Buyers would also like to see them changed some way to save money.

"Wolf winter" is making trouble elsewhere than in America, but the knowledge does not help us to solve our fuel problem.

Washington now communicates with Rome direct over the radio—only direction in which the war has advanced civilized methods.

Life on the Mississippi is variegated just now by high water and floating ice, showing that the mariner does not need to go to the war zone to get his dash of spice wherewith to flavor his existence.

Mr. Wilson has started an "Ananias club" of his own. If he elects to membership everybody who does not agree with him as to Newton D. Baker he will have a large class for his first initiation ceremony.

Omaha has just sold a good-sized block of bonds at a premium, but also at a rate of interest that makes the investment desirable even in these days of war profits. Public improvements become luxuries in war times.

Another row over fire apparatus is about to be staged in the city council. An outsider might think these affairs are an indispensable part of our municipal life, but the taxpayers wonder some times if they really are necessary.

The fuel administration is doing one thing well, and that is to make plans for accumulating coal during the coming summer. A little similar foresight exhibited a few months ago might have obviated a great deal of the trouble we are now experiencing.

Credit Expansion and General Business. The Federal Reserve board sends a warning in its annual report to congress that should be heeded. It advises a more careful adjustment of the finances of the country in order to avoid having the effect of war-time economies, voluntarily practiced by the citizens, counteracted by the great expansion of credit incident to the flotation of large sums of Liberty bonds.

The problem for the Allies is to find a way to render the Spanish coast less secure for the U-boat and, with this done, we can well leave the people of that country to deal with their own internal affairs.

Austria is willing to accept "honorable peace" without annexations, a marked difference in the attitude of the government that gobbled up Bosnia and Herzegovina and helped to annihilate Serbia. But things have not been coming so easily for Austria of late.

Editor Hardin of the Zukunft thinks Germany may be willing to give up Alsace and Lorraine within a year or two after the war. If eventually, why not now?

Just 30 Years Ago Today. N. B. Falconer gave a pleasant dancing party in the new addition to the Northern Illinois, has come to Omaha to locate, having formed a partnership with George Christofferson.

General Passenger Agent Tebbetts of the Union Pacific railroad, will arrive here today.

The Day We Celebrate. M. F. Shafer of M. F. Shafer company, born 1870.

Franklin W. Harwood of Thomas Cusack company, born 1851.

George Bell, Jr., major general of the United States army, born 59 years ago today.

Holbrook Blinn, born 46 years ago today.

Dr. Ezra S. Tipple, president of Drew Theological Seminary, born 57 years ago today.

This Day in History. 1354-The Kansas-Nebraska bill was introduced in the United States senate.

1862-The Federalists sank a stone gage to obstruct the harbor of Charleston, S. C.

1853-General Burnside dismissed Generals Hooker, Brooks, Newton and Franklin from their commands "for remaining the confidence of the army."

1893-Phillips Brooks, Episcopal bishop of Massachusetts and famous pulpit orator, died in Boston. Born there, December 12, 1835.

Abolish the Grade Crossing. A terrible accident, attended by loss of life and the maiming of several victims, directs attention once more to a condition against which The Bee has often protested—the maintenance of grade crossings of railroads on crowded city streets. Omaha is one of the very few cities in the country where such conditions exist. It is within the range of possibilities that the presence of crossing gates might not have prevented the disaster on North Twenty-fourth street, but it is absolutely certain that such protection would not have contributed anything to the danger that existed and always exists there. And this is not the only exposed place of the kind nor are street cars the only vehicles or traffic involved. Our city planners and our city council have a bigger job before them than the laying out and construction of new pleasure drives. It is to make the existing thoroughfares safe for all traffic at all times. This only can be done by safeguarding all grade crossings that cannot be entirely eliminated. The public is entitled to this and the work already has been too long delayed. To put it off further is merely to invite additional disaster.

Partisanship and the War. The remarkable outburst of William Joel Stone in the senate on Monday scarcely is intended to indicate the real attitude of the Wilson administration, for Senator Stone voluntarily departed from his position as an exponent of the Wilsonian creed last spring and his reinstatement has not yet been formally announced. However, the president himself is on record as being devoted to the idea of making the conduct of the war a party affair. He is willing that republicans should give loyal support to all he and his advisers do, but does not wish to share the work of administering the government with any but members of his own party. Criticism directed against any official act is hotly resented as an expression of "partisanship" and republicans are warned not to adversely comment on any action, no matter how disastrous or exasperating its effect, under penalty of being called "agents of the Kaiser."

So far the share of the republican party in the war has been distinctly honorable. Its leaders have given unreservedly of their service to assist in any way possible to arouse the people to patriotic response to the great call. In congress its members have given the president support he was denied by his own partisans. A suggestion to Mr. Wilson that he call into his cabinet some republicans, that the administration might be given at least an aspect of bipartisan quality, was met with the statement that the president proposed to maintain a partisan cabinet. Nothing recently has indicated any inclination on his part to change this attitude. So if the war has taken on anything of party significance the blame cannot justly be laid at the door of the republican organization.

Bringing Spain Closer to War. So far the course of Spain in connection with the war has been anomalous and at times equivocal. Its neutrality has been maintained so far as outward appearances go, but this very neutrality has been of immense service to Germany. While the king, through his good offices, has been enabled to do many things for belligerents, particularly through the intelligence bureau he has so thoroughly organized and efficiently conducted, his government has permitted other things that are far from being helpful to anybody but Germany. Quite recently a German submarine, disabled from an encounter at sea, limped into a Spanish port, pretended to intern, made repairs and put to sea again. It is openly charged, and with good grounds, that German submarine supply stations are maintained on the Spanish coast. A late account tells of the sinking of merchant ships by a U-boat that used a Spanish lighthouse as a guide for firing.

These and similar acts are bringing Spain closer to the war, each day. Which side it will espouse if compelled to make a choice is not easy to determine. The "intellectuals," and this includes a considerable party of the army officers, are strongly pro-Ally, while the masses of the people are equally strong for Germany, or at least are against the United States and England. In addition to this, the home political situation is very much disturbed and the king is threatened with a revolt of his subjects at any time. The Catalanian affair not so long ago, while it was put down by the army, did not conclude with a full victory for the crown. Unrest is general and propagandists are busy, so that the immediate future of Spain is most uncertain.

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Courage and Quick Action
Brave Deeds of Men in America's Naval Service

A cry for help never goes unheeded when there is a man of the United States navy standing by. No matter where, on land, at sea, in calm or storm, daylight or dark, he is quick to respond and ready to take the chance that makes a rescue possible. An instance of this is reported from Newport, R. I., where the bravery of Robertson McGregor, fireman third class, attached to the naval training school at that place, has just been rewarded by a letter of commendation from Secretary Daniels. It was night and unusually dark when McGregor heard the cry of help coming from the bay. Rushing to the water he located the sound and without any further hesitation jumped overboard and swam in the direction of the cry. There were no more cries, but sensing his direction the fireman kept on swimming until he came across a body. It was an apprentice seaman who had become unconscious in his fight for life. Although still wearing his clothing, McGregor took hold of his man and brought him safely to the shore.

Secretary Daniels has just commended Ray Nye, a chief gunner's mate of the United States navy, for heroism displayed in jumping overboard from the deck of the Pennsylvania and rescuing a man from drowning. The rescue occurred after a collision with a tug, and the water was covered with debris. Without hesitation Nye threw off his coat and cap and jumped overboard. The propellers were going full speed astern and the sailor had to swim against this strong current as well as fight off the splinters and pieces of wood in the wreckage. Reaching the drowning man he kept him above water until picked up by a tug.

Lowering a life boat single-handed and clearing a sinking ship with many survivors is the remarkable record credited to Chief Boatswain's Mate John P. Doyle, United States naval reserve force. The sailor had shipped for war on the converted yacht "Alcedo," which was torpedoed in November while on patrol duty in foreign waters. While the ship was rapidly sinking Doyle, without any help, lowered a 20-foot life boat to the rail from where it was hanging on the port davits, amidships. The ship had by this time sunk so that the rail was awash and the life boat water borne. Cutting the grips, Doyle called Lucius A. Patton, junior officer cook, United States navy, into the whale boat which was then half full of water. Unhooking the falls, he shoved it clear of the Alcedo before it went down. The whale boat reached the sea just in time to pick up a number of men who owed the saving of their lives to the cool-headed work and steady nerve of this chief boatswain's mate. Doyle's bravery was reported to the de-

partment by his commanding officer and he was commended by Secretary of the Navy Daniels. Fred Zastro, chief boatswain's mate of the United States ship Ozark, has just been commended for gallantry as the leader of a number of other men of the service who saved life at sea. This occurred when the steamer Paddleford went aground in heavy sea. With members of the crew of the United States ship Annapolis, Zastro took a life boat through a dangerous surf, reaching the ship and rescuing more than two-thirds of a crew of men. After the surf took part in this rescue, all of them going to vessels of the United States navy, in charge of Lieutenant Daniel E. Barbey and Ensign George O. Etheridge of the Annapolis. Each one has been commended by Secretary Daniels.

Fighting a fire single-handed aboard a submarine chaser has just won official commendation for Frank Marsh, machinist's mate second class, United States naval reserve force. Although not attached to the chaser on which the fire occurred, Marsh, after the engine room force had been driven from the engine room by the dense gas fumes, descended to where the fire was burning and extinguished it. Marsh had just finished this job at the risk of his life when dense black smoke was seen coming from the base of the starboard engine where oil had become ignited. This could not be reached either through the ports or skylights, so Marsh, still undaunted, went back to the engine room and with a salt water hose put out this fire. In commending Marsh's bravery, Secretary Daniels stated that his action was especially meritorious in that he not only had saved the vessel afloat, but also three other craft lying alongside.

The Navy department has been informed of the heroism of two sailors whose work was accomplished before their names could be learned. During the recent disastrous fire in Norfolk, Va., the city called upon the navy yard authorities for aid. Details of sailors and first aid men were sent in response. At the height of the fire the alarm was sent out among the workers and especially the city's firemen were trapped in a burning way. Two sailors who had fought their way into the building reached the spot where two firemen were put off from escape. The fire fighters were injured and hardly able to walk. The sailors got them to a window and then with their burdens descended an ice covered ladder to the ground. Then, having completed their work, they walked away and were soon lost among their mates. The crowd around the burning building had seen their heroism and applauded it, but they never learned their names.

Official Knock for Bad Draft Boards
Limiting Profits of Loafing on the Job

Washington Letter in Boston Transcript. The country has not heard the last of the order issued by Provost Marshal General Enoch H. Crowder which provides that exemption boards shall receive 30 cents for each registrant finally classified. This step was taken because a considerable number of the boards were trying to squeeze every dollar out of the government that they could. Instead of working patriotically for the country at a fair wage, they were trying to make their job as long as possible and were attempting to make the nation pay their exorbitant bills. To prevent this the order limiting compensation to 30 cents for each questionnaire finally approved. The office will take another step at the earliest opportunity and it is quite possible that there will be sensational disclosures. Members of the office staff declare that every local board which has overcharged the country for its services should be removed.

It is only fair and just to say that a large number of the boards have performed their duties conscientiously, have even sacrificed large salaries to do their bit for the country. On the other hand, there have been many boards which have thought only of the money they were receiving and were trying to make their jobs as soft as possible. These boards are scattered throughout the land. Practically every state, is represented, according to the officer in General Crowder's department. The new order will not affect boards which have kept expenses down, but it will affect the unscrupulous boards. The order is a warning to the latter class of what is coming.

General Crowder, in trying to be fair with every board, originally fixed the maximum sum that any member could receive at \$150 a month. The office believed that this amount would be changed by only a small number of boards. Instead, hundreds of boards asked for the maximum payment for December and January. One board, representing a little district in West Virginia, asked for the maximum payment for each member for the two months and intimated it would have to work for several months to complete its duties. General Crowder's office is positive that the board should complete its work by February 1 at the latest. A board representing a Philadelphia district was even more brazen. The members came to Washington in a body last week and demanded several hundred dollars in addition to the maximum sum. They were given a lecture they will not forget and were quite apprehensive as to what was in store for them when they returned to Philadelphia. The official who told of these instances said he could recount many others if he had the time to do so.

Despite the fact that some of the boards met from day to day solely to base a claim for compensation, the cost of the draft was small as compared with the cost of recruiting. The average cost per man accepted for service in the first National Army was \$4.93,

whereas the reports of the adjutant general show that the per capita cost of recruiting in 1914 was \$24.48; \$19.14 in 1915; and \$28.95 for the first nine months of the fiscal year of 1917. The expense of assembling the National guards ranged widely in the various states. The lowest was \$1.57 a man and the highest \$19. The system was the most expensive in Maine and Rhode Island. The cost in Massachusetts was comparatively small, \$6.08 per man accepted. It is generally agreed that the expenses which will be incurred in assembling additional armies will be greatly reduced as a result of the new regulations. No longer will a board be required to produce a quota of only six men permitted to submit a claim for compensation amounting to hundreds of dollars. This is an actual, not a hypothetical, case. The records are on file in General Crowder's office.

Military officers declare that boards which have been overcharging the government at a time when personal sacrifices are being made on every hand are most unpatriotic. The soldiers who are being selected by these very boards have given up comfortable homes, have severed home ties, in many instances have sacrificed large incomes to fight for their country for \$30 a month. They are enduring or will endure suffering and hardship and in many cases will sacrifice their health or lives. It is not unreasonable, therefore, for the government to request the boards to co-operate with it in the matter of minimum cost. As a matter of fact, much of the work for which some of these boards have been charging exorbitant sums is performed by the clerks employed by the boards. It should be said in this connection that the previous allowance of \$150 per month per member was in addition to the expenses incurred by the boards for clerks, stenographers, rent, etc.

People and Events. A young man with more nerve than sense attempted to intimidate a member of the draft board of Minneapolis. He succeeded in breaking into jail and faces trial on a serious federal charge. People who seek trouble on that line usually find it. Clarence Payne started out as a spending colossus spanning the country from San Francisco to New York with a fortune estimated at \$25,000,000. Genial company flowered his pathway hither and thither and eased the strain of blowing it in. New York creditors have just taken over what little remains of the fortune, and Payne is overwhelmed with the sympathy of the pikers—nothing more.

The new mayor of New York warns municipal chairmen that loafing on the job must not be too conspicuous. One hour for lunch is the official limit and sponging on base ball games is taboo, as well as joyrides at the city's expense. If these restrictions on the liberties of political jobholders do not start something on Fourteenth street Tammany's satchel must be asleep at the switch.

Out of the Ordinary

To defy automobile thieves a steering wheel has been patented that turned on the shaft and under permit from the inventor has been placed in a key carried by its owner. More than 70,000 cities and towns in the United States use 9,151,211 telephones. It is estimated that 8,000,000 messages are sent over these lines annually.

The method of cultivation of silk, the rearing of the worms and the reeling and weaving have not materially changed in China for hundreds of years. Old Chinese prints show that the methods in vogue today are much the same as those employed 3,000 years ago.

Although the traffic in human hair has not been so brisk during the last few years as formerly, on account of the veering of the fashions in hair-dressing toward the extreme simplicity and the millions of pounds of human hair exported from China. English war office forbids from director of raw materials, the purchase, sale or offers to purchase or sell any boots for women with uppers exceeding seven inches in height or of leather or material. From January 1 manufacturers are forbidden to cut material or uppers exceeding dimensions named.

Exemption. Geraldine—Why didn't you enlist? Gerald—I had trouble with my feet. Geraldine—Flat or cold?—Judge.

The Bee's Letter Box
Dear Little flag in the window there...

Dear Little flag in the window there,
Dear little flag in the window there,
Dear little flag in the window there,
Dear little flag in the window there...

ACTRESS GIVES RECIPE FOR GRAY HAIR

A Well Known Actress Tells How to Darken Gray Hair With a Simple Home Made Mixture. Joicy Williams, the well known American actress, who was recently playing at the Imperial Theater in St. Louis, Mo., made the following statement about gray hair and how to darken it:

"Anyone can prepare a simple mixture at home, at very little cost, that will darken gray, streaked or faded hair, and make it soft and glossy. To a half pint of water add 1 ounce of bay rum, a small box of Barbo Compound and 1/4 ounce of glycerine. These ingredients can be bought at any drug store at very little cost, or any druggist can put it up for you. Apply to the hair twice a week until the desired shade is obtained. This will make a gray haired person look 20 years younger. It does not color the scalp, is not sticky or greasy and does not rub off.—Advertisement.

Defends the Brotherhoods

Omaha, Jan. 19.—To the Editor of The Bee: I noticed in your paper a few weeks ago a letter from one Walter Johnson attacking the present administration. Of course, it is a very hard matter to please everyone, but I think Mr. Wilson and his cabinet have proved satisfactory to the great majority of the American people. So far Mr. McAdoo has done wonders in the way of relieving the freight congestion. Mr. Johnson also attacks the four brotherhoods by saying their demands ought to be met by placing them on the battle front. I can truthfully say one thing—there are more members of the four brotherhoods on the battle front today doing their bit for the country than there are men of his kind. Perhaps Mr. Johnson never was out in a blizzard for 16 hours with frozen feet, hands and ears, and without anything to eat. That is what the members of a train crew have to contend with in the bad and stormy weather. Before there was a 16-hour law I worked 24 hours in a blizzard trying to serve the public. He don't know the working conditions of the men in the transportation department of a railroad. When we leave our homes to make a trip we can never tell whether we will get back safe or not. A mistake means death or a cripple for life. And to think there is always some one ready to condemn an organization because it is trying to better its working conditions! BERT BRIGGS.

Efficiency Is the Acid Test

Have you a place in your organization that needs bolstering up? Have you a place for one or two high grade men or women? If so we have them. Get in touch with this office. CALL US FOR HELP

Watts Reference Company

1135 First Nat'l Bk. Bldg. Douglas 3885

LAUGHING GAS. "What did the crank want, you were so short with?" "What did he want? Oh, nothing we couldn't supply. He only wanted a sundog, a moon calf, a sea fess and an ocean greyhound."—Baltimore American.

Get a Piano NOW, OF ALL TIMES, IS THE TIME TO HAVE MUSIC IN YOUR HOME

THESE are times when music is a blessing, a solace, a comfort. These are the times when every means should be employed to strengthen home ties. Every means should be used to drive away gloomy thoughts and lighten heavy spirits. Make your home cheerful. Make it the rallying point for your family and friends and make music its chief enjoyment and means of entertainment.

A. Hospe Co. 1513 Douglas St. PIANOS RENTED \$3.50 Per Month

THE OMAHA BEE INFORMATION BUREAU Washington, D. C. Enclosed find a 2-cent stamp, for which you will please send me, entirely free, "The Navy Calendar."

TODAY One Year Ago Today in the War. German light squadron made a sally from Zebruggue and was driven back by the British. Germany denied, in a note to the United States, illegal deportation of Belgians. Bulgarians effected a crossing of the northern mouth of the Danube. The Day We Celebrate. M. F. Shafer of M. F. Shafer company, born 1870. Franklin W. Harwood of Thomas Cusack company, born 1851. George Bell, Jr., major general of the United States army, born 59 years ago today. Holbrook Blinn, born 46 years ago today. Dr. Ezra S. Tipple, president of Drew Theological Seminary, born 57 years ago today. This Day in History. 1354-The Kansas-Nebraska bill was introduced in the United States senate. 1862-The Federalists sank a stone gage to obstruct the harbor of Charleston, S. C. 1853-General Burnside dismissed Generals Hooker, Brooks, Newton and Franklin from their commands "for remaining the confidence of the army." 1893-Phillips Brooks, Episcopal bishop of Massachusetts and famous pulpit orator, died in Boston. Born there, December 12, 1835.

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Post Mortem of The 7th. York Republican Governor Neville is considering the purchase of a perfectly good, very colonel's uniform for a senatorial toga. But that is just as elusive a garment as the other, governor. Kearney Hub: Following the unscrupulous scrambling of the Seventh Nebraska Regiment of which Governor Neville was to have been colonel, the democratic dope mizers at Lincoln are busily engaged in making a senatorial candidate out of the governor. Of course Neville is silent. He is thinking what he thinks and no one except himself is familiar with his thoughts. If he is wise he will stand pat, patter, pat, pat, for a second term as governor and not to be tempted to play into the hands of the politicians. Minden Courier: The brave young fellows who enlisted in the Seventh regiment deserve only our heartiest commendation, inasmuch as they are not to blame for the idea of going to war, that all should be left to the draft. They have yet the opportunity to enlist in the army or navy. Those few who did not like it need not now serve and those who join the ranks might down Kaiserism will be just as glad to swap old Bill with another bunch of fellows or in the navy as with their own companions, even if they are not given as high a position in the service through their enlistment or being drafted. The main thing is to help Germany, and that is the object held in view by most of the boys of Company I. Good luck to them!

Peppery Points. Washington Post: If Herb Hoover can only prevail on the railroads to observe a congestionless day, it'll help greatly. Minneapolis Tribune: Not so very long ago there was a general preference for salaries. Nowadays most people prefer wages. Baltimore American: It is a hard job to prove to the consumer out of coal that federal control of the railroads is any better for the country than private direction, for he sees no difference in results. Brooklyn Eagle: Big wages don't hold American men if they have to sleep in cots, six or eight in a room, unheated and with primitive sanitary conditions. There is the big problem of the shipbuilding plants, and the sooner it is recognized the better. Wall Street Journal: Prominent banker says: "If everyone took counsel from his fears and tried to stand from under, we should come to the end of our rope." Allowing the mixed metaphor, which assumes that all of us, and not merely the railroads, are on the gas—... he said something. Brooklyn Eagle: Perhaps no rebuke from any of his own people has ever hit the Kaiser harder than the return of 1,300 iron crosses by veterans who did not care to share such honors with numberless civilians who never smelled gunpowder. Even a blood-minded autocrat has a sensitive "heel of Achilles," if ingenuity can find it. Geraldine—Flat or cold?—Judge.