

THE OMAHA BEE

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Old Boreas may as well understand that he is now regarded as an intruder.

Leon Trotzky may be a dreamer, but he wakes up when smitten by the mailed fist.

"Shovel tag day" is coming nearer, but you need not wait for its advent, for you can tag your shovel at any time.

A war department on a peace basis is all right in peace times, but with the country actually engaged in war something more effective and facile in its operations than what we have is needed.

General Goethals will have full control of the army clothing supply in the future, which means that some of the red tape has been cut at Washington. A little more of it can well be spared.

Austria should encounter little difficulty in opening a peace confab with the United States, but Count Czernin must come to it with full knowledge that he is not dealing with the Bolshevik.

The Dutch have decided to send their steamships out to sea without permission from the Kaiser, which is another way of expressing "freedom of the seas," although it is not so admitted by the Potsdam pirates.

Omaha bakers are going to have a chance to show in court whether they are exempt from the orders of the food administrator. One good way to avoid serious trouble with Uncle Sam just now is to do what is required of you, and argue afterwards, if any debate is needed.

The Kaiser is not progressing very fast with his lessons in the English language; at any rate, he has not yet learned to pronounce and define "restoration" and "reparation," and until he can pass a satisfactory examination on these he is likely to be the subject of both restraint and discipline.

More gratifying reports as to the health of our soldiers are now coming. For the week ending January 18 only 46 per thousand of all the troops in service were on sick list, which is by far the best return yet made. It is proof that recent agitation concerning conditions in the army have had the effect of stirring authorities to action.

Lesson in Farm Yield Values.

Figures furnished by the Agricultural department as to the value of crops of the United States for the last year are very gratifying. The total farm price of all the major products for the year 1917 amounts to \$13,580,768,000, the greatest sum ever aggregated for a single crop year.

German Demands Stand Unabated.

Chancellor von Hertling's address to the Reichstag committee holds very little of encouragement to those who had hoped for recession on part of Germany in the matter of war demands. Specifically the chancellor addresses himself to the 14 points outlined by President Wilson and endorsed by the Entente Allies as essential to peace.

On the fifth point, dealing with the status of colonies, the chancellor halts, saying difficulties will be encountered. This must be interpreted to mean that Germany does not propose to relinquish its South African colonies, having offered them to Great Britain in return for the restoration of Belgium at British expense.

In this no nearer approach to peace may be discerned. The attitude of Austria, as indicated by Count Czernin, is quite different. The Austrian foreign minister hopes that conversations between his country and the United States may lead to a better understanding, if not an actual way to settlement.

Significance of Certain Indictments.

The indictment by a grand jury down at Lincoln of two county commissioners should make public officials holding similar positions of responsibility and trust in other parts of the state, including Omaha, sit up and take notice. It would be unfair to prejudice the culpability of the men involved in the particular cases referred to, but it is pertinent to call attention to what some of the counts in the true bills charge, namely, "palpable omissions of duty" and "partiality in the discharge of their duties" constituting misdemeanors in office.

Purpose of Proposed War Cabinet.

Public thought should not be confused on the question of the proposed war cabinet. Its establishment could not take from the president any of his constitutional or war powers, nor hinder him in his personal direction of affairs.

Machinery of our War department as at present constituted has shown by its workings that it is inefficient as well as insufficient for the task assigned to it. No other country has tried to manage its war business on a plan similar to ours.

A superior war council would eliminate much of the present cumbersome and dilatory management of our army and navy; it would secure better results as less cost in time and money, and so would save many lives as well as much energy.

These facts make the president's determined opposition to the plan all the more inexplicable. Readjustment of our army control must come, though, either through the president or through congress if we are to win in the war.

Send Your Soldier a Smile
Government Builds Show House, Public Must Provide Tickets

Washington, Jan. 22.—The "Liberty Theaters" in the training camps of the national army are going into action. Already performances of Broadway's leading hits have been given with record attendance, and before the end of this month all 16 theaters are expected to be doing business.

"Smileage" is the medium by which you may conveniently provide your soldier with a seat in the Liberty theater for every performance. The commission on training camp activities, which is the branch of the War department that has charge of the task of amusing the soldiers, has issued booklets of tickets in two sizes costing \$1 and \$5 respectively, and containing that amount of admissions to the shows, good when used.

"We fellows in the training camps have provided an outlet for the war emotions of thousands of writers—mothers, sisters, wives and friends—who want to 'do something.' Don't think for a minute that we aren't grateful for their sympathy, and for all the things they really are doing for us.

"What generally happens? On pay day the money is recklessly spent. Some kind of amusement is necessary. Bright lights, good food, snappy shows, girls—anything."

Smileage will be put on sale, by special committees in 15,000 towns on January 28.

The Coming Liberty Loan
Date, Terms and Amount Kept Dark by the Treasury

American finance and the American people are face to face with another big problem, the third Liberty loan, or an amount that will total fully \$5,000,000,000 and possibly \$6,000,000,000. The only escape will be through an early peace.

There may be more logic in the treasury's attitude than appears on the surface. Bankers have said that a 4 per cent bond will be most difficult to sell, but on the other hand would not the treasury be criticized if it should offer a 4 1/2 per cent bond and then, just as its sale had been accomplished, peace were to descend upon us?

Washington Post: German peace terms always make good reading between the lines. Minneapolis Journal: Matrimony is all right, but sometimes a wife uses his pipe to drive a tack with. Pittsburgh Post: Industries are doing their part by saving coal, and they expect the government to do its part by moving it.

The Bee's Letter Box

Dear Danger Line On Coal. Omaha, Jan. 24.—To the Editor of The Bee: There is an error in the minds of the people of Omaha that there is a plentiful supply of coal.

Believes in Mr. Garfield. Madison, Neb., Jan. 24.—To the Editor of The Bee: "Oh, consistency, thou art a jewel!" One week we read in the papers of our United States senators dragging the war officials onto the carpet and putting them through the third degree because they have not speeded up war preparations just to their liking.

Pay of Postal Employees. Grand Island, Neb., Jan. 22.—To the Editor of The Bee: One item in your paper I had a small clerk on trains, our letter carriers of the streets of the cities that I pass through daily and monthly and our several route carriers making trips of from 25 to 32 miles daily and usually over bad roads are on a fixed pay class of men.

For Knight Malo. 55c Per Gallon. A Heavy, Viscous, Filtered Motor Oil. The L. V. Nicholas Oil Company.

Be popular—clear your skin with Resinol Soap

Does a pimply, unattractive skin shut you off from admiration and pleasant associations? Each time you cleanse your face with Resinol Soap you give it a "beauty treatment" with the soothing, healing Resinol medication.

QUICK RELIEF FROM CONSTIPATION

Get Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets. That is the joyful cry of thousands since Dr. Edwards produced Olive Tablets, the substitute for calomel.

Peppery Points

Washington Post: German peace terms always make good reading between the lines. Minneapolis Journal: Matrimony is all right, but sometimes a wife uses his pipe to drive a tack with.

Out of the Ordinary

European factories each week make 17,000,000 pounds of artificial butter with cocoanut oil as a base. William M. Benninger, member of the Pennsylvania house from Northampton, is the father of 17 children.

Twice Told Tales

Nervous Operation. It was the first week that the Jinkses who had fallen in considerable property, had been in their new home.

Woe Betide Him.

Miss Eleanor Sears, the young sportsman, was talking in Boston about a young man who had recently been fitted.

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."