

THE OMAHA BEE

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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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Have you planned your little garden patch yet?

Mobilizing the boys for farm work is one good way of starting them right in life.

Spring snows ultimately find their way into corncribs and wheat bins in Nebraska.

Nebraska's hospital unit is now called to duty, giving the state full representation in every branch of the service.

Hides are coming down and hoarders are pocketing losses, which is another occasion for great public grief-not.

A German editor says the Sammies will not fight, but he will have a hard time making some of Hindenburg's men think so.

The new Liberty motor is reported to be performing all that was asked of it, but it will sound better when humming over the battle front.

Calamity howlers will have to look up a new topic, since General Crowder has announced draft plans that will not disturb agriculture.

Lloyd George says a league of nations cannot be created by talk alone. He is right, and when peace comes the league will be based on justice firmly established and strongly supported.

Oklahoma's model constitution has received another jolt from the federal courts. In good season that famous document may be brought to a point where it will be fairly workable for people now on earth.

Back of the opposition to the selective draft law is the objection to universal military training, which finally rests on the well-tried pacifist doctrine of "Let George do it." Americans must learn that to preserve their liberty they must be ready always for its defense.

Zimmerman's blunder in addressing Mexico as he did does not look so big now, when compared with the monumental fizzle committed by Von Bethman-Hollweg in demanding Toul and Verdun as a guaranty of French neutrality. Yet some defenders of the kaiser insist that Germany was not looking for war!

Prices in 1817 and Now.

Comparing prices paid for foodstuffs in 1817 with those of the present is interesting in its way and may be of service when all the facts are taken into account. Wheat is recorded as having reached the price of \$2 per bushel a century ago, but it would not be quite fair to put the cost of living on that basis. So far as the farmer and most of the population of the United States then were concerned, the price of wheat might have been arbitrarily fixed at any figure without greatly inconveniencing anybody. In that day of idyllic existence the farmer carried his wheat to the grist mill, driven by the waters of the bubbling creek, and from there the miller took toll for the grinding. Similarly other produce was exchanged for merchandise; labor in most instances was paid for in kind rather than in cash and only in the cities did the people feel the effect of the high prices and the scarcity. Those who care to might find some informative employment in looking up the history of industrial and social conditions in Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore, which were then the industrial centers of the country. They will discover poverty and distress, labor unrest, strikes and general dissatisfaction, very much as we have them now. Examination into the problems of production and distribution then and now may serve to help in comprehending the advance made in some social ways. High prices are not the best possible proof of real progress.

EXPUNGE THIS ODIOUS LAW.

It seems to be understood and approved by everybody that the governor's promised proclamation, convening the Nebraska legislature in special session, will include among its objects the repeal of the Mockett law put upon our statute books through the agency of the German propaganda to force the teaching of the German language into our grammar grade schools. In saying "approved by everybody," he probably should make an exception of the hyphenated World-Herald, which has only within the last few days given over space on its editorial page to a protest against changing our attitude toward the teaching of German in the public schools in any respect.

But while repealing the Mockett law, our lawmakers should also undo another piece of insidious German propaganda smuggled through the legislature of 1915 by the same underground strategy. We refer to the law intended to make it compulsory to publish the delinquent tax list in German newspapers in all counties in this state in which such foreign-language papers are printed. This law, of which few of our people are aware, purports to make it mandatory on the county board to hand over a third of the money spent for publishing the delinquent tax notice to the local German newspaper as a subsidy out of the public treasury for the support of the German propaganda which was at its height at the time of the enactment and, as we know, has by no means yet discontinued.

To what extent this law has been applied throughout the state, we are not aware, but its retention upon our statute books is a disgrace to Nebraska and it should not stay there one day after the legislature has time to expunge it. The governor will make a great mistake if he does not include the repeal of this odious legislation in the subject matter for the special legislative session.

One Army, One Flag, One Nation.

That all "neighborhood" or state distinctions are to be wiped out in the army is indicated from Washington. Instead of maintaining the distinctive status of state troops, National Guard units, or national army divisions, as distinguished from regular army organizations, officers and men alike are to be brought into service as members of the army of the United States. This policy has its foundation in wisdom born of experience. On the fighting front it is impracticable to maintain the local character of the units. Under the pressure of service they are inevitably forced into one organization, losing any evidence of state or other distinction. Replacements in the service lines must be made without regard to what part of the country the men came from, fitness being the only condition to be observed. General Pershing has outlined this need so clearly that it fairly answers the objections now being raised by the democrats in congress to the amendment to the selective draft law asked by General Crowder. For the future we will not have 48 state armies, one "regular" army and one "national" army, confusing and unmanageable, but one army, under one flag, and fighting for one nation.

Russia in the Depths.

Another chapter in the tragedy of Russia has been enacted, this time confirming the doubts expressed by The Bee for the success of the revolution, announced to America one year ago. Incapable of resistance, the soviets have voted to accept a peace dictated by Germany, the full terms of which have not yet been disclosed, but humiliating and such as is granted by a heartless and haughty conqueror to an abject victim. Advantage thus gained by Germany is incalculable. All the material resources of the vast agricultural region of the former czar's domains are now at command of the kaiser. The mines, so far as they are productive, the oil wells, and supplies of many kinds of which the Central powers have been denied and which are needed for the war, have been put in reach of Germany. This means only the prolongation of the war, if the allied democracies are to emerge entirely victorious.

It is inconceivable that any ending to the war will be acceptable in which no account is taken of the Russian people. Sympathy and promise of assistance already has been given them by our president, and in this all farseeing statesmen and philosophers agree. Freedom for Russia may be postponed, but it is not entirely lost. In the days of oppression that must follow German usurpation the spirit of the people will grow in strength, and in time, assisted by the great democracies now battling for the world's freedom, they will be brought to the possession and enjoyment of liberty.

Just now the logic of events is forcing the allies to a decision in the question of Siberia. The attitude of Germany leaves little room for doubt as to the purpose of the little room. Hesitancy on part of the United States, England and France will be to the advantage of the foe in just such degree as it leaves open to seizure further supplies or source of supply. Prompt action may not only preserve more of Russia for the Russians, but aid in some extent the cause for which America is embattled.

Democrats in the house are "standing back of the president" in their favorite attitude, that of obstruction.

Lulling Germans About America How Americans in Berlin Must Toe the Line

Dr. A. H. Davis in New York Times

"The German press is carefully and adroitly continuing to foster the idea among the German people that America is not really in earnest about the war," said Dr. A. H. Davis yesterday, in discussing the situation in Berlin as he left it last night on his way to Dr. Davis, formerly of Piqua, O., is the American dentist who lived in the German capital 15 years and numbered Emperor William among his patients.

"Every effort," he said, "is being made to belittle America—even the highest officials are attempting to convey the impression that Germany has little to fear from the United States. Practically nothing is printed concerning America except the president's address on war aims and the possible bases of a permanent peace. Even these are treated by the papers as if the president were speaking as a sort of detached person whose interest was the welfare of the world, not with the idea that they represent the earnest determination of the American people to see the war through to a successful conclusion."

"Not until Germany begins to feel the military pressure of the United States, will the people realize the new conditions that confront them. Then, I predict, the fostered enmity toward England will be as nothing to the hatred that will be poured out by the inspired press against America. "The American business men who took advantage of the nine months' treaty between the United States and Germany to wind up business affairs as far as possible were kept under the closest surveillance by the police at all times and were not permitted to leave the city without a special permit. For one of them to go to a race meeting 10 miles out of Berlin it is necessary to apply for a permit at least a month in advance."

"The thing that has impressed me most since my return to America is the freedom we accord to German subjects over here. It seems to me as if no restrictions were upon them. In Germany every time some new regulation was adopted regarding the Americans the excuse was given that the United States was treating German harshly and there must be some retaliation. You can imagine my surprise to get home and find German subjects free to travel about the country at will, just so they do not actually go within a given distance of certain establishments."

"And this, too, in the face of the fact that not since the war started has a single overt act been charged against an American in Germany, whereas here in the United States we have had to go up to all sorts of admitted crimes by German residents. I have inquired as to this leniency toward Germans in the United States and have been told that the country is too big and there are too many Germans here to make it feasible to adopt the restrictive measures in force in Germany."

"I can assure you that the German government would not be deterred by the size of the task. The German people themselves are restricted in their movements, and no person is allowed to travel without a special identification pass, which may be demanded as many as five times during a short journey. The slightest thing will result in a curtailment of an American's privileges. A friend of mine criticized mildly an article in a Berlin paper. He thought that only friends were about. The next day he was sent for, admonished, and required to report to the police twice daily and to remain in his quarters."

Save Lorraine for France American French Line Points at Vitals of Junkers

Boston Transcript

To save Lorraine for France may be the glory of the American army. Our vanguard holds a sector on the front of French Lorraine, with its eyes toward Metz, the principal fortress in that part of the province, which Germany took from France in 1870, and which has now to be regained. Near Montsec, halfway between Verdun and Nancy, which are about 50 miles apart, our soldiers occupy an important strategic position, where either a strong offensive movement may be pushed or a staunch defensive maintained. Within the last few days the importance of the point has been emphasized by a disclosure of German designs. Not content with what they have of Lorraine, the Germans wish to conquer and annex the most valuable sections yet in French possession. This they call "rectification of frontier." It is what Prince von Bulow meant when in 1916 he spoke of "developing further our strategic position as against France, a position which is to be used as a base for very practical, that is, German—we might say soildly so. It is not the beauty of an enchanting land, with harmonious hills and noble trees and fern-bordered streams rushing to the Rhine, the land that after many wars has been designated "the most beautiful burial ground in the world."

Iron, more iron, though it should cost more blood, is what the Germans want. M. Maurice Barres, member of the French Academy, tells the Echo de Paris that he has received from a correspondent in Switzerland a copy of a confidential communication issued by the German syndicated steel industry, the title of the document being, "Why we should annex the mining districts of Lorraine." And why should they? Because without Lorraine iron they could not have carried on this war for one year and could not continue it now, and if the mining districts in German occupation were recovered by France she would have far more iron than she needs. When the Germans annexed Alsace-Lorraine they robbed France of what has been described as the

The Bee's Letter Box
Shoot the Profiteer.

Omaha, March 14.—To the Editor of The Bee: It begins to look as though we were going to get action on some of the kaiser's emissaries in this country. The recent order to put on the market the eggs held in storage, the investigation of the wool situation, the flurry in hides, etc., encourages one to the belief that authorities have discovered the futility of wasting time on the small-fry profiteers. The execution of a few of that class of German conspirators, whether citizens of the United States or not, and the confiscation of their stocks of supplies, will do more to encourage and solidify the rank and file of American citizenship than all the orators in existence can accomplish.

Personally I am of the opinion the government should be mistaken by not searching out those responsible for the destruction of many carloads of produce at Chicago and elsewhere last fall and placing them before a firing squad. The effect would have been good.

The American people are more than willing that the allies and our army in France shall have all they require, and imagine they are just as willing that the traitors known as profiteers be summarily dealt with, thereby removing the kaiser's most efficient aid in the United States.

Wants Publicity Censored.

Omaha, March 14.—To the Editor of The Bee: It surprised me that Omaha papers should have given so much space to the bolshevik meeting that was held in Omaha last Sunday night. It seems to me that it would have been better to have ignored them entirely and for the federal officers to have suppressed that meeting. We see that has happened in just what allowing such an element to get control of affairs in that badly wrecked nation, and by publishing accounts of their meetings courage is given that element to spread their propaganda throughout the United States. A censor was needed to suppress all accounts of that meeting of Sunday last.

The democracy talk that has been indulged in so much in the last year by so many is all right with intelligent people, but when it was preached to the ignorant masses of Russia it did an immense amount of harm for the vast multitudes of that country have no more conception of what democracy means than so many cattle.

An Omaha lawyer was arrested for simply repeating what has been said in the United States senate many times in the last few months by democrats, yet the bolshevik meeting of last Sunday night was not disturbed except in the manner of language or dialect used. The leaders of that meeting were allowed to go ahead and advance their disorganizing propaganda and then were pleased to see what the papers had to say about the meeting. Such meetings should be suppressed and all notice of them should be censored.

We are in war times and the disloyal element should be handled with an unsparring hand, for they have done enough harm in the United States already.

The federal authorities are in pursuit of the principal speaker at the bolshevik meeting referred to in your letter is the only one so far received by The Bee in which objection is made to the near-side stop.—Editor The Bee.

About the City Campaign.

Omaha, March 15.—To the Editor of The Bee: Since very soon the voters of the city must through their ballots choose their bird help for a term of years, why cannot they get together in some way and petition the newspapers of the city just once to unite upon some real able representative men to constitute the personnel of these employees, the city commission? We all know that right in the press lies the hope nowadays for reforms political and social. Will not the city papers cast aside their differences and get together on a spring revival, or rather an original awakening?

Why cannot we apply the same tests in choosing our help that private concerns of similar character are in selecting theirs? Private concerns take their candidates upon the carpet and determine what qualifications they possess. The questionnaire is voluminous and unanswerable, and not whether their men possess abnormal hearts or stomachs, and mostly confine their examinations to the heads. The Lord has made of Omaha a splendid great city, but He cannot be expected to make the official portion of the town commensurately great without us looking after our end of the proposition, and without the affirmative aid of the newspapers we can never accomplish the feat.

GEORGE B. CHILD, SUNNY GEMS.

"I don't like to go to Mandry's in her time house for dinner." "Why not?" "She has too many new-fangled ways. The last time I went there, I had to

eat ice cream with a fork, and I'm afraid if I go there again she'll expect me to dip my soup with a tea strainer.—Baltimore American.
"I received an application for a job today from a man who enclosed his photograph. 'Want that queer?' 'Not at all. He wanted you to take him at his face value.'—Baltimore American.
Almae—When Harold proposed to you did he get down on his knees? Hazel—I should say not. Almae—Why didn't he? Hazel—Well—probably because they were asleep with a tea strainer.—Indianapolis Star.
"Civilization must get rid of some of its myths." "Good idea. I hope it will be as easy to dispose of old Jack Frost as it was to put John Barleycorn out of business."—Washington Star.
LEEDLE YAWCOB STRAUSS.
A news dispatch from Boston announces the death there of Charles Follen Adams, author of the following delightful little poem, which honored the German as we know him before the days of submarine outrages, liquid fire and poison gas.
I haf von funny ledle poe,
Vot games shut to mine knee;
Der queerest schep, der createst rogue,
As efer you lit see.
He runs, und schumpes, und schmaehs dings
In all parts of der house;
But vot do off? He vos mine son,
Mine ledle Yawcob Straus.
He dakes der milk-ban for a drum,
Und cuts mine cans in two
To make der sticks to beat it mit—
Mine gracions, dot vos true!
I dinks mine hed vos schplit abart
Vot der schup I dous;
But neder mind; der poys vas few
Like dot young Yawcob Straus.
He asks me questions soch as dese:
Who baints mine nose so red?
Who vas it dot doot schmoody place out
From der hall von mine hed?
Und voh der place von der lamp
How gan I all dose dings eggelbin
To dot schmal Yawcob Straus?
He got der measles und der mumps,
Und eferding dot's out;
He sbills mine glass off lager beer,
Forts schufft into mine kraut.
He fills mine pipe mit Limburg cheese—
Dot vos der roughest cheese;
I'd dake dot vom no oep poe,
But ledle Yawcob Straus.
I somedimes dink I schall go wild
Mit soch a grany poe;
Und voh vos more I goud haf rest,
Und peaceful dimes anshy;
But when he vas asleep in bed,
So quiet as a mouse,
I prays der Lord "Dake anyding,
But leat dot Yawcob Straus."
—CHARLES FOLLEN ADAMS.

DIAMONDS ON CREDIT WATCHES

EASTER SALE
The smart dresser will include in his or her new Easter outfit a genuine diamond, a fine watch, wrist watch or other fashionable jewelry. These handsome accessories are easy to obtain, for all you have to do is to open a charge account with us. Don't forget the New Location—304 SOUTH 16TH ST.

Loftis "Perfection" Diamond Ring

Most Popular Diamond Engagement Ring

Men's Favorite
767—Men's Diamond Ring, 6-prong, 2 1/2 ct. m o n t i n g , 1 4 k solid gold. \$75. \$1.85 a Week.

500—Fine Diamond, perfect in cut and full of fiery brilliancy, 14k solid gold mounting. Specially priced for Easter, at \$50.00. Terms, \$1.25 a Week.

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TODAY

One Year Ago Today in the War. Russian revolutionists decided to abolish the monarchy.

German Zeppelins raided the southeastern counties of England. War department sent out plans for mobilizing National Guard in event of war.

The Day We Celebrate. Percy Mackaye, noted poet and dramatist, born in New York City, 43 years ago.

Henry B. Walthall, one of the most popular of motion picture actors, born in Shelby county, Alabama, 40 years ago.

Elsie Janis, a popular star in musical comedy, born at Columbus, O., 28 years ago.

Clyde Millan, outfielder of the Washington American League baseball team, born at Linden, Tenn., 32 years ago.

This Day in History. 1750—Caroline Herschel, who shared in the achievements of her brother, the great astronomer, born in Hanover. Died there January 14, 1848.

1843—Daniel O'Connell addressed an audience of 30,000 people in favor of the repeal of the legislative union of Great Britain and Ireland.

1848—David Wilmot, Pennsylvania senator, author of the famous "Wilmot Proviso," died at Towanda, Pa. Born at Bethany, Pa., January 20, 1824.

Just 30 Years Ago Today

Mrs. Frank D. Mead is enjoying a visit from her brother, Jake S. Kurtzman of Minneapolis, Minn.

W. R. Goodall, the talented local amateur minstrel, has been tendered a benefit by his many friends and the performance will be given at Boyd's opera house.

Mrs. A. Atkinson, proprietress of the oldest millinery establishment in Omaha, has retired.

J. R. Thompson of this city is endeavoring to found a home for the benefit of destitute children. He has rented a house and one acre of ground at Thirty-ninth and Leavenworth streets. The house has seven rooms and Mr. Thompson proposes to furnish it neatly and secure the services of a competent matron.

Rev. Drs. Maxfield and Lemon returned from Lincoln, where they had been attending a trustee meeting of the Nebraska Wesleyan university.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: Pantaloons made of paper are a probability. Washington Post: When Bill the Blasphemer rolls his eyes to heaven it's a sign some weak nation has been stabbed.

Minneapolis Journal: If the German "offensive" runs up against the general Tasker H. Bliss' "plan of operations" fur and iron will fly.

Baltimore American: The kaiser is still throwing bouquets around for the great victory gained. There's more fact who "did not even show fight."

Whittled to a Point

Minneapolis Journal: The former czarina is to be placed on the throne of Russia, according to reports of the great victor's gains.

New York World: The first anniversary of our entrance into the war will be dedicated to the flotation of the third Liberty loan. That is a praiseworthy use to which to put the day in American history which is deemed more iron than gold.

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Brooklyn Eagle: There are two reasons why war tears should glisten on the green shamrocks of St. Patrick's day. One is the death of a great Irish leader, the other the folly of Sinn Feiners who fought him.

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"Over There"

"Tell everyone to write all they can, for mail looks good to us." This from one of the boys speaks for all the boys on the other side. It is up to the home folks to heed the call cheerily and often.

King Albert of Belgium lives and works among his troops in the 25th Swiss regiment. His country held against the invading Huns. His residence in the meadows is a country house resembling Mount Vernon, a white, plain, simple two-story building to which he has a garden in front.

The Hon. William John MacGreagh MacCaw, M. P., and Mrs. MacCaw, haled into court at Godstone, Eng., for food hoarding, failed to explain why they packed their cellars with enough provisions for a siege of 32 weeks. The experiment cost them £400, quite a margin above the market value of the hoarded food.

A collection of Raemaekers' drawings of Hun ravages in Belgium exhibited at Geneva, Switzerland, drew a protest from the German counsel of them on the other side.

The trial a number of witnesses from France testified that the drawing represented only part of the truth and that the real truth was worse. The court dismissed the complaint, holding that the artist had not intended to insult Emperor William, but to illustrate his conception of the emperor as responsible for the horrors of the war.

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Twice Told Tales

Fond Mother Critics. Recently an entertainment was given by the pupils of a public school. The fond mothers of nearly all the youngsters were assembled in the audience. Finally the boy orator of the occasion arose.

"Friends, Romans and countrymen," he began, in a loud voice, "lend me your ears."

"There!" whispered one of the fond mothers to the woman next her. "I knew it! Just like his mother!"

"Just like his mother!" returned the other wonderingly.

"Yes," answered the first. "He's Mary Jones' boy. He wouldn't be his mother's son if he didn't want to borrow something."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

An Eye to Trade. He had been fishing patiently for several hours without a bite when a small urchin strolled up.

"Any luck, mister?" he called out. "Run away, boy," growled the angler, in gruff tones.

"No offense, sir," said the boy, as he walked away, "only I just wanted to say that my father keeps a fish shop down to the right, sir."—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

A Mild Hint. "So your father threatened to spank you, did he?" "Yes, he said if I made such a noise playin' automobile I'd be turned turtle fore I know it!"—Boston Transcript.