

THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING) - EVENING - SUNDAY

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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The Bee's Service Flag



Over the top, but keep going.

Sunday base ball is not an issue in Omaha, according to all the candidates.

This is the day we celebrate by putting the "tanks" over the top for Nebraska and Omaha. Vasily done.

Fritz has had a taste of Yankee fighting, and does not relish it, but he will get a lot more before the end comes.

Canada's answer to the anti-draft agitation is to call all unmarried men to the colors. The Canucks mean business.

That raid on Zeebrugge and Ostend stirred the hornets in the kaiser's camp, but their stings are not nearly so deadly now.

The weatherman is hereby formally notified that he is holding back a lot of war gardeners who are anxious to get busy outdoors.

Omaha names are coming home in the casualty list. Our boys over there are redeeming the promises they made when they started.

More people are coming to understand why Omaha did not get the big cantonment when Des Moines was a bad second in the race.

Germany is boasting its eighth war loan will win, but it is going to take more than the depreciated currency of the kaiser to determine victory this time.

The president is due to hear a chorus today such as he has never yet listened to, and the kaiser can hear it, too, if he will only turn his one good ear towards Omaha.

One characteristic of Charles M. Schwab already is in evidence. He has emitted no proclamations up to date beyond the one addressed to the shipbuilders, urging them to greater efforts. He did not build up Bethlehem by writing or talking about his plans.

Tax Free Government Bonds.

Attorney General Reed has just given an opinion which, if adhered to, greatly enhances the value of the Liberty bonds as an investment. It has been understood, of course, that these bonds as such are tax free, exempt from all levies save that of the income tax, above the limit set by the government. But, under the rule laid down by the courts, the owners of banking shares have not enjoyed the immunity, because the tax is laid not against the amount of property held by the bank but on the shareholders according to the value of its shares. As this has been determined by the capital stock, it follows that when any amount of that is represented by government bonds, these securities are taxable under the rule. Attorney General Reed has reversed this practice and recommends that banks deduct from their capital account for tax purposes the sum of any investment in Liberty bonds. The advantage of this is easy to be seen. Banks will be more ready to make purchases if this recommendation stands, for it gives them practically a liquid asset free from taxation and bearing a good rate of interest.

WHAT DOES THE BOARD CONTROL?

One of the singularities of the proceedings before the Board of Control, just now investigating the record of the late head of the Reformatory for Girls at Geneva, involves an attack on the acts of the board itself. In order to sustain an allegation of extravagance, expenditures of large sums of money for maintenance of the home are shown. It also appears these payments were made with full knowledge of the board, and that the bills were audited and approved, and payment made with assent of the members. Just where this form of inquiry will lead does not appear on the surface. We do not think the board intends to censure itself for making expenditures it deemed prudent and necessary, and it certainly can not blame the accused superintendent for doing those things the board authorized to be done. This naturally raises the question: What does the board control? If it is the management of state institutions, its members should know at all times the condition of the funds and the circumstances surrounding all expenditures on account of the public service. With this information, it would not need to make a formal inquiry to determine if the head of an institution were making extravagant or unauthorized purchases. Where is the inquiry leading?

New Game Aids Shipbuilding.

The farmer, who, according to the old story, said to the tired gang of field laborers after supper: "Come on, boys, let's go out and play dig cellar till bedtime," is being outdone in the shipyards of America. A new game has been instituted among the workers. It is who can drive home the most rivets in a working day. For the week ending last Saturday, "Finner" Schock of Baltimore established the high record, 2,720 three-quarter inch rivets headed up snug and passed by inspectors in nine hours. The "Finner" drove his hammer so fast it was necessary to add an extra heater and passer to his gang. At Buffalo a riveting gang set 2,087 seven-eighths inch rivets in eight and one-half hours, and received \$83.50 for the day's work. This rivalry is extending to all shipyards of the country, and teams are striving daily to make records. It not only means more pay for the men, but it means more ships for the nation.

The importance of riveters to the program may be understood from the fact that it takes 950,000 rivets to hold together an ordinary freighter, while 575,000 rivets are required by a U-boat destroyer. Crack gangs are essential in this work. Most gratifying of all features is the spirit of keen rivalry that has sprung up between the men of the different yards. For example, the owners of the Union Works at San Francisco made a wager of \$20,000 that they could excel the record of the Fore River yards. When the San Francisco men heard of this, they asked that the bet be turned over to them, and it was. In sums of \$50 to \$500 the men put up the \$20,000 and are now hustling to win their own bet. Seattle gangs, working on big ship orders, are offering to bet 2 to 1 that they will fill their contracts ahead of time.

And this is the spirit of the working gangs in the shipyards. It is a proof of the loyalty of labor, and the nation need have no fear while its workers are thus imbued with a determination to win at this new game.

Mexico as an Aid to Kultur.

The not astonishing fact is revealed at this late date that before the war in Europe commenced agents of the kaiser were studying in Mexico the practical application of their theoretical terrorism. For example, one of Captain von Papan's correspondents was intensely interested in the most approved methods of train-wrecking, and went to Mexico to look up the way Carranza and Villa did it down there. Through him Captain von Papan made an intensive study and a detailed report on the matter, with conclusions as to the various methods to be employed and their value in the assault Germany was preparing to make.

Nothing could better illustrate the cold-blooded, systematic manner in which the war gang of Potsdam prepared for the conquest of the world. Nothing was overlooked by them, not even the savagery of the bushwhacking warfare of Mexico. No form of "terror" that might be of service to kultur was too debased or horrible to be adopted. Belgium is only an example of what fate waited the world that declined to submit to the demands of the kaiser's wrecking crew. Our people, who have been loath to believe that such things could exist, are slowly being convinced through documentary evidence, showing the activity of such men as Von Papan, who wore the kaiser's uniform, moved among cultured people, smiled with cordiality and plotted with devilish persistence to undo those who fell under the blight of his monumental treachery.

No chapter in all the war is blacker than that which shows how the German agents persistently abused the hospitality and confidence of trusting, credulous Americans.

Champ Clark may be senator if he likes to fill out the unexpired term of William Joel Stone, but he possibly will prefer the cinch he has to the necessity of facing a state-wide electorate.

Promotion of Mediocrity Menace of Seniority in Senate Foreign Relations Committee

The late Senator Stone of Missouri came to be chairman of the senate committee on foreign relations simply by seniority. It is no injustice to his memory to record the fact that neither his studies, his acquisitions, nor the character of his mind made him the most suitable, or even a suitable, person for that post. Time was his chief merit. Now health and time are to appoint his successor. The next man on the list happens to be Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska. Of Mr. Hitchcock's singular zeal to alter international law for the benefit of Germany before the entrance of the United States into the war it would be impolite, it might even be unfair, to speak. Let bygones be bygones. Not against him personally, but against the system of promotion, with no thought of special talent or merit, but for mere length of service on the committee, must just objection be made. It is true that nothing known, or visible, in his public services in either branch of congress marks him as fit to be chairman of this committee whose work must be momentous in the present and in the future, since the old comparative isolation of the United States from the world is ended, since in Europe, in Asia, in Mexico, Central and South America, in the Caribbean as in the Pacific, are vital American connections and interests, the multifarious interrelations and interpenetrations of country with country in a world made small by steam and electricity and the airplane. The peace that is to end this war, new treaties, guaranteeing new relations, all the great international roles, economic and political, of the United States hereafter, will bring a graver responsibility to the senate in its constitutional functions as to foreign affairs; will require an adequate and accomplished mess with the idea of showing the varieties of food served. In quantity it is the measured ration of the soldier: Friday, February 1, 1918: Grits Butter Coffee Syrup Bread DINNER: Bean Soup Fried Fish Potatoes Coffee Stewed Prunes Bread SUPPER: Chili con Carne Tea Saturday, February 2: Oatmeal Coffee Bread Butter Syrup DINNER: Vegetable Soup Potatoes Ragout of Beef Coffee Stewed Peaches Bread SUPPER: Apple Rice Tea Sunday, February 3: Grits Butter Coffee Syrup Bread DINNER: Coffee Milk Rice Bread Butter Fresh Oranges Syrup SUPPER: Vegetable Soup Cabbage Potatoes Pork Loins Bread Cocoa Vanilla Pudding, Fruit Sauce Bread Sliced Cheese Tea Stewed Apples Bread Butter Monday, February 4: Grits Butter Coffee Syrup Bread DINNER: Bouillon Boston Beans with Sliced Bacon Potatoes Bread Coffee SUPPER: Milk Rice Stewed Peaches Tea Bread Jam Wednesday, February 6: Grits Butter Coffee Syrup Bread DINNER: Bouillon with Vegetables Roast Beef Coffee Potatoes Bread SUPPER: Chili con Carne Bread Jam Tea Stewed Peaches (The above are true copies of bills of fare.—G. C. K., in charge of mess, March 8, 1918.) "Chicken fricasse and hashenfeffer are prospective items on future bills of fare, as some of the men have begun to raise chickens and rabbits. The commandant is thinking of putting in a Belgian hare warren, and says he could save the government nearly 50 per cent in meat. "The average cost of the mess in the larger compound, as shown by the records of the executive officer for February, is .3367 per man, which is nearly 8 cents under the amount allowed. "Food for the smaller, or 'millionaire,' compound is purchased by the executive officer from funds in his charge belonging to the interned men. No limit is placed upon their purchases, which conforms to the rule for interned military and naval officers who also buy their own food. "The average cost of the 'millionaires' mess for February as computed from the records of the executive officer was .6591, or nearly double that of the mess in the larger compound for the same period. This is largely accounted for by the purchase of such meats as ham and lamb, which are not served in the larger compound mess, and by the purchase of eggs, fruits and more canned goods. As the expense of the mess is borne by the men themselves, the government has not found warrant in restricting purchases as long as they are considered within reason."

Food Served in Alien Prison Camps Menus About the Same as in Army Cantonments

How does the United States treat the interned civilian enemy aliens and its military prisoners of war? To get truthful and detailed answers about the situation, the New York World, with the consent of the War department, sent a staff correspondent to visit the two most typical war prison camps in the United States—one at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., where only civilian enemy aliens are interned, and the other at Fort McPherson, Ga., where only military prisoners are interned. The correspondent says, in part: "The food served in the big compound is issued through the quartermaster's department and is substantially the same in amount and quality as the food issued to government troops in army cantonments. An exact record is kept of everything, and the man in charge of the mess files away his daily bill of fare for a perpetual record. The food is inspected by the officer of the day before it is served, the same as in the army. "All of the food regulations laid down by Director Hoover are strictly observed—meatless and porkless days. Fish is the meat dish on Fridays. Practically every day is wheatless day. The camp has its own bakery and the bread is principally rye or with an occasional admixture of wheat flour, but very little of the latter is used. Almost without exception the men prefer the rye. "Bills of fare at Fort Oglethorpe for five days in February, given herewith, were selected from the files of the men in charge of the mess with the idea of showing the varieties of food served. In quantity it is the measured ration of the soldier: Friday, February 1, 1918: Grits Butter Coffee Syrup Bread DINNER: Bean Soup Fried Fish Potatoes Coffee Stewed Prunes Bread SUPPER: Chili con Carne Tea Saturday, February 2: Oatmeal Coffee Bread Butter Syrup DINNER: Vegetable Soup Potatoes Ragout of Beef Coffee Stewed Peaches Bread SUPPER: Apple Rice Tea Sunday, February 3: Grits Butter Coffee Syrup Bread DINNER: Coffee Milk Rice Bread Butter Fresh Oranges Syrup SUPPER: Vegetable Soup Cabbage Potatoes Pork Loins Bread Cocoa Vanilla Pudding, Fruit Sauce Bread Sliced Cheese Tea Stewed Apples Bread Butter Monday, February 4: Grits Butter Coffee Syrup Bread DINNER: Bouillon Boston Beans with Sliced Bacon Potatoes Bread Coffee SUPPER: Milk Rice Stewed Peaches Tea Bread Jam Wednesday, February 6: Grits Butter Coffee Syrup Bread DINNER: Bouillon with Vegetables Roast Beef Coffee Potatoes Bread SUPPER: Chili con Carne Bread Jam Tea Stewed Peaches (The above are true copies of bills of fare.—G. C. K., in charge of mess, March 8, 1918.) "Chicken fricasse and hashenfeffer are prospective items on future bills of fare, as some of the men have begun to raise chickens and rabbits. The commandant is thinking of putting in a Belgian hare warren, and says he could save the government nearly 50 per cent in meat. "The average cost of the mess in the larger compound, as shown by the records of the executive officer for February, is .3367 per man, which is nearly 8 cents under the amount allowed. "Food for the smaller, or 'millionaire,' compound is purchased by the executive officer from funds in his charge belonging to the interned men. No limit is placed upon their purchases, which conforms to the rule for interned military and naval officers who also buy their own food. "The average cost of the 'millionaires' mess for February as computed from the records of the executive officer was .6591, or nearly double that of the mess in the larger compound for the same period. This is largely accounted for by the purchase of such meats as ham and lamb, which are not served in the larger compound mess, and by the purchase of eggs, fruits and more canned goods. As the expense of the mess is borne by the men themselves, the government has not found warrant in restricting purchases as long as they are considered within reason."

People and Events

Right on the heels of Milwaukee's pronouncement for the red flags of socialism, brewers announce a boost in the price of beer. It's no darn worry after another under the crimson colors.

More woe for American smokers impend. Fifty per cent of the tobacco output of four big factories have been requisitioned by the government. Strict conservation of "the makin'" looms large in the summer horizon. "Forward with Knute Nelson!" is the political slogan of the loyalists of Minnesota. The senator will not campaign for reelection, leaving that to the people of the state with the simple statement, "As you order I serve."

It is more than probable that weather men stage the present "unseasonably cool weather" as a safety measure. Picked battalions of girl orators from six colleges this week are contesting for the champion belt in Kansas. In this circumstance cool waves take rank as inspired strategy.

An Irish-American priest knocking on the United States is one of the curiosities of war. One has just been indicted in Missouri—Rev. Michael D. Collins of Jackson, Cape Girardeau county—for sedition remarks in speeches and conversation. The clerical knocker is out on bail pending trial.

Trouble grows for the beneficiaries of the big "bar" tapped by the fusionist in New York mayoralty campaign. Several persons have been indicted for failing to report all they took and what they did with. Among the number is William Sulzer, former congressman and impeached governor. Sulzer was one of the paid stumpers of the fusionists.

A genial Jerseyman who was raised in Newark and finished life's run in Omaha used to tell his intimates how when returning late at night from excursions into New York bay they had an invisible but infallible signal of the nearness of home. A few rendering factories invariably hailed the excursionists with pungent odors, and the wearied crowd, or part of it, broke into song, "Home, Again." These unique odors still persist, apparently strengthened by the years, an aggressively driving into adjacent territory. Residents of upper New York threaten reprisals unless New Jersey purifies its atmosphere.

Right to the Point

Minneapolis Journal: Honey at 38 cents shows that the bee has detected the European crisis, too.

Washington Post: The average married man is not so much surprised at Solomon's wise sayings as at the fact he got an opportunity to say 'em.

Minneapolis Tribune: Kaiser Karl of Austria has sprung a new mother-in-law joke. He blames the letter to Prince Sixtus on the Duchess of Parma, mother of Empress Zita.

New York Herald: Another bit of action that congress should substitute for useless talk is that which would insure the early passage of a law depriving aliens of votes in the election of federal officials.

Baltimore American: They shall not pass! shout the French. Eat 'em up! yell the Americans. If our allies will hold the Germans we shall presently proceed to do that very thing to the world's enemy.

Minneapolis Journal: A non-partisan league button bears the slogan, "We'll Stick." It is a good slogan but ambiguous, leaving some doubt as to whether it refers to "sticking" the farmer for \$16, or to La Follette's speech sticking a knife in the back of the American soldier.

New York World: To a Hohenzollern emperor to whom a solemn treaty of Germany was a mere scrap of paper, the reputation by a Hapsburg emperor of a letter bearing his personal signature can hardly be a serious offense. What is truth between kaisers?

Classified. The son of a rich father decided that he ought to enlist, and went to the recruiting station. He was asked his occupation. "Why-er-well, just running through the gov'nor's money, don't you know," was the reply. The officer seemed in doubt how to classify him when a corporal standing by came to his assistance with a brilliant suggestion. "Put him down as a brass finisher, sir," he said.—Boston Transcript.

Round About the State

Beatrice Express: The special session of the legislature has finally completed the business before it and adjourned. For which fact Nebraskans will feel duty and heartily grateful. A real cheery feeling with the goods to back it pervades the live ones of Franklin. A \$50,000 new hotel is nearly ready for business. That's the style of front warranted to impress the visitor and tickle the home folks. Wayne Herald hails the repeal of the Mockett law as an effective means of "knocking the props from under the plans for building up foreign languages in the United States." The awakening glimpses a future blessing.

West Pointers appear doubtful of the wisdom of launching a paving drive just now, owing to the high cost of labor and material. "However," observes the Republican, "there is much preliminary work before actual paving can be commenced, and now is the time to do the preliminary work."

Twice Told Tales

His Nearest Living. A southerner in one of the cantonments below the Mason and Dixon line, when called up for examination, was asked: "What is your nearest living relative?" "What you mean, 'relative,' mister?" returned the recruit. "What, I mean your nearest living kinsfolk?" "Wal, that's my aunt you're talking 'bout." Several other questions were answered satisfactorily when there came: "In case of death or accident, who shall be notified?" "My mother," immediately from the selectman. "But you told me just a few minutes ago that your aunt was the nearest living relative that you have," objected the officer. "You asked me who my nearest living kin was, didn't you? Wal, that's Aunt Liz—she lives jest two miles from where I been livin'; mother lives five."—Minneapolis Tribune.

Shrewd Voters.

"Are you feeling the pulse of public opinion out your way?" "Not now," replied Matt Sorghum. "I'm going according to my own honest convictions. I have a pretty wise constituency. They know that when a man makes a show of feeling the public pulse he is in reality looking out for his own political health."—Washington Star.

The Bee's Letter Box

German in the High School. Omaha, April 25.—To the Editor of The Bee: We are inclined to think that the parents of Omaha having children in the High school are prone to follow the Germanic plan of submitting blindly to "those in authority" when it comes to courses of study. The self-satisfied members of our Board of Education ignore all requests or suggestions that the study of German be dropped from the course of study. They sit back and are amazed if anyone presumes that the course be changed. "It is so written, therefore it must so remain." One would think they would take pleasure in changing, but it seems they do not.

Possibly they think there will be no day of reckoning, but we might remind them that a certain very prominent politician is just at the present moment spending a lot of valuable time and we imagine a small (?) amount of money repairing his fences that he himself, assisted by his German friends, has kicked to pieces during the past three years. Also, that Americans today have reached the point where they want no one in authority over them except those who are in favor of a one-language America, good old English, without trace of Hunsism.

A personal question to Mr. Falconer: You desire the support and votes of American citizens that you may be elected city commissioner. Where do you stand on the question immediately abolishing the study of German in the High school? For my part, and I think I know of hundreds more of like mind, I will not vote for any one who will not come out flat-footed against German language and German methods in all places and at all times.

Every one in Omaha knows of the catchy song of the Liberty day parade and where it originated the kaiser. Well, by all means send the language along with him, and the Omaha Board of Education, too, if it continues to uphold the study of the hated thing in our schools. CITIZEN.

Where to Apply for Service. Scottsbluff, Neb., April 24.—To the Editor of The Bee: I want to get into the overseas services. I am past the draft age, being 35 years of age, so I would content myself with any of the other branches, so long as I get there.

Would take up Red Cross ambulance work or auto driving of any kind or any other work that my limited ability would permit. I have been in the real estate work since leaving school and my qualifications would be limited to a few branches.

Will you kindly advise me where and how I could make application for such services. Yours respectfully, J. RAY LANE.

Answer—Make application to the United States Public Service reserve, 1712 Eye street, Washington, D. C.

How Would You Like to Be Jones? Niobrara, Neb., April 24.—To the Editor of The Bee: You bought a couple of Liberty bonds, drew down your hard earned hoard. Two is your limit as living is now the most that you can afford, but you have your job and your home and all. Jones has gone over. He answered the call. How would you like to be a Jones?

Jones has gone over to battle for you—for you, for your home and your wife. He is doing the most that a man can do, giving himself to the strife. He's gone where the bullets and shrapnel fly. He doesn't know whether he'll live or die. How would you like to be a Jones? Jones could afford to take chances like that. Life is his limit, no less. You stay at home and buy Liberty bonds, only two bonds, you confess. Suppose Jones is killed while fighting for you. Friends, are you sure that your limit is two? How would you like to be a Jones? VICTOR HALVA.

GRINS AND GROANS.

"What is the matter?" "Blunkville is awful dry." "You voted for a dry town?" "I thought it would be moderately dry. But it's a Sahara desert, by gosh."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

She—Anything that is worth winning is worth working for. He—Yes, but the question is, will your father loosen up with the keys on working for you after I've won you?—Boston Transcript.

"That husband of yours will fight at the drop of the hat, I hear?" "Well, rather at the dropping up of a hat. When I mentioned the subject to him yesterday he got mad enough to fight."—Florida Times-Union.

"I wish Charles was not so generous to his family." "How do you mean?" "Well, he spends a lot of money, as well as I can find out, on some of our other, and when I inquired his watch and asked him where it was he said his uncle had it."—Baltimore American.

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Around the Cities

More than 2,500 workmen in the flour mills of Minneapolis have been placed on eight-hour schedules, with the present wage for 10 hours.

Topeka has clinched a deal for the erection of a 10-story fire proof hotel, to cost \$850,000, by the North American hotel company of Omaha. Work of clearing the site, Ninth street and Kansas avenue, has already begun.

A man astride a fence in San Francisco failed to lift his hat as the flag went by. A patriotic cop, observing the straddler's neglect, grabbed a leg to pull him down. The leg, a wooden member, gave way, carrying the cop sprawling to the ground, while the owner tumbled on the other side of the fence. Spectators, scenting a tragedy, hurried the leg-less one to the hospital and the cop to a livery. An hour later the pair came together in court, where the humor of the incident soothed hurt feelings. The leg-less one attached the missing member to his system, jolled the cop and merrily trekked from a smiling court. Score one more for the saving grace of humor.

"CANTS" AND CANS.

I can not go to France and help. Our allies hold their wall of brass; I could not throw a hand grenade. They were some 20 years ago; I'm but a woman, none too strong. I could not even be a nurse. But I can help our Sammie's fight With my small purse. I can not buy an acre lot. And plow it up and plant and hoe; My muscles are not strong enough— They were some 20 years ago; But I can hustle at my job. And use my brain and save my tin. And buy a bond to help our boys To chase the Hun back to Berlin. I haven't thousands to invest. For Liberty in this here loan. Or even hundreds can I raise. Scant are the hundreds that I own. But of those hundreds I can give. Until my purse is Jean and flat. For Uncle Sammie's needs are mine— And yours, my friends, take note of this. —RAYLOR NE TRELE.

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