

## THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING) — EVENING — SUNDAY

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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## The Bee's Service Flag



Have you got your second bond?

Another Red Cross drive is on the tapis, for the money is needed for war work.

Half fare for soldiers on furlough will help some, but free transportation would be better.

Over the top and going fast, with many returns to come, is Nebraska's record this time.

Secretary Baker wants a "white card" for the army. Give it to him. No limit on the game now.

The race between the radishes and the weeds will now be started. It is up to the war gardeners to referee the match.

"Like coming to good hotel," is the way one young soldier describes the effect of being transferred from a southern camp to Fort Crook.

If Minneapolis will look over the record of live stock receipts, maybe it will understand why Omaha's bank clearings overtop those of the Mill City.

London postmen want to know if men or mummies are to have preference in the safety of the subways. The answer to this ought to be easy.

Omaha boys are making new records at the recording office, just one more proof that the Kaiser's effort to frighten America had reverse English.

The crown prince is also a venturesome cuss; he got close enough to actual fighting to press the button on the "terror gun." That ought to get him any decoration he lacks.

New York now knows something of the sentiment that pervaded Omaha on a memorable occasion when a championship "wrestling" match ended in a draw. Barnum was right.

Winter wheat is reported to have made such progress in April that the estimate of 560,000,000 bushels for the crop is to be raised. What will be more to the point is to raise the wheat.

## Nebraska Farmers Pledge Loyalty.

Action by the Nebraska Farmers' War council, pledging loyal and unfettering support to the president, may be accepted as expressing the sentiment of the people of Nebraska without distinction as to calling. It is unfortunately true that some among us have not been loyal to the United States and that these have had the most attention during the last few months. In the clamor that has arisen over them the men and women who have quietly employed themselves at work essential to victory were forgotten by the world outside. However, in no part of the union has the response to the call of duty been more spontaneous than in Nebraska. Noisy agitators have had their day, and the solid sentiment of the substantial citizenry of the state is now coming to be understood. Next to men, Nebraska's greatest contribution to the cause of freedom will be food, and this will be furnished in extra supply. Our farmers are driving for production harder than ever, and will support their pledges of loyalty by deeds.

## TODAY

One Year Ago Today in the War.

Freemont village captured by British in the battle of Arras.  
Announcement that British transport Arcadian had been torpedoed in Mediterranean and several hundred lives lost.

The Day We Celebrate.

William B. Lincoln, car service agent of the Union Pacific, born 1864.  
Brigadier General Charles B. Wheeler, born in Illinois, 52 years ago.  
Colonel Henry S. Graves, U. S. A., born at Marietta, O., 47 years ago.  
Edgar W. Howe, Kansas editor and author, born at Treaty, Ind., 44 years ago today.

Angus Hermann, chairman of the National Base ball commission and president of the Cincinnati National league club, born 53 years ago today.

here to take command of the Department of the Platte.

General Manager Kimball, of the Union Pacific, who has been in Denver for some time, arrived in Omaha.

G. Macleod, accompanied by his daughter-in-law, left for Charlottesville, Can., his home town.

George E. Hawes, for a long time cashier in the Paxton, has accepted a clerkship at the Hotel Kitchen, Leadville, Colo.

Mark Beardsley, champion long distance rider of the world and late pony express rider of Buffalo Bill's Wild West show, is in the city.

1864—James McHenry, signer of the Declaration of Independence and secretary of war in Washington's cabinet, died in Baltimore. Born in Ireland, Nov. 16, 1752.

1848—William L. Wilson, postmaster general in Cleveland's cabinet, born in Jefferson county, Va. Died at Lexington, Va., October 17, 1900.

1856—George McIntosh Troup, one of the most memorable of Georgia's governors, died at Dublin, Ga., Born September 8, 1780.

1862—After withstanding a month's siege, the confederates began the evacuation of Yorktown, Va.

## NO MORE "DELETED" DEATH LISTS.

President Wilson has overruled the decision of the War department to cut out the addresses of soldiers from the casualty lists. His action is both sensible and humane. On behalf of the War department it was urged that publication of the address as well as the name of the soldier who had been killed or wounded gave information of value to the enemy, and that it would operate to cause annoyance to the family and friends of the soldier. For the first excuse little real ground can exist; our people have voluntarily submitted to be deprived of a great deal of information, for the reason that its publication might be of benefit to the enemy. Just how knowledge of the home address of a soldier who had suffered in battle can help the German cause is not plain. That such knowledge can subject his friends to annoyance from claim agents and others who seek to turn misfortune of others to their own advantage is more easy to understand. The government has tried to remedy this by giving assurance that all soldiers' relatives will be protected in all their rights without the intervention of special agents of any kind. With the routine work of the War department being placed on a smoother running plan, the purpose of the general arrangement may be carried out. At any rate, the authorities should find a better way to protect sufferers than withholding information. Principally, the decision of the president will obviate suspense and uncertainty arising from the fact that so many names of men in the army are exactly or nearly the same. When the address is published, identification is made more certain, and many relatives will be relieved of needless pain by knowing at once whether the dead or wounded man belongs to them or not. The president's decision is both wise and humane.

## Belgian Bells to German Guns.

Now the Hun is completing his orgy of sacrilege in Belgium by raiding undestroyed churches and taking bells to be melted up and cast into munitions. No phase of the Kaiser's campaign has been more luminous in its effrontery than the direct assault on religion and good morals. Constantly mouthing his thanks to God, and hypocritically pretending the utmost of devotion, the Kaiser has complacently witnessed the destruction of churches and cathedrals, the desecration of homes and the obliteration of sacred symbols wherever his hordes have attained even temporary foothold. As at Rheims, so elsewhere, the foes of civilization have directed their utmost and earliest efforts against houses of worship, without distinction as to creed. Militaristic materialism fails to comprehend or to take into account sentiments of veneration or of sanctity attained through long religious usage. The brave, pathetic protest of Cardinal Mercier will meet the same cold indifference encountered by his former attempts to stay the course of Kultur. Belgium's church bells will go to feed German cannon now being trained against other churches in France. In this civilized world may decry what fate awaits its institutions should Germany by any misfortune overcome the defense of freedom.

## Bohemians a Factor in the War.

Stories from Italy that Bohemian soldiers are leaving the Austrian army and going over to fight with the Italians may be believed. Similarly Bohemian regiments joined the Russians, and at the finish the fighting center of Korniloff's army was composed of Czech-Slavs who had transferred from the Central powers to the Allies. These soldiers have not been caught up in the bolshevik maelstrom, but somewhere maintain their organization and are eager to strike again for the freedom of their motherland. This will explain why the defections on the Italian front, taken with demonstrations at Prague and elsewhere, are so disquieting to the Germans. Any effort or demonstration of this sort weakens the German cause, now and for the future as well. It indicates the determination of the so-called "submerged" nations to reassert their individuality. Military bonds that have repressed them for generations have dissolved in the corrosive smoke of war, and with the freedom they have looked forward to now in sight they are not going to give over efforts until they have achieved their aims.

Bohemia has long been a resisting subject of the Austrian government, held as a "crown-land" and not as an equal in the empire. The coalition between the Magyar and the German that made Bohemia's subjugation possible is greatly weakened as a result of the present conflict and probably can not be restored. Even with the collapse of Russia, the pan-Slavic movement has not been abandoned, and the fighting units of the Czechs will afford a rallying point for the Slavs who seem determined at last to break away from German overlordship. As Austria's strength is sapped internally, so does the prospect for Germany's victory dwindle. Bohemia's protest against the tyranny of the Hapsburgs is coming to be an influential factor in the war.

Down at Kansas City a German spy admitted in court a record of four years of activity in the United States, including enlistment and desertion from the army. He was ordered interned for the duration of the war. That is all.

## German Designs on Holland

## Scheming for Its Harbors, Its Colonies and Its Trade

New York Times.

"Our Rhine remains the king of all the rivers," said Treitschke in his celebrated lectures. "It is an infinitely precious natural possession, but through our fault the greatest material advantage accruing from it has passed into the hands of another state, and it is an indispensable duty of German policy to regain the mouths of that river." Treitschke was a German of the Germans; with our present understanding of German state policy, as it has been revealed to us, we may say that he was a Hun of the Huns. It was his belief, his teaching, that the greatest duty of a state is to make itself strong, that it is the chief duty of the individual at all times to serve the state. Morality was no concern of the state, in his view; moral principles might regulate the conduct of individuals, self-interest must be the guide of rulers of states, therefore small states can have no rights which great ones are bound to respect. Treitschke did not blantly say that Germany should take possession of Holland to secure possession of the Rhine to its mouth; he resorted to a subterfuge. Holland being an independent state, it was not necessary to insist upon its political union with Germany, but "the entry of Holland into our customs community is as necessary as our daily bread."

This counsel of moderation is disregarded by the war-mad Germans of today. They are planning an assault upon the independence of Holland, they are seeking to create a pretext for war with the world, for the longest Dutch Foreign Minister London told the Dutch Chamber of Deputies that the dispute with Germany was "most serious," and we hear that German cavalry has appeared upon the Dutch border. It would appear that the imperial government, counting, it may be, overmuch upon the continued westward march of the German armies in Flanders and Picardy, indeed believing that victory is assured and therefore already won, has set about making those territorial arrangements which will guarantee to Germany the gains it will insist upon in the peace terms.

Germany covets the territory of Holland, for one reason, because it would thereby put itself in a position of immense strategic advantage against England. The Dutch coastal water would afford it many invaluable naval bases, and it would be separated only by the breadth of the North Sea from the coast of its enemy. Important as that may be, it is not Holland's chief element of value to it. Germany has lost its own colonies, it hopes to establish its title to the immensely more valuable colonial possessions of Holland. It is already preparing for the re-establishment of German trade after the war, and in no way could it so richly compensate itself for the losses and ravages of war as by taking as its own the colonies of dependence of the Netherlands. The colonies all told had an estimated area of something over 1,000,000 square miles, and a native population of something over 12,000,000. The colonies of Holland in the East Indies and in the West Indies, including Surinam, or Dutch Guiana,

on the mainland of South America, have an area only a little short of 1,000,000 square miles, with a population at the present time of probably 50,000,000. The official estimate for Java, Sumatra, and other East India colonies in 1912 was 48,000,000, while the Dutch West Indies have something like 300,000. Holland's East India colonies are immensely productive in sugar, tea, tobacco, rice, coffee, cocoa and tin. By the taking of Holland with its far-flung colonial possessions, Germany might well feel that it had secured that indemnity, renounced by the Reichstag resolution, of which the statesmen and chiefs of the war party are beginning again to speak hopefully.

The savage criminality of the proceeding is characteristically German. Occupying a land directly between the contending forces and bordering upon Germany, the position of the Dutch in this war has been trying and difficult. We cannot doubt that the government of Holland has loyally striven to maintain a correct attitude of neutrality. If the allies have sometimes felt that the Dutch were too little responsive to their requests and overtures, it must be remembered that the slightest indication of partiality for their cause of their interest would have brought down upon them the heavy fist of Germany. The imperial government has not waited for that provocation. Its demands upon Holland for the transportation of war material over its railroads and canals cannot be granted without a departure from neutrality. Germany knows very well that Holland cannot take a position which the allies would regard as unfriendly or which they would be justified in construing as favorable to Germany; much less can Holland for one moment consider taking up arms on the side of Germany. For all its great colonies would then be at the mercy of the allies, who control the seas. That contingency is in the thought of Germany, and to forestall any risk of that nature it evidently believes that a policy of straightforward brutality toward the Dutch will best serve its ends, near and remote.

The Dutch have a good army, variously estimated from 300,000 to 600,000. They are lacking in artillery, and if Germany were able to send against them any considerable body of troops, from Russia or elsewhere, it is not to be supposed that they could offer any prolonged resistance. Until the great battle in France is decided, the allies would be unable to lend aid. It may be, therefore, that Germany will be able to conquer Holland, if that be its purpose. That it can retain in its possession a free land seized upon through such a monstrous violation of law, right and justice is a thought not for a moment to be entertained. Whatever the result of the battle now in progress, Germany is as certainly doomed to defeat as it has been from the beginning of the war. It must be defeated because that is the indispensable condition of peace and safety for the great nations now arrayed against it. With their very much greater resources however far the way may be prolonged, they will never consent to subjection to Germany.

## Finish Fight on the West Front

## Present Struggle Not a Battle, But the War Itself

New York Evening Post.

It is not a battle, but the war itself, that is being fought out on the western front. In both camps there is recognition of the fact. It is the whole war in recognition of the fact. The forces brought to bear on either side, the submergence of all other theaters of conflict. Only in one respect does Germany profess to regard the present test as technically a battle, and not a war, and that is in the matter of time. Final victory is still being promised the German people in a few weeks, a few months at most. Annexations are discussed at Berlin. The Kaiser's finance minister will not commit himself on the exact size of the indemnities. The Kaiser himself speaks of the open grave which France has dug for itself. On the allied side there is no attempt at framing a schedule. The claim is made to be sure, that the defeat of the German offensive will mean ultimate victory. In that sense this is "the" battle. But there will be clean-up operations, and no limit in time is set for these. It is the story of the first months of 1914 over again. For Germany it was a stroke against time. The stroke failed on the Marne and the allies began to count time as running against Germany. The contest became one of nations instead of armies. It was then, in the long months of deadlock, that the world took to matching the chances of victory in terms of basic resources. If the Germans fail this spring and summer, we shall have a return to basic resources.

What is the relative strength of the rival populations? In spite of the defection of Russia, the ledger still shows heavily to the credit of the allies:

Entente	Central Powers
France 35,000,000	Austria 55,000,000
British Empire 45,000,000	Germany 65,000,000
(white) 70,000,000	Turkey and Bulgaria 20,000,000
America 100,000,000	
Italy 35,000,000	
Portugal 4,000,000	
Greece 4,000,000	
Total 250,000,000	

To this, for the entente must be added the human resources of India and the African colonies, from which Great Britain alone has so far drawn 1,000,000 soldiers. German criticism of the figures would subtract the 100,000,000 Americans whom for the purposes of the war it no longer describes as nonexistent, but still professes to disregard as unimportant. If, for the moment, we accept the German contention, the entente has still a fair numerical advantage over the central powers. Is it enough to hold the line until the American army is undeniably in the war?

There enters here a second factor, much emphasized by Germany in the early part of the war, when Russia weighted so heavily the numerical balance against the Kaiser. That

was the Kaiser's advantage of a central strategic situation and of virtual unity of command among the Teutonic allies. These advantages no longer exist. Russia's 175,000,000, misrepresentation of its military strength, do not now come into the problem. The population figures are now a true index of armed power. With the disappearance of the subsidiary fronts, Germany has lost the advantage of interior lines. Its blows must fall now in one expected direction. Finally, it is confronted by a unity of leadership and purpose almost as complete as its own. The allies no longer have Russia and Roumania to take into account. They will not concern themselves overmuch with Salonica and Asia Minor, if the necessity arises. For them the strategic problem has been simplified.

That problem now has two aspects—first to hold the line in the west while America is coming on; second, to speed our oncoming. The allies must now look forward to putting up a Hindenburg defensive of their own in France and Belgium. To this end all other military operations must and will be sacrificed, if necessary. Any expenditure of strength in Palestine or Mesopotamia beyond the need of holding the present lines would be a tragic mistake. The economies thus made would react on both phases of the great problem. The men saved can be immediately used on the western front. The shipping saved can be used to bridge the Atlantic more swiftly. Germany is stripping all its other frontiers. Austrian divisions are already on the western front. Bulgarian divisions are arriving. The allies will have to meet the challenge by a similar abandonment of non-essentials. The danger of the effort called for is great, but equally impressive will be the results of a frustration of the German effort. It is, psychologically, easier to stand up under the enemy's last blow because of the knowledge that it is indeed its last blow.

But while the allies are holding on land, it is essential that allied sea power should be brought into greater play. When the Kaiser refuses to count his divisions in driving for a knockout, the allies must not count their warships so carefully warding off the blow. Here, where America began to count from the first day of our entrance into the war, we must be made to count still more heavily. The presence of our battle-ships in European waters enables England to take chances, with old ships, as it did at Zebrugg, and with newer ships if there is a fair prospect of profit. We have been told that the British fleet was 4,000,000 tons at the beginning of the war, and has 6,000,000 tons now. A million tons would be well expended if thereby the U-boat activity could be cut down by one-half. In this hour of crisis German audacity must be met with allied audacity.

## The Bee's Letter Box

## Make It Vocational Training.

Omaha, May 2.—To the Editor of The Bee: It is gratifying to note that the Board of Education is considering a change of program respecting the School of Commerce building. The report affords a ray of hope that the board has seen a new light. The so-called High School of Commerce is simply a training school for business office assistants. It was planned upon the assumption that all parents wish their children to be stenographers and bookkeepers and telegraph operators. It admits little children and big ones. Some of the boys are in knee-breeches and many of the girls wear the hair in braids. It is a kindergarten business college. These children are all trained in a hopper and are expected to emerge fully qualified for office life. The process of selection is wanting. The board classes this school as a common school, when as a matter of fact, it is an uncommon school, whose students should be selected. The board is considering the idea of adding a technical school—a school to teach boys and girls to use their hands intelligently in vocational work. If it is wise it will do so. There are many arguments in favor of the plan, some of which are so self-evident as to make their recital tiresome. How can the board escape the logic of the situation? JAMES B. HAYNES.

## Blames Prohibition on Boozers.

Bruning, Neb., May 2.—To the Editor of The Bee: In your Letter Box of April 30 you had a short item entitled "Not for Prohibition" from Council Bluffs, and signed "George Edwards." In which he attacked the editors of papers of not being intelligent for printing articles in favor of prohibition. In reply would like to make a few remarks from a temperate standpoint. The prohibition issue has got its most strength and its most fervor for victory directly from the drunkard, the bootleggers and the boozers. Had it not been for them the issue itself would have been without a cause and would not have gotten out enough from the so-called temperance people to be victorious in any election, but as it is, the prohibitionists owe their victory wholly to the so-called boozers conduct. J. DUIS.

## Study of Foreign Languages.

Omaha, May 1.—To the Editor of The Bee: It is an old and true saying that "two wrongs never made a right." Spanish all have the not intelligent people, exasperated to the limit as we all are by the frightfulness of this horrible war, are imitating the Kaiser, if not actually trying to outdo him, although they do not realize it. This condition of affairs, which has appeared in several forms, but I will here discuss only the unreasonable one of one of these, the opposition to the German language. There can or should be but one American opinion about German languages in American elementary schools, especially as to such an un-American mandatory statute as the recently buried Mockett law. But when it comes to foreign languages as "electives" in any form of higher education above the elementary schools, no fair minded man or woman, whose viewpoint is not utterly warped or narrow, would, it seems to me, deny that German, French and Spanish all have the legitimate place in these United States in such a course of study. Of course people as uninformed as some who have recently written public letters on the subject, by talking about "compulsory" German in the Omaha High school, one of whom personally pointed to Mr. Ernst, without evidently knowing that the latter resigned four months ago and that he emphatically opposed the Mockett law, seem to be a little "unbalanced" on the subject. I do not believe, however, that the vast majority of American men and women have become so utterly unfair and unbalanced as to actually hate the German language or the world-recognized good qualities of the masses of the German people.

The people of Germany as a whole, and their blood-relationships on American soil who are not yet weaned away from a mere sentimental adherence to the fatherland, will sooner or later realize their present errors in "sympathizing" with the cause of the Kaiser. Many Americans, who are the equivalent of the German birth of ancestors, are wholly unacquainted with the "German" of today; their views show them a mirage which would be, or would have been, largely dispelled by a personal visit to Germany in recent years. Our childhood home, in most cases, takes on a very different aspect when we return to it many years later, whether it was located in a foreign land or merely in a distant place in our own country.

I do not believe for a moment that the Kaiser will bar the English or French languages from any institution of education above the "Volksschule," the equivalent of our elementary schools, because of this war. Shall we then, broadminded and fair people that we claim to be, and usually are, merely because we rightfully despise "Kaiserism" in every form, go to the other extreme of despising every man and woman having inherited German blood, or absolutely forbid the use of the German language and refuse to recognize any of the well established individual virtues of the German race, as a few hot-heads in our midst seem to be inclined? Shall we, in fighting Kaiserism, even outdo the Kaiser? I hope not. A. LAYMAN.

Three Kinds of Farming.  
Professor (at agricultural school).—What kinds of farming are there?  
New Student.—Extensive, intensive and pretensive.—Boston Transcript.

## Around the Cities

St. Louis City reports an abundant surplus of teachers for all prospective vacancies in school staffs. Nearly 300 applications for jobs are on file. Flint, Mich., is not oppressed by the state-wide thirst. Not while its sweet cider jugs yield the pulsing juice of the apple. The cider carries 12 per cent of alcohol, a proportion insuring a modest "kick." Business is piling up so rapidly on the traffic court of New York City that automobiles and chauffeurs' associations demand the establishment of another court. The latter fail to mention the expedient of obeying traffic laws. Kansas City's municipal machine is now manned and womaned by democrats, with one lone exception. One republican escaped the axe. How he averted the blow excites as much curiosity as the question "when will the war end?" A smooth shower of phoney checks blew into Kansas City from Oklahoma, completely transformed and defying descriptions which emphasized his bald head. A fine thread of dull brown hair almost released him from the police clutch. One of the latest foxier than the rest, grabbed the artificial clutch and exposed the crimping dome. The incident suggests the folly of using a poor grade of glue on the mat.

## GRINS AND GROANS.

"Bangs and his wife certainly match each other."  
"In what way?"  
"She can't cook a dinner without burning something, and he can't sit down to it without roasting her."—Baltimore American.  
"What are your opinions about the war?"  
"My friend," replied Senator Sorghum, "you are asking too much. I never knew a good fighter who would stop in the middle of a bout to theorize on the merits of the case."—Washington Star.

Tommy—"Smokin' cigarettes hurts ya. Pop told me so."  
Jimmy—"Aw, he was just stringin' ya."  
Tommy—"No, he wasn't stringin' me, either; he was strappin' me. That's how I know it hurts."—Boston Transcript.

She—They say the more corn bread you eat the better your complexion.  
Her Lover—"Then it wonder that Hoover doesn't arrest you for hoarding it all."—Judge.

## GOD AND GOTT.

Who soothes the sighs of sorrow  
And heals the hurts of pain?  
Who gives us hope for the morrow  
And sings us songs again?  
Who taught us love for others?  
Who guards us as we roam?  
Who links our hands as brothers  
And sanctifies the home?  
Who girls our souls with sweetness  
That we may cast our fear?  
Who blesses woman's pureness  
And bids us love and cheer?  
Oh, whispered in our praying  
From cradle to the sod  
Our name—our faith displaying—  
The hallowed name of God!  
Who teaches torture's terror  
And laughs at lies and loot?  
Who holds no faith is fairer  
Than one to shame a foe?  
To whom are women shrieking  
And sons of children maimed  
As sweet as some one speaking  
Or those both loved and famed?  
Who spurns the ill and lowly  
That fatter at his gate  
Who leads us humbly holy  
The holiest course of hate?  
Oh, bestial, hellish being—  
On God's great name a blot!  
Unthinking and unseeing,  
The Prussians call it Gott!  
—Wilbur D. Mehlth.

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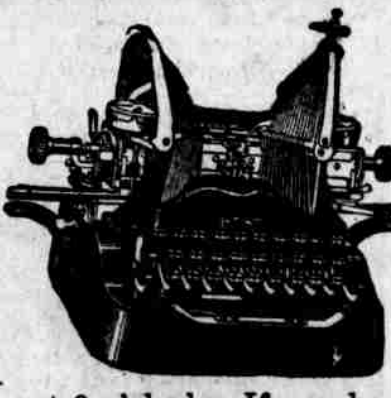
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