

THE OMAHA BEE

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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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THE BEE'S SERVICE FLAG



Von Tirpitz also promised Germany he would starve England in three months.

At any rate, America is fast overtaking the rest of the world in the matter of war expenses.

Inspection of some of the pending bills by the city council affords good reason for the change that was made.

Equal pay for equal work, regardless of sex or color, is Uncle Sam's rule, and it ought to be a good example for all employers.

It is again demonstrated that the pressure for the spoils of office is as strong with a reform city administration as with any other kind.

It would do no harm for Nebraska democrats also to hold a loyalty convention and reinforce the doctrine of patriotism above partisanship.

We are just casually piqued by the announcement from Jamaica that the stock of rum on hand there has more than doubled in the last year.

Selection is all right, of course; else why should Messrs. Mullen and Hitchcock trouble to pick candidates for Nebraska democrats to vote for?

Director McAdoo has decided a lot of vacation trips and excursion plans for various people. Under the new passenger tariff the trips will not be taken.

General Leonard Wood is a true soldier who will obey orders. But that still is no reason why he should be the victim of War department persecution.

When President Wilson moved "to adjourn politics" in congress during the continuance of the war an amendment should have been offered to include the War department.

Rehabilitation of the Soldier.

The effort of the National Educational association to secure charge of the vocational work in reconstruction hospitals meets with hearty disapproval of Surgeon General Gorgas, who has the support of the War department in his position. A bill in the senate gives to the Federal Vocational Education board joint control with the army of the hospitals, and it is to this the military authorities object. Dr. Gorgas points out that under the law as it stands the surgeon general's department has ample authority and full direction to proceed with the rehabilitation of all disabled soldiers, and this includes vocational training to the extent that they be made self-sustaining, or at least useful to society, after discharge from the army. It is feared that a division of authority may produce such friction as will defeat the effort to aid the soldier. Here is a point where a little common sense might well be injected into our war work. The spectacle of the National Educational association and the surgeon general's department squabbling over the wounded and disabled soldier is not in any sense edifying. No question will be raised as to the good intentions of either, but the school teachers can well afford to wait until the doctors have pronounced the patient sufficiently recovered to undertake to learn new ways. Up to that point, surely, the surgeon general ought to have control.

MEMORIAL DAY.

Americans will stand uncovered today in the presence of their soldier dead and pledge themselves anew to carry on the work those men have begun. From the Philippines to France, wherever Old Glory flies, this service of reconsecration to the ideals and institutions of a free people will engage the thought of all true patriots. New social conditions, the outgrowth of our development, have added significance to the day and its meaning now is fraught with more of true devotion and less of mere sentiment than ever. Memorial day is no longer an occasion on which we pause simply to revere the dead, but brings with it a deeper realization and a fuller appreciation of privileges we enjoy under freedom, our heritage from the fathers who fought that it might be established and not perish from the earth. We are now employed in the defense of man's liberty against the mightiest force ever arrayed by an oppressor, and to that defense we stand pledged to our utmost limit of energy and resource. Prayers that will go up today are not for America only, but for all the world, and in the sacrifice of the brave men who are remembered in wreaths and garlands we will find inspiration for the tasks that lie ahead of us.

A Bouquet for Colonel Grant.

Before his departure to his new post The Bee wishes to throw a bouquet to Colonel F. A. Grant, who for the past year has been in charge of the work of the quartermaster's department in Omaha.

This period of outfitting the new army and distributing its necessary supplies has naturally been trying and exacting, and has called for indefatigable energy, sound experience and intelligent application. That Colonel Grant has performed the duties of his position as a soldier to the full satisfaction of his superiors is attested by his present transfer to a larger and more important station.

It is not on his faithful performance of military duty, however, that we are complimenting Colonel Grant, but upon doing more than his duty by lending his valuable aid and giving the benefit of his personal advice to the various war activities that have been engaging us as a patriotic community. For this the people of Omaha owe him an expression of thanks and appreciation which we believe we are truly voicing. And, while we all want Colonel Grant's services utilized by the government at the point where they will do most to help win the war, he may be sure a warm welcome will await him at any time the whirligig of army orders may bring him back to us.

Germany's Latest Onslaught.

Americans have by this time come to be fairly familiar with German major tactics and expect when a battle initiated by the kaiser is begun to hear of attack in mass formation. The theory of overwhelming opposition by superior force has dominated the military thought of Prussia for many years. All training and preparation is with this in view, and the Allies have come to know the book as well as the general staff of the Central powers. No finesse imparts a tinge of uncertainty to the assault when it is delivered. It is simply the thrusting forward of successive waves until the movement breaks down because of concentrated opposition or through lack of momentum. No account is made of losses incurred in advance in direction of the objective is secured. All of these things are now well understood by those who have watched the war, and the wonder grows that the Hun is unable to devise anything new or possibly more effective. His latest onslaught appears to be losing force just as have all his other attempts, because of readiness to meet him, not only by frontal resistance, but by flank attacks that engage portions of his army and place in jeopardy the column he has set in motion. So long as the kaiser is willing to expend his most precious assets in such futile proceedings the Allies can stand it. Each of these desperate lunges is making the final solution of the conflict more easy as well as more certain.

Putting the New Broom to Test.

Sanitary conditions at the city hall seem to be such as will engage the best efforts of the new broom. Laxity in janitor service under the good-fellowship regime has permitted a state of affairs that is most shocking to the sensibilities of good housekeepers. As it is expected that the municipal headquarters will be in the nature of an example to all the community, it behooves its occupants to see that it is scrupulously cleaned and kept immaculate at all times. Unfortunately, its late occupants seem to have possessed but partly developed notions of what was required in this line, and under their genial but indifferent sway the janitor took a much firmer grip on the pay roll than on the broom or mop. But the new commissioners promise to disturb the dust of the last six years, to go into the crannies and recesses of the building, and see that it is not only renovated, but kept in such state of spotlessness that no visitor need fear contamination. What may be found in the way of city property or possible discoveries in the dust heaps must await development. The new broom really is going to sweep.

The Past and the Present

Word Picture of the Civil War Mirrors the Stress of Today

By ROBERT G. INGERSOLL.

(From Speech Delivered at Soldiers' Reunion at Indianapolis, September 21, 1876.)

The past rises before me like a dream. Again we are in the great struggle for national life. We hear the sounds of preparation—the music of hoisterous drums—the silver voices of heroic bugles. We see thousands of assemblages, and hear the appeals of orators; we see the cheering of women, and the flushed faces of men; and in those assemblages we see all the dead whose dust we have covered with flowers. We lose sight of them no more. We are with them when they enlist in the great army of freedom. We see them part with those they love. Some are walking for the last time in quiet, woody places with the maidens they adore. We hear the whisperings and the sweet vows of eternal love as they lingeringly part forever. Others are bending over cradles, kissing babies that are asleep. Some are receiving the blessings of old men. Some are parting with mother who hold them and press them to their hearts again and again, and say nothing. Kisses and tears, tears and kisses—divine mingling of agony and love! And some are talking with wives, and endeavoring with brave words, spoken in the old tones, to drive from their hearts the awful fear. We see them part. We see the wife standing in the door with the babe in her arms—standing in the sunlight sobbing—at the turn of the road a hand waves—she answers by holding high in her loving arms the child. He is gone, and forever!

We see them as they march proudly away under the flaunting flags, marching time to the grand, wild music of war—marching down the streets of the great cities, through the towns and across the prairies, down to the fields of glory, to do and to die for the eternal right. We go with them, one and all. We are by their side on the gory fields, in the hospitals of pain, on all the weary marches. We stand guard with them in the wild storm and under the quiet stars. We are with them in ravines running with blood, in the furrows of old fields. We are with them between contending hosts, unable to move, wild with thirst, the life ebbing slowly away among the withered leaves. We see them pierced by balls and torn with shells, in the trenches, by forts and in the whirlwind of the charge, where men become iron, with nerves of steel. We are with them in the prisons of hatred and famine; but human speech can never tell what they endured. We are at home when the news comes of the city's chief law officer, and that name on the pay roll all the mean, low suspicions I have held, in company with a number of others situated like myself along the sidelines, will vanish before the truth. QUERICUS.

These heroes are dead. They died for liberty—they died for us; they are at rest; they sleep in the land they made free, under the flag they rendered stainless, under the solemn pines, the sad hemlocks, the tearful willows and the embracing vines. They sleep beneath the shadows of the clouds, careless alike of sunshine or of storm, each in the windowless palace of rest, earth may run red with other wars—they are at peace. In the midst of battle, in the roar of conflict, they found the serenity of death. I have one sentiment for soldiers living and dead: Cheers for the living; tears for the dead.

Nebraska's General Climatic Conditions

By GEORGE A. LOVELAND, In Charge Weather Bureau Experiment Station.

Nebraska is in the general path of the low pressure, or storm, areas that move across the United States from west to east. The important factors in determining its climate are, first, the distance from the equator, because the heat received from the sun is greater at the equator and decreases northward; second, the altitude, or elevation above sea level, because the higher locations have lower temperature; third, the distance and direction from the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic ocean, because the supply of moisture from rain and snow comes mainly from these larger bodies of water; fourth, the Rocky mountains, located near the western boundary, because they have an important effect upon both temperature and moisture. January is the coldest month, with a mean temperature of 25 degrees in the southeast and 20 degrees, or a little below, in the north. February is almost as cold, averaging about 3 degrees warmer, while December is next, with an average of but 2 degrees higher than February. While the coldest winter months may occur in any of these three winter months, it is most likely to occur in January, and it most frequently occurs in the last half of that month. In the coldest days of winter the temperature usually falls to between 10 and 20 degrees below zero.

The latest that a killing frost has occurred in most of the state is May 27. This was in 1907, when the freezing temperature covered most of the southern and eastern counties. In the northwestern part of the state such severe frosts have occurred in June and in 1902 one occurred on June 21. The last killing frost, it will be observed, happens as a rule in the southeastern section in the last ten days of April, but comes gradually later northward and westward, occurring near May 1 in the greater portion of the southern and eastern sections and from May 10 to 15 in the more elevated portions in the north and west.

The average annual precipitation for the state as a whole is 23.67 inches. Most of this is rain, the snowfall for the year averaging only about 2.5 inches, equal to nearly two and one-half inches of water, or about one-tenth the annual precipitation. The year is divided into wet and dry seasons. May, June and July constitute the wet season, with 46 per cent of the annual amount, while November, December, January and February are the four dry months, with but 11 per cent of the normal amount. The average per cent falls during the remaining five months, or approximately one-fifth of the annual amount for each month. As this indicates, very little rain or snow falls during the late fall and winter months, the average being less than an inch of water a month. A slight increase is manifested in March, but the spring rains begin in April, when from two to three inches is the normal for most parts of the state.

June is the month of heaviest rainfall. It is also the period when rainfall is most certain, that is, least likely to vary from the average. In an ordinary year rain falls at one place on eight or nine of the thirty days. This would mean a rain every third or fourth day. This average condition rarely occurs; still, several consecutive days without rain in June are unusual. While the average monthly rainfall for May and July is nearly the same as that for June, there is a greater liability to variation from the average. In May this variation is less likely to be important, as the temperature is lower than in July, and the rainfall is less likely to occur in heavy showers when a large percentage of the water would run into the streams without soaking into the ground. Rain falls in May on the average about the same number of days as in June, and drouth periods are unlikely to occur. In July the showers are slightly farther apart, and drouth periods rather more frequent. The decrease in rainfall after July is rapid. The average for August is only three-fourths that of July, and for September only two-fourths that of July. In average August rain falls at any one place on six or seven days. Heavy rains are much less likely to occur than in June or July, and drouth periods are much more frequent.

The rainfall for the crop season, April to August inclusive, for the state as a whole averages 16.18 inches. It exceeds 20 inches along most of the Missouri valley and decreases rather regularly to a little more than 10 inches along the Wyoming border. The slightly more than 30 inches along the Missouri river decreases to about one-half that amount, or 15 inches, along the Wyoming line. This is an average decrease of one inch for each 30 miles as one travels westward across the state. In general, this ratio holds true for the various months; that is, the rainfall along the Wyoming border is about one-half that along the Missouri river.

Washington Makes Discovery

At last the middle west has been discovered by Washington. The discovery was made under the pressure of necessity. Washington had steadily concentrated war contracts and war industry to the east. Old factories had been enlarged and new ones built in the constricted industrial belt of that section. Manufacturers from other regions, eager to participate in the war preparations, could get little attention and less action. Now the inevitable has happened. The favored industrial belt is overworked. It is short of power, short of transportation, short of men, short of housing. It has bitten off more than it can chew. So Washington has rubbed its eyes, has looked about a bit, and lo! has described the middle west. Upon investigation Washington has found that the middle west can manufacture what the government needs, for it has power in plenty, less congestion of transportation than the east, a well trained labor, and good housing. It has plenty of factories, and can build more. It has enterprise, resourcefulness, facilities. Washington should have made this discovery many months ago, but Washington is slow to learn, for its mind runs in grooves. Let the contracts come, and we of the middle west shall show what we can do.—Minneapolis Journal.

People and Events

New York City is so well pleased with the work of police women that the chief wants an additional squad of 12. Service counts in war time.

Nantucket jerks up and marks progress. By a vote of 336 to 296 the County Island of Boston voted to admit automobiles to its highway. This leaves Mackinac Island alone in its opposition to the gas wagon.

A lunch room row over 10 cents originating in Benton Harbor, Mich., continued in various degrees in high and low courts, recently ended in a 6-cent verdict for the lunch room boss. Both sides spent about \$1,000 to reach the proper vindication.

A recent census made by welfare workers showed a total of 150,000 persons, more or less, connected with the government pay roll at Washington. Before the war 40,000 federal jobholders was regarded as a top figure. What's the answer? Dig, and dig some more.

"The fool and his money are soon parted," saith a bygone sage. Experience illuminates the saying. Despite the innumerable published warnings of mikers "miked" in bogus horse races, fish fools go scouting for shake-downs. One Ned Knudson of Minneapolis dropped a roll of \$10,000 in mythical acres down Kansas City way. Knudson is 60, but years settle no caution on his kind.

Luckily for Secretary McAdoo, no offer of cash rewards or hero medals accompanied his apostrophe to patched pants as an infallible sign of patriotic war-time economy. Had there been a reward attached the prize would have fallen to Texas. A farmer in Waller county reports 32 separate patches in sight. A reward has not been asked, so the Waller county patriot lends fresh radiance to the Lone Star.



"Loaves and Fishes."

Omaha, May 29.—To the Editor of The Bee: Long years of observation have given me fair comprehension of "vae victis" as applied politically. For this reason I was curious to know just how the new city administration would make the old cry square with its high-flung aspirations. I am just a little amused, but not at all amazed, to note that the good old Jacksonian doctrine, "to the victors belong the spoils," has suffered nothing by exposure to reform ideas, and that its local devotees still are true to their convictions, regardless of professions. You will note, as I have, that Frank L. Weaver, who inflated the "boom" for our new mayor, is now installed as the city's chief law officer, and that T. B. Murray, who was a persistent supporter of the timber of reform, has just coupled into a minor job that returns him \$2,400 a year. As soon as Harry Rossmann emerges and gets his name on the pay roll all the mean, low suspicions I have held, in company with a number of others situated like myself along the sidelines, will vanish before the truth. QUERICUS.

Land for Settlement.

Somewhere in Nebraska, May 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: Would you kindly publish in the Letter Box column of The Bee to which department of the government one must write for information on government lands open for homesteading?

Ans.—Write to the commissioner of the general land office, care Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

Respect Asked for "Marsellaise."

Omaha, May 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: What is the name of the march with Omaha? Last night I attended a show at one of your leading movie houses. A part of the films were some views of France and of marching French soldiers. While these pictures were on the screen the orchestra played the French national hymn, "The Marsellaise." So far as I could see, with the exception of another soldier and myself, no one in the audience seemed to know or care that it was the French national hymn, and that common courtesy and usage demanded that they show due respect by standing. Furthermore, it developed that the orchestra was playing it as part of a medley, a thing that is forbidden by national order and is not done any more in polite circles. The crowd seemed patriotic enough, for they applauded wildly at every appearance of an American uniform. It must be, therefore, that the citizens of Omaha are not as familiar with the national airs of our allies as they should be. To one accustomed to observing the strictest amenities in this regard it certainly seemed a sacrilege to see this audience ignore even so popular and stirring an air as that of our noble ally, whose people have made such tremendous sacrifices and whose spirit is as undaunted as their national air is immortal. ONE OF YOUR VISITORS.

Lines to a Laugh.

"Miss Deepleigh gave way to a burst of admiration when young Flathead showed her his country place, which was a regular aptrophe to its beauty. Yet, and don't forget the aptrophe is the sign of the possessive case."—Baltimore American.

Willis—How is your garden coming? Gillis—Very poor. The directions on the package say to measure the seeds carefully, and it has taken me since yesterday to get the dimensions of seven of them, they're so darn small.—Town Topics.

Maria—Don't cry, dear. You must be brave while Jack is away with the army. Remember the war won't last forever, and then he will return to you.

Betsy—Yes, but I'm afraid that before he comes back some other hateful man will marry me.—Boston Transcript.

"Our congressman has sent us some free seeds. Shall I throw them away?" "No, they will come in handy to plant a fake garden to keep the chickens occupied."—Pittsburgh Post.

"I'm satisfied from the evidence that you were intoxicated." "Your honor, any motorist might knock down a telephone pole on a dark night." "I grant you that, but you mowed down six of 'em."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"What in the world makes our children so scrappy these days, do you suppose?" "Eating so much war bread, I reckon."—Judge.

Dealer—Do you mean to accuse me of giving you short weight on that salmon? Customer—Oh, dear, no, I merely regretted that there was something fishy about the scales.—Baltimore American.

marked that there was something fishy about the scales.—Baltimore American.

"Trees have a paradoxical way of showing their vitality." "How so?" "They show their staying powers best when they leave."—Baltimore American.

THE BIVOUAC OF THE DEAD

The muffled drum's sad roll has beat No more on life's parade shall meet That brave and fallen few. On Fame's eternal camping ground Their silent tents are spread; And glory guards, with solemn round, The bivouac of the dead.

No rumor of the foe's advance Now swells upon the wind; No trouble thought at midnight haunts Of loved ones left behind; No vision of the morrow's strife The warrior's dream alarms. No brazen horn or screaming fife At dawn shall call to arms.

Their shivered swords are red with rust, Their plumed heads are bowed; Their haughty banner trailed in dust, Is now their marshal's shroud; And piteous funeral tears have washed The red stains from each brow; And the proud forms, by battle gashed, Are free from anguish now.

The neighing troth the flashing blade, The charge, dreadful cannonade, The din and shout are passed; Nor war's wild note, nor glory's peal, Shall thrill with fierce delight Those breasts that never more shall feel The rapture of the fight.

Like the fierce northern burrstone That whirrs his great platoon, Flushed with triumph yet to gain Comes down the sceriff foe. Who heard the thunder of the fray Break over the field beneath, Knew well the watchword of that day Was victory or death.

Rest on, embalmed and sainted dead, Dear as the blood ye gave, No impious footsteps here shall tread The heritage of your grave. Nor shall your glory be forgot, While Fame her record keeps, Or Honor points the hollow spot Where Valor proudly sleeps.

You marble minstrel's voiceless stone In deathless song shall tell, When may a vanished hero has flown, The story how ye fell. Nor wreck, nor change, nor winter's blights, Nor time's remorseless doom, Can dim one ray of glory's gleam That glids your glorious tomb. THEODORE O'HARA.

Advertisement for "WHY NOT NICHOLAS OILS?" featuring a portrait of a man and text about business and quality.

Advertisement for "Nature's Remedy" tablets, including a list of ailments and a price list.

Advertisement for "SAFETY SERVICE SAVING" fireproof safes, listing features and prices.

Advertisement for "Hotel Sanford OMAHA" with a list of amenities and contact information.

Advertisement for "Liquid Granite" floor treatment, describing its benefits and application.

Advertisement for "Liquid Granite" floor treatment, including a testimonial and contact information.

Advertisement for "Liquid Granite" floor treatment, listing product features and availability.

Advertisement for "Liquid Granite" floor treatment, including a testimonial and contact information.

Advertisement for "Nelson-Zarp Paint Co." featuring "SUNLIGHT PAINT" and contact information.

Advertisement for "TODAY" newspaper, listing various news items and dates.

Advertisement for "Jus: 30 Years Ago Today" featuring a list of historical events and a small illustration.

Advertisement for "Sidelights on the War" featuring a list of historical events and a small illustration.

Advertisement for "Editorial Shrapnel" featuring a list of historical events and a small illustration.

Advertisement for "Hotel Sanford OMAHA" featuring a large illustration of a woman and a list of amenities.