

THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING) — EVENING — SUNDAY
FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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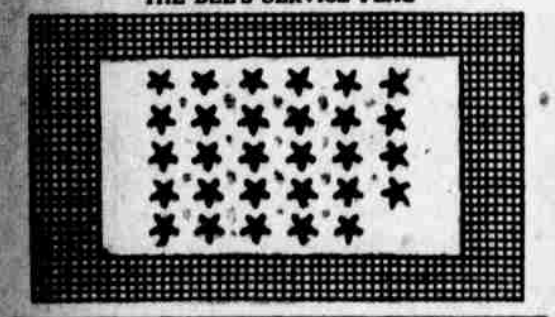
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Nebraska has never yet lost a crop because of too much rain.

Suppose, also, that McKinley had tried to sidetrack Dewey.

The graves over in France will be tenderly decorated on Memorial days to come.

The chief of police says Omaha has few "loungers," but one is too many.

Consolidation of "soft snags" at the city hall will not hurt the service, and may help the pay roll.

Nothing is too good for the "movies," if the latest addition to the Omaha list of theaters is an example.

No omen could be better than the disappearance of the clouds on Decoration day. Accept it as a harbinger of the future.

It might also be recalled that McKinley gave Nebraska an extra regiment in 1898 in gratitude that William Jennings Bryan might become a colonel forever.

Talking about "whole-hearted support," our hyphenated contemporary should read again the stinging rebuke its continued "sniping" for weeks after the declaration of war called forth from one of its disgusted readers which it was constrained to give space to in its own columns in a desperate effort to clear its skirts.

Three more Omaha grocers have had their permits to sell wheat flour revoked for violating the food administration rules. None of them, however, is a member of the school board setting a high example of honesty and morality to the school children, although doubtless warned as often as was War Proctor Warfield before encountering this drastic action for willful defiance of orders.

The Mouse of the "Movie." Another new theater was opened to the public in Omaha last night. In order to appreciate just what is contained in this announcement it must be known that this latest addition to the city's places for amusing and entertaining the public is one of the most beautiful in the country. It not only contains the latest equipment and devices for the comfort and safety of the public, but is constructed on such a scale and finished in such artistic excellence as justifies superlatives in description. But its stage will not tremble beneath the tread of heavy tragedian nor the tripping feet of a "beauty" chorus, nor will any tale of dramatic force be told with impetuous eloquence or tender pleading across its footlights. Instead, shadows will fit across the screen and action reproduced by the camera's magic will tell the tale of love or terror. For this is a theater given over to moving pictures. It is a monument to the progress made by that form of entertainment, an eloquent testimonial to the power of the dime, and to the wisdom of those who discerned its possibilities. It is a long step from the converted store room to the palace just opened, but it has been covered by the moving picture exhibitors within a very few years. Where the end is not the wisest can say, but Omaha is improved because the Rialto has been built and is now doing business.

Just 30 Years Ago Today
The Omaha base ball team, flushed with victory, returned from Des Moines and are preparing to wipe up the diamond with Kansas City in three games.
Thomas L. Kimball, Charles J. Smith, Erasmus Young, J. M. Thurston and T. M. Orr gave notice to the county clerk that they had associated themselves together for the purpose of buying and selling real estate. The capital stock is placed at \$20,000.
The Castelar Street Presbyterian church began this week to hold gospel meetings every evening.
Edward and William O'Hara of Cedar Rapids, Ia., heavy railroad contractors, are in the city with an eye upon future operations in the west.
George Vroman, chairman of the grievance committee of the Union Pacific railroad, arrived in this city from Denver and was met at the depot by a delegation from the local brotherhood.

Round About the State
Gene Huse of the Norfolk News launches a patriotic drive for a flag, a flagstaff and a flag to match. Gene is a capital booster who never sounds retreat.
Frequent mention in the state papers of the June meeting of newspaper men in Omaha foreshadows a massed drive of major proportions. Omaha, by the way, is ready for the onset. The line may bend a bit, but we'll take 'em in properly. Come a-running.
Valentine Republican gently chides the enthusiasm of Bassett people in boring for oil. So far quicksand in tending to discourage borers as well as backers. Feared on a Valentine well digger failed because a Valentine digger on the job wanted \$10,000 to let go a 200-foot hole.
Aurora and Hamilton county is another of the forerunning sections of the state which anticipates the needs of the time. No Red Cross drive was staged this time, but \$14,000 was wired to the authorities just in the advance and a snug balance remains for the next call.
It remained for the Central City Republican to fashion a deserved tribute to the zephyrs of Nebraska. Less courageous scribes usually content themselves with merely noting the speed record, reserving emphasis for private circulation. The Republican discusses the subject in all its whimsical bearing, and cheerily declares that "Nebraska wind takes the cake." Let it go at that.

Whittled to a Point
Minneapolis Journal: At the Teutonic masthead waves the signal, "Germany expects every man to bear false witness against his neighbor."
Louisville Courier-Journal: John Wanamaker says the four years after the war will be this country's most prosperous years. Our proficients, however, are taking no chances on that.
Brooklyn Eagle: China wants to put a time limit on Japan's chess play. We cannot blame her. Cobwebs do not look well when between yellow noses. Even the Orient must wake up.
Louisville Courier Journal: It is said that the war is wiping out the German autocracy. Certainly not that part represented by German royalty. Nobody has heard of any of the kaiser's six soldier sons receiving even a scratch.
New York World: Instead of receiving enormous supplies of wheat from the United States, the German working classes of Germany have been subjected to a further reduction of the flour and bread ration. They expect food and they get lies and deception with which is satisfy their appetites.
Baltimore American: The interned Germans to be removed to military camps from certain localities are highly indignant because they have to leave their comfortable cottages. They ought to have a course of compulsory reading on the allied prisoners in Germany who are thankful when they can get anything to eat.

DON'T DO ANY SUPPOSING.
"Suppose Mr. Rosewater could make people believe that General Wood is being 'slandered' and 'persecuted' for partisan reasons and out of personal spite and animus?"—Hitchcock's Hyphenated Newspaper.
Don't do any supposing. The Bee is not trying to "make people believe" that General Wood is not getting a square deal, nor have we mentioned "partisanship" in this connection, but we have voiced an almost universal question on the lips of thinking people.
When the assignment of General Wood to an innocuous position sure to keep him far from the firing line was announced, Secretary Baker, answering an inquiry, was quoted as saying that "it is not the custom of the department to explain orders to officers," which prompted The Bee's suggestion that this custom did not bar an explanation to the public.

This explanation has now been in part vouchsafed by the president and War department shifting responsibility for the selection of officers for foreign service upon General Pershing, who is said not to have asked for General Wood. In its zeal to exculpate the democrats from partisanship the ultra-partisan World-Herald falsely declares General Pershing to be a "republican," when it knows very well that his West Point appointment came from a democratic Missouri congressman, presumably in recognition of a democratic constituent, but that General Pershing himself is neither a republican nor a democrat—simply and solely a soldier, just as is General Wood.

Whether it is due to army politics or personal prejudice, or party politics, it is notorious, as The Bee has said, that General Wood has been "in bad" with the War department and has had nothing but "back-seat assignments" since the advent of the Wilson administration. If this is the way General Wood can best help win the war, well and good! But if General Wood's acknowledged ability and talents can be made to count to better advantage the American people want his services utilized to the fullest, regardless of the personal feelings of his superior officers.

What Will We Do With Russia?
An editorial in the New York Times suggests that something should at once be done to secure Russia from German domination. Admitted; but what can we do? President Wilson has declared he has no more thought of abandoning Russia than of withdrawing from Belgium, and that he has full sympathy with the aspirations of the Czech and Slav. This, of course, defers final adjustment for the defeated and demoralized Russians until after the main business with Germany is disposed of. For the moment the bolshevik appeal to us for assistance in a material way; we are asked to provide food and clothing, farm implements and machinery, and various other means for them to make a new start in life. If we do this, it will be with the perfect understanding that any product of revived Russian industry will go to aid Germany in prolonging the war. Therefore, we are constrained to withhold aid we otherwise would gladly furnish.

Dr. Edward Alsworth Ross, in one of his recent articles, says the bolsheviks have been lied about by their enemies. Maxim Gorky, himself a revolutionist, writes in his unsupported paper at Petrograd, that the commune Dr. Ross finds good in has re-established slavery; that its soldiers are offering for sale human beings, principally women and girls, in such numbers that the price has dropped from \$75 to \$15. Gorky also tells of the wholesale murder of bourgeoisie in Sebastopol and its environs by the red army, a repetition of slaughter elsewhere committed by the bolshevik. In the agricultural regions the peasants have not only failed to seed their ground, but have eaten the seed.
More complete ruin could not be imagined than has followed the class war in Russia. The woes of the people there will challenge compassion for a long time to come, but for the moment we see no practical way of helping them until they get ready to help themselves.

Better Use of Our Man Power.
General Crowder has evolved another plan for getting better use of the man power of the country. It is simply to call up again registrants who have been rejected because of some slight physical defect and enlist them for service in the quartermaster or other department of the military service where they may be useful and thus release soldiers for the front lines. While the justice of this course will be apparent, it is not certain that we have yet been reduced to such a state that it will be expedient. The new class of registrants will provide for the increment to the army called under the latest draft orders, while the first list has not yet been exhausted. The idea may be worked out, however, in connection with the larger view of requiring all eligibles to engage in useful work and finally be the means of more effectively employing our man power.

The boys of '65 no longer can march as they did then, but their great hearts beat higher when they see the glory of today assembled in serried ranks under Old Glory, for they know the country is safe as long as such manhood can be arrayed in its uniform.

Shelving General Wood
Failure to Make Use of His Ability and Qualifications Needs Explanation

Chicago Tribune.
No official explanation is vouchsafed the public in the matter of the removal of General Leonard Wood from command of his division on the eve of its departure for France and his assignment to command the western department or to train another division at home. "I cannot discuss General Wood's future movements," says Secretary Baker.
In the right of the president as commander-in-chief of the army and navy to dispose of commands is fully acknowledged. It is a necessary incident of war and military control. But it is not an irresponsible personal right. It is a public duty subject to principles of public service.

It is proper, therefore, in such a special case as General Wood's for the public to seek information and to be given something more respectful and satisfactory than Mr. Baker's curt refusal. This is not Mr. Baker's war. It is not Mr. Wilson's war. It is not Mr. Wood's war. It is the American people's war and the American people's army, and it is of considerable moment to the American people who are paying for the war in their best blood, to say nothing of their money, that the war shall be conducted in the most efficient manner possible and that their sons and husbands and brothers in the ranks shall be given the best available leadership.

It is important the public should have confidence that considerations of efficiency alone are governing the choice of officers from the lowest to the highest. Secretary Baker recognized this in laying down the rules for commissions and promotions in the lower grades. It is not less essential that assurances be given that extraneous considerations are not affecting the higher appointments.

It has been gratifying to find that the two selections of chief military importance have been judicious. General Pershing's service is conceded to be successful and General March also is showing the high qualities required of a chief of the general staff. But the disposition of General Wood raises a serious question. Either General Wood was selected because he is deemed physically unfit, or professionally unfit, or for reasons which ought not to affect appointment.

As to General Wood's physical condition, the public knows only that he was recently examined and officially pronounced fit. As to General Wood's military fitness, the public only knows that he has had a con-

Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes
A Modern World Wonder Discovered in Alaska

Rev. William W. Rigge, S. J., Creighton University.
The most wonderful and unique geographical wonder of the world in its own line has been discovered in Alaska. It is called the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes, because from innumerable vents of all sizes and in all directions dense clouds of white smoke are issuing at all times. This white smoke is mostly very hot steam mixed with volcanic gases. The valley is about 15 miles long and about five miles wide, and is very near the Katmai volcano, the largest in the world, which had such a terrific eruption six years ago.

The Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes was explored last year by an expedition under the command of Robert F. Griggs, financed by the National Geographic society and described in the February number of its magazine. There were 10 members of the party and they included three botanists, one topographer, one photographer, one zoologist, chemist, entomologist and two packers. The expedition published their discoveries reads like a story from another world, totally different from the one we are living in. And their 47 fine illustrations give very vivid pictures of what they saw.

The white smoke issuing from the crevices everywhere was so hot that its temperature was above the reach of the thermometers the party carried. Food could be cooked with the greatest facility over any vent, large or small, and it was very dangerous to expose oneself to the scalding vapor as it came out of the ground. The heat was so intense that except for frying bacon and flapjacks, it had all the convenience of a stove. And at night, when the men prepared to sleep, they put their blankets under them to protect themselves against the heat of the ground in order to make sleep all possible.

And alongside of the steaming hot vapor were masses of ice from glaciers, so that food that was to be kept cool and food that was cooking were often only a few feet apart. The steam melted the ice and formed lakes and rivers. Some of the water was so hot that if it had contained fish they might have been cooked in it before being taken off the hook. And often it required only a wave of the hand in the water to pass from an ice cold to a scalding hot temperature.
Treading on such hot ground with steam all about, was like walking on a live volcano, which it most probably was. There was no telling at what moment a terrific eruption or a tremendous blast of vapor might take place. Often when a foot was placed accidentally on a thin crust, steam came spouting out of the hole. The force with which the gases rushed out of the larger vents was often so great that stones tossed into them were held for quite a while.

Except for insects that were enticed too near the escaping gases or had been suddenly overtaken by them, there was no sign of life anywhere in the great valley. There was not even wood wherewith to build a fire.

The gases were mostly steam mixed with odors of hydrochloric acid and hydrogen sulphide. They were not dangerous except when they entered too near the escaping jets. There was, of course, much sulphur everywhere, and there was a great deal of colored sand in some places, although the greater part of the ground was mostly hot mud.

This Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes has nothing in the world that can be compared to it. Nothing approaching it has ever been seen by the eye of man.

How We Fight in France
Lucian Swift Kirtland in Leslie's.

The Americans are using what is sometimes known as the new French system of defense, and sometimes as the new German system. At the beginning of the war the French trenches were held very "thick," especially by the British. Now the scheme is to have only a handful of men in the first line, one man to a hundred feet, perhaps; for the second line there are many more men and many more machine guns; for the third line men are much heavier massed and reserves are available.

The Bee's Letter Box

Nonpartisan League Workers.
Kearney, Neb., May 26.—To the Editor of The Bee: I notice that the Nonpartisan League is keeping out of the newspapers these days. Perhaps that is because the little discussion there was about the league in the newspapers caused hundreds of farmers over the state to stop payment of the post-dated checks which they had given for memberships.

Mr. J. D. Ream, chairman of the executive committee of the Nonpartisan League, appeared on the floor at the meeting of the Nebraska farmers' war council in Lincoln on May 1 and objected to having an investigation made of the very serious charges against the league. Mr. Ream stated that the league is a political party. The men of the conference felt that if it is a distinct political party, which does not want to be investigated, then the matter ought not to be discussed in this convention, where a pledge had been made that no politics would be involved.

However, the very serious charges which have been made against the leaders of the league and their methods of doing business, coupled with the significant fact that they oppose investigation, makes me think that the light should be turned on.

Some of the things which I have investigated are the following: They are circulating copies of the Nonpartisan Leader, printed in German, in this state.

Arthur LoSeuer, who is one of the leading attorneys and publicity agents for the league, was affiliated closely with the Industrial Workers of the World last summer.

The members pay \$18 for what they think is a two-year membership, but which only pays them up until December 1, 1918.

N. S. Randall, "state organizer" for the league, was convicted at Red Wing, Minn., May 2, of "utterances tending to discourage enlistments."

Joseph Gilbert, "manager" for the league, was convicted on February 11 at Jackson, Minn., of the crime of "unlawful assemblage," which requires a showing that in the meeting things contrary to the policies of the country were advocated.

Mr. Gilbert was also convicted on May 10 at Red Wing of "utterances tending to discourage enlistments."

A. C. Townley, head of the league, and Joseph Gilbert are both under indictment in Martin county, Minnesota, for obstructing the military and naval policies of the United States.

F. A. Telgen, McLeod county organizer for the league, is under a federal indictment for obstructing enlistments and is awaiting trial. He is said still to be working for the league elsewhere.

George D. Brewer was convicted in justice court in Pipestone county, Minnesota, of holding an unlawful assemblage and was fined. He is still working for the league.

Perhaps more investigation will uncover further information which may be of interest to the Nebraska farmers. O. G. SMITH, President Nebraska Farmers' Congress.

SAID IN FUN.

Edith—I see Betty has decorated her room with pistols, swords and the like.
Edith—Yes, always has been a great girl for having arms around her.
Boston Transcript.

"Are you going to rusticate this summer, Mrs. Comesp?"
"No indeed; we can't afford anything that expensive. We're just going down on the farm."—Baltimore American.

"Thank goodness, golf isn't like poker."
"Why?"
"Think of having your husband stay out all night playing it."—Detroit Free Press.

"Gets-It"—2 Drops-- Then to the Dance

Goodnight to Corn Pains— Corns Peel Off With "Gets-It."
"Say, girls, you can laugh at tight shoes or damp corn-pulling weather, but bumpy corns, calluses on the soles of your feet, corns between the toes, hard and soft corns."

SOMEBODY'S BOY:

"Twas somebody's boy, who, happy and gay, Said his 'Goodbye!' and nattered away; His country's appeal he had given full heed; For many brave boys he knew there was need."

His suit of new khaki was neat and trim; His fond mother thought, "I am proud of him!" So marched he away at the head of the drum, With visions of liberty, sure to come.

He crossed with thousands the perfilled seas; With vows to the Flag, and to God on his knees; Then afar in fair France, a soldier true, He bore in his pride our Red, White and Blue.

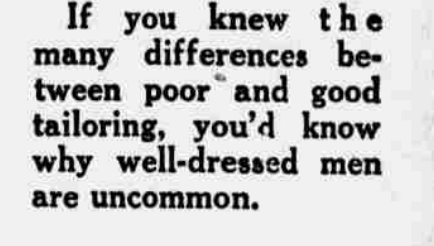
He heard the dread voice of the barrage gun; He saw the vast wreckage of lawless Hun; But "Somebody's Boy" was a soul unafraid; For Liberty's price he knew must be paid.

So onward he marched in the battle line; He may not be yours, and he may not be mine; But Somebody's Boy was wounded that night, And tenderly borne toward a Red Cross light.

There, delicate food from the nurses kind, And every comfort that love could find; Were his, every hour, with letters of cheer, And love from the Homeland, never more dear.

"Twas Somebody's Boy, O Mother, you know 'What gratitude deep to him we all owe; He left his dear Home—blest land of the free, To fight for God's freedom, for you and for me."

And Somebody's Boy knelt low at his cot, And prayed for the home hearts that never forgot; "Be kind to our mothers, O God!" was his prayer; Of bounty from them, we need not despise Fremont, Neb. MRS. S. A. PRESTON.



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The Antlers Hotel

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TODAY

One Year Ago Today in the War.
Reception in United States senate to Italian war commission.
Every male citizen of draft age prohibited from leaving United States.
Houses of representatives rejected the present censorship clause in the espionage bill.
The Day We Celebrate.
James D. Reed, grocer, born 1878.
Walter Willis, real estate man, born 1882.
Guy H. Pratt of the Nebraska Telephone company, born 1878.
Origen Williams of the United States National bank, born 1886.
George L. Sheldon, former governor of Nebraska, born at Nemaha, Neb., 48 years ago.

Just 30 Years Ago Today

The Omaha base ball team, flushed with victory, returned from Des Moines and are preparing to wipe up the diamond with Kansas City in three games.
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Twice Told Tales

Democracy.
War Secretary Baker said at a luncheon in Washington.
"Ours will be the most democratic army in the world, for ours is the most democratic country."
"A millionaire, as he climbed into his limousine, snarled at a newsboy: "No, I don't want any paper! Get out!"
"Will, keep your shirt on, boss," the newsboy answered. "The only difference between you and me is that you're making your second million, while I'm still workin' on my first."—Washington Post.
A Lesson in Patriotism.
The "gunner" was giving his son, with whom he was out of a job, fast becoming chronic, a lesson in patriotism.
"Have you a Liberty bond?" he asked.
"No; cost too much!"
"Buy a thrift stamp?"
"Thrift stamp? Huh! Too small."
"But they have one mighty fine habit, my boy—they stick."—Cartoons Magazine.
Safety First.
Lady (to soldier who has been decorated for bravery)—And what inspired you to act in that heroic manner?
Jock—Well, ye maun ken, ma'am Ah've put ma money in the War Loan, and Ah want to keep it safe.—London Opinion.