

THE OMAHA BEE
DAILY (MORNING) - EVENING - SUNDAY
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OUR GREATEST FOURTH OF JULY.
July 4 is distinguished in American history for many significant events aside from the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Centenary of the American Flag
Law Providing for Increased Number of Stars Effective
July 4, 1818
K. K. Kennedy in New York Times.

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Safe and sane this time.
A million men in France! Good work, says the nation.
No dearth of worthy objects for the money that would have been burned up in fireworks.

Tennessee pays \$12,000,000 in federal taxes, but got \$125,000,000 for a single war plant. Fair enough.

The bootleggers do not seem to be deterred by the threat of Uncle Sam to take all their excess profits.

Listen for the splash of ships taking the water all along the two coasts today. It will be a sorry sound in Berlin.

Let us hope that President Wilson's Fourth of July thrill doesn't backfire like George Creel's did a year ago.

It's tough on congress to have to postpone its recess over the Fourth. Still, other folks are making sacrifices.

But all these colossal income and excess profits taxes come out of the pockets of the consumer just the same.

"He who works prays" has been a well understood maxim for ages, so the senate is following well established precedent.

The kaiser ought to talk with some of his soldiers who lately have tasted Yankee mettle before he dismisses our army as unworthy attention.

We may thank the war for a really quiet and entirely sane approach to the glorious Fourth. Contrast with previous years makes the last two or three days seem Elysian in their peace.

What are we coming to if the familiar nicknames are not to be bandied about in the city hall. With official dignity so thick over there, the usual chair-warmer at a council meeting will not feel at all at home.

The next job ahead of our University of Nebraska regents is to build up a faculty of good, forceful as well as scholarly professors and instructors in harmony with the patriotic spirit of the people of this state and ready to co-operate in the teamwork that alone will keep our university in the front rank.

A Move in the Right Direction.
The Bee compliments the school board for taking up seriously the recommendation originally advanced by this paper for a business manager to be responsible for the business side of the schools just as the city superintendent is responsible for the teaching side of the schools.

The success of the innovation must, of course, depend upon two things: First, on securing a competent, experienced and trustworthy man for the position, and, second, on leaving to him the performance of his duties without interference by school board committees trying to favor friends or to prescribe the minute details of every business transaction.

The next step in school reorganization will then be to reduce the size of the school board itself and confine its activities to the determination of policies, budget making and advisory work such as ordinarily devolves upon the directors of a corporation run by the president or general manager and hired experts who devote their whole attention to the corporation's affairs.

OUR GREATEST FOURTH OF JULY.
July 4 is distinguished in American history for many significant events aside from the signing of the Declaration of Independence. By a curiously interesting series of coincidences the day has often been marked by an achievement of national importance, adding to the glory and prestige of the nation and increasing the reverence of the people for the anniversary.

Swiftly and boldly we have entered on a great war, staking our future on the issue of battle, proceeding with a confidence born of belief in our cause and dedicated to its justice. With full recognition of the immensity of the task before us, and cheerfully acknowledging all that has been done by those alongside of whom we have taken a place on the battle line, we realize that on the steadfastness with which we pursue our purpose depends the outcome.

In the year we have turned our paths of peace into the ways of war. All our energies and resources have been, or are being, coupled to the grim engine of conflict, and we have astounded the world by what we have done. Millions of young men have turned from the disorder of civil life into the disciplined routine of military employment. More than a million of these are now on the front in France. Noncombatant activities, vital to success in the field, have similarly been organized and set in motion.

At the same time the American people, notoriously self-indulgent, have submitted to restrictions in personal conduct almost as rigorous as those laid by despots on oppressed subjects. Voluntary contributions to the general sum of effort, sacrifices of personal comfort and convenience, have marked the nation and advertise our constancy and devotion in the war.

While an effort is being made to get the supreme court of the United States to reopen the case for the child labor law, advocates of restricting the employment of children are busy in the senate. Three bills are pending, each undertaking to accomplish the object sought. One of these is by Senator Kenyon of Iowa, which would deny the use of the mails to persons employing children in production of goods for interstate traffic.

Another, also presented by Pomerene, imposes a 25 per cent tax on the output of firms employing child labor. The Kenyon bill is said to have the sanction of the president and the postmaster general, although it is objected to by some of the senators as being too drastic.

These senators are said to look with favor on the Pomerene measures. Action is looked for before the end of the session. In the meantime the southern mills are reported to have resumed the employment of children on an 11-hour schedule immediately after the supreme court made its decision.

"Politics Adjourned" in South Carolina.
President Wilson's attempt to hand-pick a senate has met another setback in the death of "Ben" Tillman. The South Carolina senatorial race for the current year had assumed the proportion of a four-handed game, with the redoubtable Cole Blease looming up as a dangerous factor.

To offset this, and perhaps to insure Tillman's re-election, the president used his influence to induce Representative Lever to retire from the race. Now death steps in and gives the former fire-eating governor practically a clear track, his surviving opponent being an unknown, Nat B. Dial, not heretofore considered even a dark horse in the race.

This contingency gives the president's group the privilege of accepting Blease or hunting up another candidate in all sorts of a hurry. Incidentally, the event serves to further illustrate the extent to which politics has been "adjourned" by the democrats who circle around the White House.

Secretary LeSuer of the Nonpartisan league produced a certificate of endorsement for his organization, written by George Creel. When "Big Bill" Haywood comes forward with a similar document the administration's ready letter writer's mission will be complete.

The Austrian general who regards the late operations along the Piave as a success has a great future before him as a German diplomat. He is just the sort of thoughtless liar the Hun appreciates most.

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Independence day, July 4, 1918, marks the 100th birthday of the present American flag. The continental, or grand union, flag of the colonies was the first standard to have embodied in its design any attribute which endures in the flag of today.

The stars in this flag were arranged in a circle, and the credit for making it is usually given to Mrs. Betsy Ross of Philadelphia. After the 13 original stars were increased to 15 upon the union into the union of Vermont, on March 4, 1791, and Kentucky on June 1, 1792, congress passed an act increasing the stars and stripes to 15 each.

The Historical Magazine for August, 1857, gives an account of this, taken from the National Intelligencer of July, 1854, a part of which follows: "On the admission of Indiana into the union in 1816, Mr. Peter H. Wendover of New York offered a resolution that a committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of altering the flag of the United States."

A committee was appointed, which reported a bill on January 2, 1817; but it was not acted upon. While the committee had the matter under consideration, Mr. Wendover called upon Captain S. C. Reid, who was in Washington at that time, and requested him to form a design of our flag, so as to represent the increase of the states without destroying its distinctive character.

After the fourth day of July next, the flag of the United States be 13 horizontal stripes, alternate red and white; that the union have 20 stars, white in a blue field.

"Section 2. Be it further enacted, that on the admission of every new state in the union one star to be added to the union of the flag; and that such addition shall take effect on July 4 next succeeding such admission."

The first flag raised after the enactment of the new law was hoisted on the flagstaff of the house of representatives on April 13, 1818. This flag was made under the supervision of Captain Reid by his wife and some other women, at her house on Cherry street, New York City, and the stars were arranged to form one great star in the center of the union, in accordance with the plan of the designer.

"Fully persuaded that the form selected for the American flag was truly emblematical of our origin and existence as an independent nation, and that, as such, it has received the approbation and support of the citizens of the union, it ought to undergo no change that would decrease its conspicuity or tend to deprive it of its representative character."

"The original flag of the United States was composed of 13 stripes and 13 stars, and was adopted by a resolution of the continental congress on June 14, 1777. On January 13, 1794, after two new states had been admitted into the union, the national legislature passed an act that the stripes and stars should, on a day fixed, be increased to 15 each, to comport with the then independent states."

"The accession of new states since that alteration and the certain prospect that at no distant period the number of states will be considerably multiplied, render it, in the opinion of the committee, highly inexpedient to increase the number of stripes, as every flag must in some measure be limited in size, from the circumstance of convenience."

Minneapolis Journal: Bulgaria has stolen so much money from the pockets of neighbors that it ought to be renamed Bulgaria.
Wall Street Journal: "Germany will not bind itself with any pledges regarding Belgium."—Von Kuehlmann. Precisely what is a binding German pledge?
Minneapolis Journal: It may be impossible for the Home Guards to get a wall; at Hindenburg, but there are a few weeds in the gardens that are ripe enough to swat.

Minneapolis Tribune: Having failed with his long range guns to bring down the German liner, the Kaiser is expected to try a long range olive branch. The result will be the same.
Louisville Courier-Journal: When the Germans try to torpedo ships loaded with bananas bound for America they increase the military ardor of Americans who will be old enough to fight if the war lasts till 1925.
New York Herald: The wish that is in the favor of the thought which prompts Vienna's report that the great Austria of the Piave was "unobscured"—the wish being that the event may be unobserved in Austria-Hungary.
New York World: Coming back from a personal inspection in France, Raymond Fosdick says: "The moral condition of our men is so gratifying that any improvement would seem superfluous." To any but the professional croakers this is enough said. No croaker, of course, believes any man who does not proclaim the worst.

Twice Told Tales
A Wonder Worker.
One afternoon some time ago two young girls were sitting on the veranda knitting for the soldiers, when one of them turned the conversation to an auto ride she had the evening before.
"Mr. Jones' ability in running an automobile is simply wonderful," declared the pretty one. "I never dreamed that it was possible to go quite so far without machinery."
"Go without machinery?" was the wondering rejoinder of the other. "Do you mean to say that such a thing happens?"
"Yes," promptly replied the first. "We must have gone at least 12 miles before Mr. Jones discovered that the engine was missing."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

People and Events
Through the munificence of a kinswoman who willed \$100,000 for the purpose, the James Buchanan is to have a monument in one of the parks of Washington. Remember Jim? Uh huh! He was president or something like that.
A treasury statement for June shows that the money in circulation now amounts to \$49.63 per capita. The figures are 74 cents less than the showing for May. Even the lowered per capita stand little chance of gathering rust.

When the democrats run both ends of the Illinois legislature a few years ago slumming committees raked Chicago and most of the state for political thunder. Their activities held the first pages of newspapers and the members straggled in the glare of publicity. Political slummers are not stingy in pouring out public money and the Illinois committees burned up the public cash, regardless of authority or source. Now comes the reckoning. The state supreme court rules that \$21,000 was spent unlawfully and entered a decree requiring four spendthrift democrats to put the money back in the treasury. Think of that, patriots, and weep!

NEARLY CRAZY WITH ERUPTION
Itching and Burning On Face and Body. Cuticura Healed.
"An itching and burning began on my face and spread all over my body. Then little pimples would raise, and you could not put a pin point between them. The pimples came to a head and burned and itched so that I irritated the affected parts by scratching. The eruption nearly set me crazy, and it also caused discomfort."
"Then I used Cuticura Soap, and Ointment. I had relief soon, and after using about three cakes of Soap and five boxes of Ointment I was healed." (Signed) Miss Bessie Foreman, Box 182, Fountain City, Ind.

Wanted a Substitute.
"John," said the clergyman to his new man, "do you—er—ever employ strong language?"
The new man blushed self-consciously.
"Well, sir," he faltered, "I—I may be a little careless like in my speech at times."
"Ah," murmured the clergyman, "I'm sorry, John—I'm sorry! But we will correct you for the sake of the fitting time. Just now I want you to go to Jenkinson & Blenkinson and settle this bill for repairing my summer house. And you might talk to them, John, as if it were your own bill, in a careless-like sort of way. Will you, John?"—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

Over There and Here
The fever for pure Americanism in New York City grows with the hours. Forists have decided to banish German names from standard roses and remove every taint of kaiser.

CHERRY CHAFF.
"When we get better acquainted," said he, "I shall call you by your first name."
"Ah, right," said the other, "I had our acquaintance will reach the point where my friends can call me by your last name."—Indianapolis News.

"This is a promiscuous sort of neighborhood. For instance, we know nothing whatever about the people who live here."
"But we soon will, dear. I sent Eliza there this morning to borrow some baking powder."—Baltimore American.

"I saw lately where a member of a legislature drew a knife on another."
"Well, what do you suppose it was the only way he had of making a cutting remark?"—Baltimore American.

She—You did not seem able to understand me when I telephoned you this morning.
He—No; while you were calling me up, my boss was calling me down.—Baltimore American.

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Reduced Railroad Fares To COLORADO
The United States Government has authorized the following low Reduced Fare to DENVER and COLORADO common points from Omaha. (Similar Reductions from other localities.)

\$24.00 Round Trip From OMAHA
Plus 8¢ per war tax
Stopovers Allowed at Denver and All Western Points on All Round Trip Tickets

We have established a Rate Bureau and will advise you concerning the Reduced Fare from any point in the United States to Colorado or to other Sections of the West.

Denver Tourist Bureau, 658 17th St., Denver
Or call or address any of the following branches:
CHICAGO KANSAS CITY ST. LOUIS COLORADO SPRINGS
155 W. Madison 909 1/2 Grand Ave. 212 N. Sixth St. 121 E. Pike's Peak Ave.

TODAY
One Year Ago Today in the War.
American troops paraded in Paris in celebration of Independence day. Officially announced that in three months the British and French have captured 609 field pieces and heavy guns and 63,222 German soldiers.

The Day We Celebrate.
Michael J. Clark, sheriff of Douglas county, born, 1868.
Fred Renner, former treasurer of the Yetter-Davidson Wall Paper company, born, 1860.

Walter H. Rhodes, assistant cashier of the City National bank, born, 1871.
G. W. Noble, general agent for the New England Mutual, born, 1862.
George M. Cohan, actor and playwright, born at Providence, R. I., 41 years ago.

This Day in History.
1776—American Declaration of Independence proclaimed.
1918—Act of congress prescribing the present design of the Stars and Stripes came into effect.

1837—Cornerstone laid for the Illinois state capitol at Springfield.
1828—Iowa territorial government inaugurated at Burlington.
1859—Alexander R. Stephens of Georgia advocated the formation of a southern confederacy.
1863—Surrender of Vicksburg with 27,000 men, 128 pieces of artillery and 80 siege guns.

Just 30 Years Ago Today
Hon. R. M. Tuttle, editor of the Hornellsville (N. Y.) Times, was in the city on a roundabout way from the Chicago convention.
One of the great features at the fair grounds was the occasion of the five-mile race between John Prince, the bicyclist, and a trotting horse. The horse was not very speedy and John easily won.

E. E. Littlefield, who presided over the baggage department of the Webster street depot, has been called to the position of passenger agent with the Union Pacific.

The parade today moved along the following streets: Fifteenth to Douglas, east on Douglas to Ninth, south on Ninth to Farnam, west on Farnam to Fifteenth, south on Fifteenth to Howard, west on Howard to Sixteenth, north on Sixteenth to Clark, counter march on Jefferson square.

Round About the State
Practical steps to land a new hotel have been taken at Valentine. Estimates range from \$30,000 to \$50,000, and stock subscriptions are being solicited. Live Valentines regard the project as an essential industry and will sign up, of course, "until it hurts."

Right to the Point
Minneapolis Journal: Bulgaria has stolen so much money from the pockets of neighbors that it ought to be renamed Bulgaria.

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