

THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING) - EVENING - SUNDAY

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETOR

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Associated Press, which The Bee is a member, is authorized to use the name of this publication in all news dispatches...

OFFICES: Omaha - The Bee Building, South Omaha - 2318 N. St., Council Bluffs - 14 N. Main St., Lincoln - Little Building.

MAY CIRCULATION: Daily 69,841 - Sunday 59,602

Annual circulation for the month, subscribed and owned by Dwight Williams, Circulation Manager.

Subscribers leaving the city should have The Bee mailed to them. Address changed as often as requested.

THE BEE'S SERVICE FLAG



Our Italian friends are doing well, thank you!

"Thar's rain in them clouds, boys," so be patient.

Hold on to your Liberty bonds. You can have no better investment.

Balloons also blow up in New York as well as in Omaha, and no more fuss is made over them one place than another.

What was the matter that neither "Ned" Smith nor "Ned" Howard could face the grocers and butchers, as announced they would?

Fourth of July is over, but riveters are as busy as ever in the big shipyards, and Labor day will hear another great splash of launchings.

Just missed Friday the thirteenth by one day. But never mind, the hoodoo day will be here twice before the year is ended—in September and again in December.

The new sultan of Turkey may be pro-ally, but he will have to come clean with Uncle Sam if he wants to escape serious trouble right at the start of his administration.

Locating the source of the German "slush" fund is quite interesting, of course, but it would be more to the point if we were told how much of its proceeds came to Nebraska.

Chancellor von Hertling says he is awaiting the Allies' terms for peace. He has had them before him for many months and will yet subscribe to them, for they are not subject to change.

The "salute and ride" proposition is fine, but need not be confined to men in uniform. One of the worst wastes constantly committed is the waste of automobiles running around town with empty seats.

The job begun in January was well set ahead in July, but wait till November, when the people get a chance to say what they think of the desperate effort of the court house gang to keep themselves in office.

The senator's hyphenated organ offers a testimonial of the Washington correspondent of a New York paper that also almost earned a red eagle decoration. This at least is better than the famous testimonial given the senator by the kaiser through "The Fatherland."

"Would republicans in our place have made commissioner districts to favor the democrats?" asks one of the democratic members of the county board. No, but if they had perpetrated such an outrageous job as this democratic gerrymander what an outcry would be raised in the democratic camp.

Why Traffic Rules Are Not Obeyed.

"That's right, judge," admitted an auto owner in police court, after hearing the testimony of the arresting officer. "Not right, but true," corrected the judge, and he dismissed the case.

Here is part of the daily record. Last week a reckless driver was at the police station, confronted by his victim, a girl who had been knocked down and seriously injured. "He has been punished enough," said the girl, and the driver was turned loose.

Where does the public come in? Traffic laws and rules are made to protect the people who must use the streets. They are violated with impunity by careless, reckless or thoughtless drivers. Police officers are slow to make arrests because, even when the culprits admit their guilt, the police judges dismiss the cases or administer but nominal fines.

Omaha streets will not be made safe until more rigid enforcement of reasonable traffic regulations is the practice. The practice of dismissing offenders will not bring about the reform that is needed. Some means of impressing this on the minds of the police judges should be found.

Just 30 Years Ago Today

Judge Shields issued one marriage license today. The parties were Louis Johnson and Miss Ida Anderson, both of Omaha.

The city clerk has received a communication from the clerk of the council chambers of Borough of Thames, New Zealand, asking for information about operating electric light machinery by water power.

W. R. English, deputy recorder of deeds, is visiting in Kenosha, Wis.

Miss Italia De Rudio, daughter of Captain De Rudio, is in the city en route to join her father at Fort Riley, Kansas.

W. R. Tozer, a carpenter residing in rooms over 2406 Hamilton street, is the fortunate person to inherit from his father, jointly with three sisters, a plot of twenty acres of ground near the city of London, in England.

State Press Comments

Aurora Republican: If the government can get away with a horizontal increase on railroad rates, the occupation of many a tariff expert will go glimmering. But it is our guess that a good many years will be required to straighten out the tangle in the country's transportation system now being woven by Director General McAdoo.

Kearney Hub: Charles W. Bryan ("Brother Charley") announces that he is a candidate for the democratic nomination for governor and submits a platform that is real "hot stuff." Especially is he out for the booze ring and the profiteers. But above all he is out for Bryan. There's always a Bryan who is for Bryan first, last and all the time.

Scottsbluff Republican: The movement which originated in Omaha to secure an amendment to the constitution permitting a single tax of 10 to be levied on all motor vehicles, the funds thus created to be used exclusively in the building and maintaining of the highways of the state, is a good one and if it were adopted would settle our highway question for all time, and would be of greater value to the state than any measure yet proposed for the purpose of taking care of the roads of the state. There is no doubt that the movement will find many followers from all parts of the state who believe that just that kind of a law would be a good one.

Editorial Shrapnel

Kansas City Star: The sultan of Turkey is dead, which is about all anybody knows about him.

Brooklyn Eagle: Multimillionaire who pays \$14,000,000 in income tax will leave a record for his descendants as a good man when they congratulate themselves on what "our family did in the war."

New York World: Germany always has two explanations of the destruction of Red Cross hospital ships. One is that they were of our revolt and the other is that they were carrying fighting men. In neither case is there any denial of infamous guilt.

Baltimore American: Von Hindenburg said that to raise and equip an army of 2,000,000 men in America and keep on supplying the allies was impossible. He has now found out that American enterprise has a way of trumping on impossibilities.

Minneapolis Tribune: Maybe Germany is starting an Austro-German war on the verge of collapse, and Bulgaria is ready to quit and the Turk is only looking for a good chance to sneak out of a bad job, but the only way to win the war is to fight out in the Pershing way, if it takes several summers.

Louisville Courier-Journal: American newspapers are recalling just now that the war of our revolt was not a German dunderhead who sat on the British throne. And they might also recall that the war was so unpopular among the British people that the German king fought it merely looking for a job.—Harper's Magazine

Twice Told Tales

One Glimpse Enough.

Dr. Lowell J. Rainey, director of the overseas war library, was entertained at dinner by a group of Johns Hopkins students on the eve of his departure for the front.

A very rich young sportsman, afflicted with the malady known as swelled head, said to Dr. Rainey during the fish course.

"I'm going to volunteer, Doc, but I can't decide whether to take up the cavalry or the aviation wing. Which do you advise?"

"The aviation, most decidedly," Dr. Rainey replied.

The young sportsman smiled.

"Ah, you've seen me fly, have you?" he said.

"No, said Dr. Rainey: 'I've seen you ride.'"—Washington Star.

Easy Money.

A builder and contractor in Philadelphia, who had just won a considerable amount of work in hand for the government, visited the plant one day and discovered a number of things he didn't like. One in particular he spoke to his foreman:

"I have just caught a fellow hanging 'round smoking during working hours. So I ordered them to give him a week's wages and told him to go."

"Yes," said the foreman, with a grin, "I know all about it, for I have just seen the man leaving. Why, sir, he wasn't employed here—he was that German king fighting it merely looking for a job!"—Harper's Magazine

JUSTIFICATION THAT DOES NOT JUSTIFY.

The rank job of redistricting the county that disfranchises thousands of voters in Omaha who ought to have a chance to choose a county commissioner this fall is defended by one of the democrats on the board with the excuse that it was made necessary by the election commissioner's rearrangement of ward and precinct lines and the uneven growth of population.

Although the same pretext is set up in the preamble of the gerrymander resolution, this is justification that does not justify. It only goes to confirm the charge that the whole scheme was concocted as far back as the session of the legislature. The democratic lawmakers, instigated by expert and "Art"-istic democratic wire pullers behind the screen, changed the commissioner law to make us elect the board by districts instead of by the whole county, to permit the change of the districts without a full attendance and to lengthen the time between redistricting from two years to four years.

The election commissioner, also a democrat, it is true, arbitrarily changed the ward and precinct boundaries, but that officer has no authority to change county commissioner bounds; otherwise he might change them every year. The voting precincts are pretty certain to be changed again before another four years elapses, but if the commissioner law remains as it is the outrageous injustice done by this redistricting cannot be corrected unless the gerrymander should be knocked out in the courts.

The excuse of changing population would also have much more weight if an honest effort had been made to equalize the population between the different commissioner districts instead of merely to pile the republicans all into one or two districts and carve out three districts with democratic majorities in order to hold democratic control.

Above all, where is the justification for the four democrats on the board holding back their action to the eve of the election? Where is the justification for waiting for a meeting at which the only republican member should be absent, sending all the newspaper reporters away and turning the trick in the dark? If it were all on the square and above board it could certainly have been done in the light of day, leisurely and without railroading, before the candidates began to file and after free and fair discussion.

A Dangerous Mixture.

"Adjourned politics" continues to exhibit the beauties of the plan. One phase that might ordinarily escape attention has to do with the coincidence of the next Liberty loan drive and the fall elections. None will presume to say that any direct connection exists between the two, but it must strike folks as peculiar that the secretary of treasury hit on the month of October as the time for asking the people to subscribe to the big loan. It so happens that just at that time the democrats will be on the stump asking to be returned to congress, and it might turn out that somehow the two affairs will get mixed. At any rate, the president, vice president, cabinet officers and all the heavy political artillery of the administration will then be in action—pleading the cause of the Liberty bonds, but incidentally telling what the party has accomplished. Voters will possibly be able to discriminate between the two drives, but the opportunity for confusing them is quite apparent. Politics, however, has been set aside in Washington.

Ferry First and Then the Bridge.

Auto truck transportation has had the effect of reviving the project for a ferry across the Missouri river south of the city. This has been mooted many times within the last score of years, and several times has been on point of consummation. At one time a ferry did exist in the vicinity of Bellevue, and its business was considerable, it finally succumbing before a government snag boat. Several times the erection of a bridge somewhere south of the city has been seriously talked of, the Rock Island having been reported to be backing the plan. All this has come to naught, while the farmers on the Iowa side have found it necessary to make a long detour to reach the market of Omaha with their stuff. A safe and reliable crossing of the river, either by bridge or ferry, that will shorten the distance and save time as well, should be of great service at this time. The establishment of the ferry will demonstrate the possibility of future traffic great enough to warrant the building of the bridge, that will surely come if the business warrants its existence.

Internal revenue collection for the last year amounted to the trifling of \$3,600,000,000, which is not much in these war times, but compares very favorably with the preceding year, when the collector gathered together \$800,000,000 and thought he was doing something.

If the kaiser is going to make his big drive before the Americans reach the battle front he will have to hurry. More than a million are there now and others are arriving daily.

Revolving Austrian soldiers find themselves allowed a choice between hunger and machine guns, showing how popular the war is with them.

Mustard Gas Warfare

Uncle Sam Plans to Give Hun a Dose of His Own Medicine

New York Times.

Mustard gas, the deadliest instrument of warfare yet devised, is not a gas, but an amber fluid of a faint, sweetish, not unpleasant odor. It is no more volatile than turpentine. It kills by inhalation and maims or blinds by contact. In one recent attack, lasting 48 hours, it was estimated that the Germans used 7,000 tons of it.

Now that it has become common knowledge that gas was largely responsible for astonishing enemy successes in the last four offensives, it is possible to give these random facts from the story of "mustard," and to discuss in some detail its properties, manufacture and history. It is not a story of German chemists more adroit than the allies in this branch of the lethal arts; for American chemists reported its deadliness and its availability, both to this government and to the British, before the enemy began throwing it across "No Man's Land." And, although the United States is admittedly behind in its gas program, it may be said, for whatever aid and comfort it affords Berlin, that the kind of mustard gas being manufactured here is one-fourth more toxic than the kind being used by the Germans.

When an official British communique last April contained a line that Armenieres was "full of gas" and that neither side could enter there, few realized the tragic import of the news. What it meant was that Armenieres was full of mustard gas. The gutters ran with the reddish-brown liquid. Phosgene and other poisons evaporate so readily that they do not make any spot untenantable for more than a few hours, but "mustard" lingers from two to four days, depending on weather conditions. Several months earlier, at Cambrai, the importance of the weapon had become manifest. British infantry held Bourlon wood. Again and again German troops were hurled against that redoubtable force. Ten times they attacked, and each time were driven back. Then came the official announcement that the British had taken an enemy infantry had won no decision. Mustard gas was the victor.

It was about this time that the "Tommy's" named the stuff. No mustard enters into its composition, but a drop of it on a soldier's sleeve penetrates, and, after the lapse of hours, blisters like mustard. It is a deep burn and causes great swelling. But mustard gas is so innocent in appearance and so inoffensive to the nostrils that the soldiers were not on their guard against it. The chief sufferers were the artillerymen, who threw aside their masks after working for an hour amid it. The masks were of little avail, anyhow, for the kind then in use did not last 10 minutes in an atmosphere drenched with the drug.

Such was the new weapon forged by kaisercraft.

Questions have become general as to the nature of mustard gas, and as to the ability of the United States to produce it in quantities. In an effort to answer them an interview was sought with Dr. Benjamin T. Brooks, chief chemist of the Commercial Research company at Elkhart, which has taken an active part in this phase of war preparation. It was he who, 15 months ago, urged the use of mustard gas against the Germans.

"It is a peculiar quality of mustard gas that no chemist would suspect from its structure that it is toxic," said Dr. Brooks. "The formula looks harmless enough. We made some of it last October. As has already been told in a newspaper dispatch, the bureau of mines formally reported to the ordnance department that it is a method of manufacture were satisfactory. Afterward the bureau made two more reports urging that it be used."

"Then the ordnance department had to decide about putting it into shells and figure Crowder and the Draft Boards

The letter of General Crowder to the conference committee on the war appropriation bill reflects very great honor upon him. But his declination of the promotion offered him to be a lieutenant general will be a useless sacrifice unless congress acts on his suggestion and provides some substantial recognition for the draft boards throughout the country.

The proposal to promote General Crowder was based upon the very great success of the administration of the select draft, a success which is now recognized by the world over. General Crowder declines the tendered promotion, "which I value beyond anything in my military career," because, as he says, "6,000 local and district boards, with an aggregate membership of 18,000 citizens, have cooperated with the national headquarters efficiently and honorably, many without compensation, in the superb team work which has produced the gratifying result attained under the selective service law."

That tribute is timely and well paid. We exult in the team work which has sent a million men across the sea, and in the international team work which has put all the allied armies under General Foch, because this co-operation is so obviously and gratefully hastening the day when we shall win the war. But until General Crowder spoke up for them we have overlooked the patriotic team work of 18,000 quiet citizens without whose devoted and skillful co-operation we should not have had our million men ready to send across the sea, or must have secured them, if at all, at the cost of grave dissatisfa-

tion and loss of life at home. As General Crowder points out, many of these loyal citizens have served without pay, but the pay even for those who have accepted it has been entirely inadequate to the value of the rigor of the work done. In almost no draft board has the supply of paid clerical labor been adequate, and the board members have impressed volunteers among their families and friends to work for nothing for a government which is paying every other form of war work with extreme liberality.—Brooklyn Eagle.

People and Events

In an age of steel the building of wooden ships looks like a step backward. Even so the launching of timber craft noted on July 4 makes a caulked good record.

The summer school class in geography will rise and define the boundaries of the state of Missouri. "A vast lake of dark brown water, surrounded on three sides by a desert." Correct. Class dismissed.

The "work or fight" order brings a rift of joy to theater patrons in New York. District Attorney Swan says ticket speculating is a nonessential industry and must go. In other words, working the public will not win the war.

Much more favorable support of the employment of married women, as teachers was heard at the Pittsburgh convention of the National Educational association. Views were different in peace time. A marked scarcity in the nation's teaching force necessitates a call to the married reserves and mends the fears of the singles. Besides, the married ones have shown surprising fighting form wherever freedom has been assailed.

Political pots are boiling in Montana after the manner of the Clark-Daly days. The United States senatorship is the first prize and two women hanker for the job—Miss Jeannette Rankin, member of congress, and Miss Anne Martin, both republicans. Senator Thomas J. Walsh, the lone democrat in the race, thinks he has a walk-away with the opposition split, but the copper kingdom, with two chambers in the political ring, is a doubtful proposition.

Easy Money.

A builder and contractor in Philadelphia, who had just won a considerable amount of work in hand for the government, visited the plant one day and discovered a number of things he didn't like. One in particular he spoke to his foreman:

"I have just caught a fellow hanging 'round smoking during working hours. So I ordered them to give him a week's wages and told him to go."

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The Bee's Letter Box

The Party with an Appetite.

Omaha, July 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: I told you so! Another example of the predominance of the democratic appetite for a place on the public pay roll is seen in the shopworn scheme of our county commissioners to perpetuate themselves in office. And to think that our much-lauded and exemplary citizen, Sophus Nebbe, would make himself a party to such a coarse piece of work. Little did the public suspect that a man who was quoted in the papers as saying he would turn over his salary as commissioner to the Red Cross would care to hang on to an office if the public showed any inclination toward making a change!

Ninety-nine per cent of the democrats got the same way after they get into office once. It's the appetite that sways their acts, and not the welfare of the public. SOUTH SIDE.

County Employes and Wages.

Omaha, July 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: I notice that our present county commissioners voted for an increase in salaries for certain departments in the court house. If I am not mistaken, a few days ago I read in your paper that the reason for the increase is that some of the employes of the court house have to work overtime, hence the reason for the increase.

It is a well known fact that just before we got into this war, and before our young men began to leave for the army and navy, our county commissioners had the pick, and as it has always been the custom when they get elected, they wanted no one else but their friends, regardless of experience in office work. Just because work got a little heavier the court house employes had to get busy and put in a few extra hours each day instead of loafing around the court house and downtown on the taxpayers' time a raise is demanded.

The whole trouble is this: We have in this city and county elected men to office who barely can run their own business, but the reason they get in is because they make good to the "big men." If our commissioners, both in the city hall as well as in the court house, employ less help, but competent help, even if the salaries are fairly good, or just the same as they are going to pay now, we would get some accommodation, but the way it has been going they make the taxpayer pay all expenses for their own good.

My only wish is that next time we elect county officials elect men who understand their business, and not those who attend their other interests outside of the court house duties seven hours a day and just come into the court house to meet and bid their employes good-day, that being the whole reason that they don't know what is going on in their own department. TAX-PAYER.

TART TRIFLES.

Citizen—Unlucky I am mistaken, you are the party I gave 10 cents to yesterday.

Beggar—I am, sir. Did you think a dime would make a new man of me?—New Haven Register.

"Ma, the paper says that one person can have only one piece of pie now."

"Well, what about it?"

"When company comes, there will be enough for me."—Chicago Journal.

"Who was the first financier?"

"Noah."

"Huh."

"He floated quite a lot of stock successfully."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"Do you think if I save on this performance by cutting out the calcium, the

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The unmistakable marks of distinction to be found in a funeral conducted by us is a guarantee of the high character of our moderately priced burials. We have a thorough knowledge of the undertaker's art and can assure you of fair, courteous treatment.

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Your choice of any bathing cap in stock worth from 50c to \$1.00 for . . . . .39c

Pinkalene for coloring waists pink, green and burnt orange . . . . .25c

50c Stationery, per box . . .19c

15c Wash Cloths . . . . .7c

10c Wash Cloths . . . . .5c

65c Nail Scissors . . . . .39c

75c Household Shears . . .59c

\$1.25 Pocket Knives . . .89c

We have just received a large assortment of solid back hair brushes in all styles and sizes from 75c to . . . . . \$3.00

35c Tooth Brush Holders 19c

40c Tooth Brushes . . .24c

35c Tooth Brushes . . .19c

\$1.25 Goetorbe Face Powder . . . . .89c

\$1.50 La Trefle Face Powder . . . . . \$1.29

\$1.10 Azurea Face Powder . . . . . \$1.29

50c Udor, for oppressive perspiration . . . . .29c

Perfumes.

\$2.25 Ideal Extract, per oz. . . . . \$1.69

\$1.25 La Trefle, per oz. . .89c

Also a large line of imported and domestic perfume, worth up to \$2.00 per oz., Saturday per oz. . . . . 39c

15c Lux . . . . .12c

12c Palm Olive Soap . . .9c

15c Remmer's Soap . . .9c

60c Syrup Figs . . . . .47c

25c Mentholatum . . . . .17c

\$1.00 Listerine . . . . .79c

50c Listerine . . . . .39c

25c Listerine . . . . .19c

25c Nature's Remedy . . .17c

50c Orazin Tooth Paste .34c

Aspirin Tablets.

Box containing 8 tablets . . .7c

Box containing 16 tablets 14c

Bottle of 100 tablets . . .69c

\$ 3.75 Hospital Malted Milk . . . . . \$2.90

25c Milk of Magnesia . . .17c

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