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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR
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THE BEE'S SERVICE FLAG
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Get ready for the "skip-stop."
If prohibition is a dead issue in Nebraska, why give it so much attention?

If lower freight rates will bring cheaper fuel, the public will not complain of the reduction.

War certainly is all Sherman said it was. Base ball umpires get by now without being roasted.

Poets have been declared engaged in essential occupation, which may relieve a few, if they only can prove themselves such.

Which reminds us again, What has become of all the "salute and ride" placards supposed to be decorating our automobiles?

The "Sandstorm division" is reported to be on the way to France. Anything ought to be welcome to those boys after a year at Deming.

The Czechos-Slavs are doing wonderful work in Russia, and it is up to us over here to give them support. Remember, the Czechos-Slavic Bazaar is still open.

No sympathy exists for the slacker, yet he has some legal rights. Even a person accused of being a slacker is presumed to be innocent until proved guilty.

The American Expeditionary Force in Europe was increased by 250,000 more men sent across in the month of August. The Kaiser may as well order his U-boats put in winter quarters and save gasoline.

No politics in the railroad service of the United States, insists the order of Director General McAdoo. In the meantime Mr. McAdoo is putting his own name on every payroll check for every railway employe in the United States, just to let people know who the head boss is.

Over in Chicago, the Tribune is showing up Mayor Thompson's pro-German war record, and showing up in ruthless fashion. No one, however, so far as we know, is accusing the Tribune of disloyalty to the republican party because it denounces an unfit candidate for United States senator.

The animus behind a dastardly deed like that bomb explosion in the Chicago postoffice is the same as that behind the torpedoing of the Lusitania. It is the reckless desire to strike terror even at the cost of the lives of innocent women and helpless children. It evidences a spirit which has no rightful place anywhere in the civilized world.

Ludendorff Leans on a Reel.
Field Marshal Ludendorff, thoroughly Prussian, dismisses America as a factor in the ultimate decision of the war. In doing so, he pits the German "will to win" against the "will to annihilate" of the Allies and reckons on the instability of the Americans! This attitude is so typical of the entire course of junkerdom that it might be dismissed without serious or extensive consideration. The military leaders of Germany planned to avoid any interference in the war on part of America, to be accomplished by factional divisions among our people. This failed, but its failure has taught the Potsdam plotters no lesson. In their prurience they can not conceive, much less comprehend, the spirit that has brought us into the war. Materialists in all they do, they have no thought of fighting to sustain an ideal and refuse to credit Americans with having entered the conflict for any reason more noble or worthy than the sordid considerations that animate the Germans. In measuring his opponents by his own standard, Ludendorff is preparing for even greater disappointment than he has yet endured. He is leaning on a reel when he banks on success to be achieved by reason of failure of Americans to be steadfast in the great job.

REFORMING THE PRIMARY PLAN.

Dissatisfaction with the working of the state-wide primary election method of selecting candidates is finding varied expression. As a defeated candidate for a democratic nomination Charles Q. DeFrance draws on his experience for an elaborate and somewhat involved substitute, in which he seeks to combine features of both primary and convention. The workability of his plan is doubtful. It is cumbersome and rigid, and on close examination gives no promise of greater satisfaction than the present system.

Mr. DeFrance lays greatest stress on the item of expense to the candidate, pointing out that large sums of money must be used to put names of aspirants for office before the people. Whether his device for shifting a portion of the cost to the public treasury would reduce the amount spent in primary elections on behalf of individual candidates is open to question. More likely it would only divert the expenditure. We admit the point is perplexing, but really it is a minor matter.

If unfit candidates are nominated, and this is the vital complaint, the blame in some degree rests on the voters, who neglect to inform themselves as to the character of the men seeking support. Mr. DeFrance's effort to pin this shortcoming upon the use of newspapers as "intellectual taxicabs for the transportation of what each candidate has brass enough to say about himself" is unconvincing. This pretense or pretext may be more fully considered at another time.

The whole question really gets back to the subject of party government. If we are to continue that form of self-government which alone has proved workable, then the various political parties should be responsible for the candidates put forward in their names. This responsibility cannot be enforced except through the selection of candidates representative of the party and their selection exclusively by its members. Under the convention plan such responsibility is easily established, while even the closed primary does not always beggar such a result. To create a convention or primary that truly voices the will of the rank and file of the party is the object for which the lawmakers must strive, and which to date they have failed of accomplishing.

One Place for the Skip-Stop.

The notice given by the chairman of the Nebraska State Railway Commission, if correctly reported, that the recommendation of the fuel administration for the skip-stop cannot be put into effect by street railways in Omaha or Lincoln without an order from the commission shows the absurdities to which its claim of exclusive jurisdiction leads. We opine that if the skip-stop system should be installed in compliance with the request of the federal government an inhibition by the State Railway Commission would have about as much deterring effect as the pope's bull against the comet.

But suppose it were the municipal authorities instead of the federal government that demanded the skip-stop, or some other kind of stop, or undertook to regulate the time schedule, or speed of the cars, or the transfer points, the inference conveyed is that we would have the wisecracks down at Lincoln telling us it cannot be done until they issue the say-so. Of course, it is easily understandable that, with the operations of the railroads and the telephone, telegraph and express companies all in the hands of Uncle Sam and out of the hands of the state railway commission, the commission has to pretend to be busy finding something to do as an excuse for continuing on the salary list and for maintaining an expensive corps of experts, clerks and subordinates.

Nebraska's coming constitutional convention will have a grand opportunity to put the skip-stop on the railway commission.

Bolsheviki Back to Savagery.

Any sympathy the so-called "internationalists" might have gained through their specious pleas for universal peace must be rapidly disappearing as the bolsheviki increase their outrages against order and decency in government. Lenin and Trotsky registered the high-water mark of class government, the aim of the socialists and internationalists, and as their fortunes wane are leaving a trail of murder as well as social wreckage behind. Assassination has ever been an accompaniment of such demonstrations as the bolsheviki miracle in Russia, and observers are not astonished that the murder of the former czar and his son should be followed by that of the German and British diplomatic agents. It does not enter into the calculation that these were representatives of foreign governments, with whom the bolsheviki or their successors must eventually deal; it was enough that they were typical of law and orderly procedure. This relapse into savagery gives a more murky quality to the Russian middle, yet has some aspects that are encouraging. As an indication of the ebb of national lunacy, it justifies belief that restoration of order may be nearer at hand than had been suspected; not that Russia will soon again be a well-governed nation, but disorganization having accomplished its worst, the deceived and deluded people will turn from their false prophets and so make easier the task of those who are to rescue them from chaos and destruction.

Youth as a Fighting Force
Thousands of American Boys Under 21 Already With the Colors

John W. Harrington in New York Times.

Youth will be served. The passage of the man power bill, drafting for military service American boys and men from 18 to 45 years old, does not alter the great fact that young America by the thousands anticipated the new move by enlisting. When the numbers come out the balance of them, who are of fighting age and condition, will be just as eager to join the colors of their country as were the stripling marines who fought at Chateau Thierry, the youthful aviators who bombed the boche, or the alert boy fighters of our battlefields and destroyers. When the time for registration comes, it will be reported of many a boy from 19 to 20 that he has been at the front for months. Of the remaining 1,797,609 effectives of that age estimated to be available under the draft, when we get to it, there will not be many exempted, if they can help it. Many of them have been on their tiptoes ever since this country entered the war, waiting for the chance to break away from parental control. Those of us who have boys of soldier and sailor age are swayed by conflicting emotions. We would not think much of them if they did not want to serve, even if they ran away from home to do it. Yet we hesitate to let them go unless we feel sure that they are strong enough and well prepared enough to undergo the ordeals of war. As one who has made the rounds of recruiting stations, and has talked with many boys keen to be in the service of their native land, I am summing up the situation in which American youth finds itself in this national crisis.

What a story of youth in all its courage and idealism we read in the Congressional Record's statement, which sets forth how many of the boys of the United States are already in the ranks of the Army of Freedom! While the draft was reaching out to men of from 21 to 30, the enlistment ages reached from 18 to 41, and in some of the branches of the service men of 45 were accepted. Up to August 8 last, when the War department, anticipating the passage of draft legislation, ordered enlisting to cease, most of the recruits were boys. The recruiting officers in the large stations in New York were overwhelmed at times by applications. Most of the youngsters had an enthusiastic interest in some special branch of the service, and they offered themselves eagerly so that they could have the choice of seeing the face of danger in their own way.

The writer has looked over records of one recruiting station, dating from April last until the closing order. There are such ages as 18, 19, 19 1/2 and 20, with here and there only a sprinkling of more mature applicants. Fully 80 per cent. of those accepted were minors, and most of them mere boys. Line after line shows rejected applications, because it had been found that they were only 16 and 17. It is a hard thing to tell the age of a boy. Hundreds of 16-year-olds have applied for all branches of the service, relying on the fact that they looked 20 or 21. The government does not take any boy below 18, except under unusual conditions, and the applicants who were besieging the recruiting sergeants did not hesitate to put ahead their own calendars and even to swear to false statements. Dismissal from the service is the penalty for perjury one's self even for patriotic purposes, but these youngsters were taking the risk when other means failed.

Scores of them were caught offering the birth certificates of older brothers as evidence of an age that was within the limit. Many a mother had been importuned day and night, until she went to the recruiting office and swore to a false date for the birth of her son, because he would give her no peace until she did. Sturdy boys of 17 have been crossing the borders into Canada, where they said they were 20 and took the oath of allegiance to the British Crown for the period of the war, because that was the way to get into aviation service, as the enlistments in that air unit of the United States had closed in March last. The cavalry of the air stirs the imagination of youth. It offers the newest phase of warfare, it throbs with adventure, and it

Economy in Spots

A survey by the Council of National Defense rather puts the quietus on the theory that the American people have been cutting personal expenditures down to the bone. Apparently "economy" is very spotty. The south and the west, reveling in tremendous increase in the cash value of farm products, seem to be buying more than ever before. Most of the saving is in eastern families. Probably that is explained by the fact that the classes of unorganized workers whose wages have been increased very little, if at all, are most numerous in the great commercial states.

As between the sexes, men are buying less, women are buying more. Guessers declare that this is partly because so many men are in the army and are taken out of the general purchasing public, partly because women workers are getting bigger wages than they ever got before, and spending what they earn, but in large measure because married women, wives of workers who are making high wages are spending freely. We are not at all surprised by this showing. Nor do we think it is one over which any grief need be felt. Not even the severest advocate of economy desired to have such a crash of manufacturing and distributing interests as would have come if every soul within our borders had determined to buy nothing that could be done without. In the long run such a crash would have hurt this nation and would have hurt our allies. England has found, as we have found, a steady demand for all available luxuries springing out of high wages. She has found, as this survey finds here, that the very rich have done the highest percentage of the cutting.—Brooklyn Eagle.

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The Bee's Letter Box

Jerry Warns Union Men.
Omaha, Sept. 5.—To the Editor of The Bee: In the midst of this dreadful war it seems there are others besides the profiteer and the politician flim-flaming the laborer. Labor day it was amusing, if not disgusting, to witness the schemes of the demagogic labor patriot-politician manipulating the selection of officers to be voted for or ratified at the State Federation convention.

The rank and file of the horny-handed sons of toil are men of average intelligence, nevertheless they permit the vendors of wet goods, fellows of the never-sweat variety, to be their avowed leaders because the labor organizations have developed into mutual admiration societies, consequently the members are not on the alert; and at the dictation of the corporations who are always on the alert the political tricksters in the unions become the accredited leaders, electing themselves to office. This war is going to be won. Therefore, when it is over it is evident and most essential that we should have honest, intelligent labor leaders to cope with the wise representatives of big business. Delegates to the convention awake, arise; don't allow the labor cause to be camouflaged by the corporation-owned political bushwhackers. JERRY HOWARD.

WHY NOT NICHOLAS OILS?
People who have suspected that about the only cheap thing left in the country was the dollar bill have their suspicions confirmed by figures published by the Department of Labor. Measured by its power to purchase food, a dollar as compared with its value five years ago is at present worth only 54 cents in Washington and Baltimore, 57 cents in Philadelphia, 59 cents in New York and Chicago and 63 cents in San Francisco. That is, food that could be bought for \$1 in July, 1913, now costs \$1.85 in Washington, and is proportionately high in the other cities. As respects shoes, rents, coal, liquors, amusements and both necessities and luxuries, the dollar has shrunk yet further, in some cases almost reaching the vanishing point. Given another year's continuance of the same scale of increase in the price of all commodities and it will virtually be necessary for a man to earn \$2 to pay for what one bought before the beginning of the war. This is the disturbing factor and the unsettling condition. For the profiteers and for all whom as employers or employees the war has enabled to earn larger wages and increased profits, halving the purchasing power of the dollar matters little; it is only necessary for them to adjust the swollen cost of living to their swollen incomes. For salaried persons, people on fixed incomes and all who have had no share in war prosperity, the problem of living in the old degree of comfort has become an acutely serious one. Their only relief can come from the return of the dollar to its former status, and that is bound to be a slow process, possibly requiring a decade to effect.—New York World.

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Bombing the Rhine Towns

"Why did we ever raid London and Paris?" This is said to be a frequent lamenting question in the mouths of German living in the towns where raids have come home to roost. It is at least a recognition of the fact that what is now being executed upon them is the villainy which they themselves taught. In so far, it is more respectable than the cowardly attitude and disgusting hypocrisy of some of the officials of the Rhine cities. They have been passing resolutions calling upon the German government to seek an agreement with the allies whereby places behind the lines shall be exempt from aerial bombing. That this is both impudent and indecent does not seem to occur to these simple-minded and panic-stricken burgo-masters. Did one of them ever raise so much as a whispered protest when Antwerp was bombed? Did they do anything but rub their hands in gloating satisfaction when news came of women and children in London being killed by German air-raiders? It is only when bombs drop in their own streets that they awake to the horror of what Germany began and has kept up with all its might. It is, indeed, a fearful thing—this dealing out of death to non-combatants—but the Germans would cut a better figure if they took their own medicine without all this whining.—New York Post.

People and Events

Governor McCall of Massachusetts takes himself out of the senatorial race, leaving a clear republican field to Senator Weeks. The governor explains that, with the hearts of the people beyond the seas, it is a poor time "to drag out personal claims into the day and shriek out one's virtues to the passerby." With him "politics is adjoined."

The late Senator Ollie James of Kentucky was a staunch defender of the rights and privileges of baldheads of whom he was a shining member. Obituaries neglect to give the date of initiation, but it must have been in early days of manhood. Even then he shone in vocal power as well as on top and gave no heed to flippant references to hair tonics and things. On one occasion only did a political opponent floor him in a joint debate. James had laid down the law to the republicans in the usual democratic fashion and seemingly had the crowd with him to a man. Next the close of the political law deliverance a nerry republican saucily exclaimed: "Shake not thy gory locks at me." The laugh that followed smothered the perforation.

Twice Told Tales

Genuine Novelty. Judge Wood, whose specialty is to separate two hearts that beat as one into two that beat as two, was commenting on the lightness with which marriage is regarded by so many of the present generation. "Reminds me of Smith," he said, "who was seen at the theater paying marked attention to a young lady he was escorting."

"I never saw him so attentive to a woman before," remarked a bystander. "It's extraordinary." "Not at all," replied his friend, "the lady is his wife."

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Slightly in Doubt. "But, my dear madam," said the admiral, "it is hard to discuss these matters with one so unfamiliar with the terminology of the subject. You remind me of the young wife who was speaking to her brother about her volunteer husband."

"Isn't Jack just wonderful?" she said. "He's already been promoted to field marshal."

"From private to field marshal in two months? Impossible!" said the brother.

"Did I say field marshal?" murmured the young wife. "Well, perhaps it's court-martial. I know it's one or the other."—Youth's Companion.

TODAY
One Year Ago Today in the War.
Russian retreat from Riga became more orderly.
Secretary Lansing and Viscount Ishii conferred on Japan's assistance in the war.
Government raids on Industrial Workers of the World headquarters disclosed plots to call strikes in all munitions works.
The Day We Celebrate.
Charles E. Black, the latter, born 1861.
Robert F. Bacon, with McCord-Brady company, born 1855.
Mario G. Menocal, president of Cuba, born in Matanzas, 52 years ago.
Charles F. Scott, former Kansas congressman, born in Allen county, Kan., 58 years ago.
Norman Hackett, actor, born at Amherstburg, Ont., 43 years ago.
Pietro Mascagni, whose new opera is soon to be produced in Rome, born at Leghorn, Italy, 55 years ago.
This Day in History.
1820—Nathaniel Wheeler, pioneer sewing machine manufacturer, born at Waterbury, Conn. Died at Bridgeport, Conn., December 31, 1892.
1892—German emperor abolished the exceptional laws and privileges in force in Alsace-Lorraine.
1914—The Germans retreated across the Marne.
1915—Zepplin raid on English coast resulted in 17 persons killed.

Just 30 Years Ago Today
Dr. Galbraith left on an extended hunting trip, accompanied by a party of friends.
The uniformly good weather and consequent splendid attendance has placed the Omaha Fair association on its feet with money ahead.
At the meeting of the Young Men's Republican club, these delegates were elected to the State Republican league: Cadet Taylor, W. J. Connell, J. L. Webster, D. H. Wheeler, J. M. Thurston, C. J. Green, E. P. Hanlon, A. L. Higgins, J. H. McCulloch, C. A. Potter, R. S. Hall, F. R. McConnell and R. S. Ervin.
The agricultural implement firm of Armstrong, Pettis & Co. has been dissolved and the business will hereafter be conducted under the name of Armstrong & Co.

Here and There
The Congo is one of the widest waterways on the globe. In some places it is so wide that vessels may pass one another and yet be out of sight.
In evidence of the fact that a change of air does good, it is pointed out that animals belonging to traveling shows are always more healthy and long-lived than those kept in zoological gardens.
So extensive are precautions taken by railroads that link Argentina and Chile by climbing the Andes, which have the steepest grades in the world, that not a fatal accident has happened since they were opened in 1910.
The time for taking medicines is more important than most people are aware. Those containing alkalies are taken before a meal so as to stimulate the gastric or digestive juices. Acid medicines are taken after meals, to carry on the digestion. Medicines containing drugs such as arsenic must follow a meal, so that they may mix with the food and not injure the stomach-coating.
The menu on board a submarine is not varied, consisting most of stew, with an occasional mess of salt fish for a change, and plenty of strong, hot coffee to chase away sleep from tired eyelids. The meals are eaten out of aluminum dishes in collapsible mess tables when the vessel is submerged. When the submarine is running on the surface its crew usually prefer to take their plates of stew on deck.

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Heater Values
\$6, \$8, \$11, \$15, \$22.50 and up
A complete line of Cast Iron and Steel Ranges, built on scientific designs, to not only give perfect satisfaction in operation, but conserve your fuel.
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