

# THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING)—EVENING—SUNDAY

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETOR

MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chicago—People's Gas Building. Omaha—The Bee Building. New York—300 Fifth Ave. South Omaha—211 S. 10th St. St. Louis—New B'n of Commerce. Council Bluffs—14 N. Main St. Washington—1311 O St.

NOVEMBER CIRCULATION

Daily 69,418—Sunday 63,095

Annual circulation for the month subscribed and sworn to by H. B. Bagan, City Manager.

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

THE BEE'S SERVICE FLAG



These are fine days to walk.

Here is where the humble "jitney" looms up as a life-saver.

Even the Kaiser had bad luck when he tried to make the world bow to his will.

What a calamity it would have been had the president's ship set sail without Creel!

Dr. Manning thinks the street car strike will help check the flu. We ought to get something out of it.

You are not in danger of contracting the flu on a crowded street car, which is some consolation.

Chile and Peru seem inclined to listen to reason; at least, they are not so warlike now as a few days ago.

"T. R." leaves no one in doubt as to where he stands on the fourteen points as a basis for permanent peace.

One of the best known forms of exercise is walking, and if folks did more of it they would feel better all the time.

Des Moines draws a 7-cent tramway fare award from a board of conciliation, a fact Omahans might as well keep their eyes on.

Conferring Roman citizenship on the president may be a compliment, but it will not mean as much to him as it did to Paul.

Maybe the "reds" at Berlin may dig up the other end of the "Willy-Nicky" series of letters. It would be interesting to read them.

German socialists want to name delegates to the peace council, but seem to forget that Germany will be required to listen and not to talk at Versailles.

Herr, Hohenzollern still has the nerve to sing hymns of praise to the Most High. His impudence must think heaven has not heard from earth lately.

It was hardly intentional that the president set sail on the anniversary of the departure of the Oscar II, and we refuse to accept the coincidence as an omen.

Demand for an interpretation of the fourteen points may soon be satisfied. The president cannot be long at Versailles without telling the world what he meant.

The continuation of the pleas from Germany to President Wilson show how the Hun mind clings to the idea that he is a "soft spot," but the outcome may disappoint the propagandists.

The problems of peace are to be considered by congress. While this is going on the rest of us will be engaged in trying to make both ends meet and save money enough to pay our taxes.

Mr. Wilson's progress across the Atlantic will exceed any naval show ever staged, with the single exception of the parade made by the Yankee boys on their 3,000-mile journey to the battlefield.

Stamboul jails are being filled with beys and pashas, a course that may win for the new Turkish government some consideration among civilized nations. The only danger is the lock-ups will not hold all who ought to be confined.

The president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States correctly says the principle of an economic boycott is unsound, but he will find the world very slow to take up business relations with the Germans again, no matter what the plea in their behalf.

Two years after the event the house committee on elections announces that a republican was selected in 1916 as delegate from Alaska. However, the seat has been filled all this time by a democrat, who has drawn the salary and cast the vote, which is as much as a good democrat could ask.

**Taking the Kaiser's Property**

Every penny of a worth of property, real and personal, held by a man named William Hohenzollern came out of German taxpayers, past or present. It is the common belief that he is one of the richest men in the world. He is even accused of profiteering more grossly than anybody else in his country after this war began. If the Ebert regime in Berlin, as reported has confined itself to a seizure of the crown lands, it has shown undue moderation. And if it can be proven that the real ownership of large tracts of land in our Northwest and in Canada is the Kaiser's, though such ownership be never so adroitly camouflaged, Great Britain and the United States will have no hesitation in taking over that land, as they will have no hesitation in seizing any securities held here for William Hohenzollern. Other Allied countries should do the same.

And whenever or wherever taken, the Kaiser's "property" will be devoted to the same end—paying the bill for the Kaiser's schrecklichkeit. This is not his punishment for crime against humanity. That may come later, in some dramatic and deterrent form. The imminent exaction is only a money quid pro quo for a small part of the damage done.—Brooklyn Eagle.

## TIME FOR CALM COUNSEL.

Just now is a good time for all Omaha people to keep cool.

It is also a time for calm, deliberate counsel, something that has not prevailed entirely of late.

Two of the parties to the street railway dispute have ignored the rights as well as the interests of the third party. The public is more concerned in the continued operation of the street cars than either the company or the men. Its patience is being tested just now, and both the strikers and the bosses may feel sure that this patience can be borne on too heavily.

As already stated, the dispute between the contending parties shows on its surface nothing material that could not have been held in abeyance pending peaceable adjustment. The attitude of finality assumed is not to be justified for either side.

Just now, when the world has arrayed itself against autocracy in any form, is hardly the moment wisdom would have selected for an exhibition of arbitrary power by organized labor, or by an employer of labor. This is particularly true when the result of such an exhibition falls most heavily on the people.

The sooner the disputants come together in a sincere effort to compound their differences, the better it will be for both sides. If they are unable to agree they well may invite the judgment of a competent board of arbitration and abide by its decision.

Justice will prevail in the end, no matter how much sway force may obtain for the moment.

## Why Was Henry White Chosen?

Strange, is it not, that it should be necessary for the big and little democratic organs to defend the appointment of Henry White as the republican member of the peace commission? Particularly noticeable is the emphasis they put upon the fact that Mr. White served in various capacities in the diplomatic corps in positions to which he was appointed by republican presidents—more emphasis on this than upon his acquired familiarity with diplomatic history and diplomatic etiquette and procedure.

The obvious fact stands out, however, that, regardless of his previous experience and general qualifications, it is inconceivable that a republican president would have named a peace commissioner representative of the republican party of whom republicans and democrats alike would have to ask, first, "Who is he?" and then, "Is he a republican?" The best way to visualize the situation and to get its significance is to reverse it by picturing a republican president, called on to choose a democrat for this important place, passing over all the recognized democratic statesmen and digging up a back number, still wearing the democratic label, but so long on the shelf and so little identified with the active leadership of his party that his very existence had been almost completely forgotten. Imagine what an outcry the democrats would make, what violent denunciation they would hurl at a president perpetrating such an "outrage" upon them!

What, then, is back of the president's unexpected resurrection of Henry White for the membership in the peace commission accorded to the republicans? The answer is yet to develop, but perhaps a sidelight may be found in what the Baltimore American says about the charge of discord among the Allies and their disagreement with us recently made by the responsible editor of the Baltimore Sun, just back from an editorial excursion to the other side. Calling that article mischievous in the extreme, it is incidentally disclosed by the American that Mr. White lives in Baltimore, and that "Mr. White's son is one of the owners of the Baltimore Sun, which throughout the war has been a sort of 'me too' newspaper for the democratic administration." This information may be helpful to the eventual solution of the puzzle of the selection of the republican member of the peace commission.

## Tackling the Railroad Issue.

President Wilson specifically left the railroad to be dealt with by congress, and that body announces its intention to get busy at once. It is possible to pass the proper legislation before the end of the present session, but it is hardly likely it will be done. What may happen is action that will so complicate matters as to render further government management imperative. On one point all agree—the roads cannot be returned to corporate ownership under conditions that prevailed in 1917. Authorities unite on the proposition that if government supervision is to prevail it must be responsible. It is proposed that the Interstate Commerce commission be made responsible for revenue as well as rates, that it be relieved of the hampering presence of state commissions and that both the Sherman law and the Clayton act be repealed. The alternative is that the government retain the roads, guaranteeing returns to the stockholders. It is not a question of unscrambling eggs, but of an equitable distribution of the results of the scrambling.

## No Fight on the Administration.

Republicans in congress have disappointed the democrats again by declining to organize a fight on the administration. Leaders of the opposition recognize the predicament in which the majority party finds itself, as charged with responsibility for taking first steps needed to return the country to a peace basis. It would be easy enough to relieve the democrats of any embarrassment by setting up a side issue built out of the actions of the executive, but the republicans will not be so simple. They are willing to help set the readjustment under way and will co-operate in all reasonable efforts to the end that the general good be served. But they are not willing to permit themselves to be maneuvered into a false position and to assume a greater heritage of perplexity than will normally follow the demise of the Sixty-fifth congress. If the disgruntled democrats want to carry on a vendetta against their president no objection will be raised from the other side of the house, but the republicans respectfully decline to pull their chestnuts out of the fire.

"Barney" Baruch gives up the work of the war industries board for the reason that necessity for its activities no longer exists. He did a good job while at it, and the world was well served through his efforts.

Lifting the embargo on all grains but wheat ought to give us some notion as to how much of the demand is real and how much the imaginary output of speculation.

# TODAY

Right in the Spotlight.

Stephen Pichon, who has been delegated by the French government to receive President Wilson when he lands at Brest, is foreign minister in the Clemenceau cabinet.

M. Pichon is best known to the outside world as the French minister at Peking during the Boxer rebellion, when, with the other foreigners in the Chinese capital, he narrowly escaped being butchered by the rebels. In his early career he was a newspaper reporter on M. Clemenceau's Parisian paper. In this position he made use of his opportunities to secure election to the municipal council and from that body he migrated to the Chamber of Deputies. In 1894 he entered the diplomatic service as French representative in Hayti. In recent years he has held several important cabinet posts.

One Year Ago Today in the War.

Brazilian war commission arrived in New York.

German forced Italians to yield slightly on the Asiago plateau.

House committee on foreign affairs voted unanimously that a state of war existed between the United States and Austro-Hungary.

In Omaha 30 Years Ago Today.

The new Young Men's Christian association building at Sixteenth and Douglas was formally dedicated. President T. H. Taylor introduced as speakers Mayor Bruch, John L. Kennedy, L. B. Burnham and Mr. Nash. Prayers were offered by Rev. T. C. Clendenen, Rev. Joseph Detweiler and Rev. Willard Scott.

A consignment of cigars was received at the custom house from Cuba.

The Horse Railway company commenced to cut the pavement on Ninth, between Douglas and Farnam, preparatory to laying track on that street.

Mrs. S. T. Smith and Mrs. Andrews of Denver are guests of Mrs. Thomas Swobe.

The mother and sister of J. H. Daniels left for San Diego, the latter going for the benefit of her health.

The Day We Celebrate.

Rome Miller, hotel man, born 1855. Leo A. Hoffmann, undertaker, born 1880.

Viscount Jellicoe of Sapa, who was first sea lord of the British admiralty in the early part of the war, born 60 years ago.

Sir Frederick Bridge, organist of Westminster Abbey, born in Wiltshire, 74 years ago.

Rev. Walter T. Sumner, Episcopal bishop of Oregon, born at Manchester, N. H., 45 years ago.

Brig. Gen. Edward L. King, U. S. A., born in Massachusetts, 45 years ago today.

This Day in History.

1776—Phi Beta Kappa, the parent of the American system of Greek letter fraternities, was organized at William and Mary college.

1806—The French under Murat crossed the Vistula and occupied Praga.

1848—The king of Prussia proclaimed a new constitution.

1887—Lord Lyons, who was British minister at Washington during the American civil war, died in London, Born April 26, 1817.

1905—Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman became British premier.

1914—French captured Vermeles, north of Arras.

1916—Herbert H. Asquith resigned the British premiership.

Timely Jottings and Reminders.

Paris has prepared a cordial welcome for King Albert of the Belgians on the occasion of his visit to the French capital today.

Former Justice Charles E. Hughes and Mrs. Hughes today will celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of their marriage.

The future of nationally advertised products, and the best methods of advertising them, will be considered at the annual dinner of the Association of National Advertisers in New York city tonight.

The chief speakers will be Abram I. Elkus, former ambassador to Turkey, and Rev. Charles A. Eaton, head of the national service section of the Emergency Fleet corporation.

Storyette of the Day.

"I want to know if you will give me a recommendation?" "I should say not. I discharged you for incompetency."

"Your competitor tells me, sir, that if you will write a letter of recommendation, he will give me a position. I hope you won't stand in my way."

"That's different. I don't know any quicker way of crippling his business than to get him to hire you. Sure I'll give you a letter!"—Boston Globe.

ODDS AND ENDS

In a French factory turbines are driven by water from a reservoir on a mountain 600 feet above it.

British scientists have succeeded in preserving soap bubbles intact for more than a month.

An English city is experimenting with electric street cars as traveling kitchens, on which meals are cooked en route and sold to the public.

The army of Monaco is the smallest possessed by any country of the world. It consists of 75 guards, an equal number of carabinieri and 20 firemen.

Japan is contemplating the imposing of a tax on luxuries. One aim of the proposed tax is to check the growth of luxurious tendencies among the people.

Irkutsk, the Siberian city, population 120,000, which has figured prominently in the news recently, is said to be the wickedest city in the world, having an average of 500 murders a year.

The government's first motor sleigh, designed for mail-delivery work in Alaska, was completed a little while ago, and has been undergoing test trials on the coast.

The machine is 25 feet long. It is expected to cover at least 100 miles of ice or snow track a day, with 500 pounds of mail.

# Albert of the Belgians

A. Lamonnier, Editor of L'Independence, Belge.

In the course of this long and terrible war there have stood out two figures of almost legendary worth and heroic appeal—the king and queen of the Belgians. Grandson of Leopold I, the founder of the Belgian dynasty, King Albert has inherited from his grandfather his calm nerves, his love of work, his sagacity and foresight. At the same time he is characteristically a man of his period, i. e., simple in living and democratic by habit.

He is the ideal of the democratic king—the first citizen of the state, who takes his citizenship seriously and conscientiously. All the multiple problems in which Belgium is concerned, industrial and social alike, have been his life study; he has always studied them at first hand, pressing to go into matters for himself, as he did for instance in the colonial question, when he crossed the Belgian Congo from Lake Tanganyika, on the east, to Boma, on the west.

With such character and tastes King Albert was not likely to choose for his wife a princess of a powerful and wealthy house. He married the Princess Elizabeth of Bavaria. She was the daughter of a savant, who had made himself, by study and work, one of the first counts of Europe, who put his science and skill to the daily service of the unfortunate Prince Elizabeth, who shared her father's labors and had charge of his clinic. Never was a wedded pair more suited to each other.

In 1913 King Albert paid his visit to the kaiser, and it was then, at Potsdam, in November, that the kaiser spoke openly of war with France as inevitable and not far distant. It was on that occasion, too, that he tried to persuade King Albert that his interest lay in ranking himself alongside Germany.

At the receipt of the revolting ultimatum addressed by Germany to Belgium on August 2, 1914, there was not an instant's hesitation. From Belgian king and people there came the unanimous answer: Honor above all! Before the chamber and senate, united in historic session, the king declared, pale with emotion but with firm voice: "I have faith in our destiny; such a country never perishes."

Next day he issued a proclamation to the troops: "Soldiers, remember, as you face the enemy, that you are fighting for liberty and for your imperiled country. I am leaving Brussels to put myself at your head."

From his headquarters at Louvain the king followed with anxious pride the heroic defense of Liege. He shrank from no risks. He went to the advance posts and into the trenches. As he was of tall stature, he was a likely target for the enemy. One day a colonel said to him: "Sire, if you were a simple soldier, I would scold you." "Scold away!" said the king, laughing. "Sire," replied the colonel, this time severely. "I do scold you, and the king obeyed, bending down into the shelter of the trench."

At Vaelsheim a shell burst near him; he did not blink an eyelid.

The army fell back into Antwerp. There the queen had been staying with her children, busy with the organization and superintendence of the hospitals. When the Zeppelins sought to bomb the palace she took away her children and confided them to Lord Curzon in London, afterward returning to her post beside the king, with whom she shared the dangers of the siege.

Then came the fall of Antwerp and the retreat. The enemy had crossed the Scheldt; there was danger of the roads being cut off, but eventually the royal couple succeeded in reaching Ostend, and thence, still accompanying the army, across the Yser.

It was at this moment that the king issued that manly proclamation:

"Soldiers, in the positions where I have stationed you let your eyes be turned only forward. Look upon him as a traitor who utters the word 'retreat.'"

How valiantly the Belgian army responded to the appeal is a matter of history. It clung with the energy of despair to the little remaining patch of the motherland and brought the German march on Calais to an abrupt halt, amid that region of marshes and clinging mud.

During all this terrible period the queen remained among the troops, dividing her time between the education of her children and the management of a huge hospital.

Finally has come the resumption of the offensive with its glorious results. The liberation of Belgium is proceeding rapidly before our eyes. King Albert and his queen have set foot in Ostend while German shells were falling, and amid the enthusiastic welcome of its inhabitants.

A few days hence King Albert and Queen Elizabeth will make their entry into Brussels. What an event it will be! It will be a delirium of joy; it will be a spectacle beyond imagination or description. It will be a unique celebration—that of the liberation of a heroic nation!

**Better Railroad Service**

By issuing the order, effective December 1, which cuts off the extra 1-2 cent a mile which is charged for the privilege of riding in a Pullman car, Mr. McAdoo, the director general of railroads, furnishes a large measure of relief to the traveling public. This makes the rate 3 cents a mile straight, whether the traveler uses a sleeping or parlor car or rides in an ordinary day coach.

With this reduction in fare comes the announcement that the railroad administration will soon restore a number of passenger trains which were taken out of service during the war in order to increase the efficiency of the freight service. Two additional trains are to be put on between Washington and New York, one transcontinental train is to be restored and the service to the south is to be improved.

It is to be hoped that the improvements noted are but the forerunners of others which will tend to put the transportation system back at its normal level. The public willingly puts up with all sorts of inconveniences made necessary by the war. Then the movement of troops and war supplies was the first consideration. Now that the emergency has passed the public is entitled to a vastly improved service. Rates should be cut wherever possible. Trains should be put on wherever the travel justifies them. Better facilities should be provided in the consolidated ticket offices so that the public will not be subject to long waits in purchasing tickets and will have the same courteous consideration they had when the railroads were competing for business and courtesy and prompt service were assets. The railroad administration has taken a step in the right direction, and it is to be hoped that it will proceed further.—Washington Post.

**Self-Made Heroes**

Newspapers throughout the United States printed not long ago on their front pages a story originating in an Ohio city, describing how one of that city's native sons—a lieutenant who had been a Princeton football star—had saved the lives of General Pershing and Marshals Haig and Foch.

He had been guiding the distinguished leaders across a battlefield when he heard a shell coming. In true Dick Merriwell style he had lifted his bolo knife—he never heard that lieutenants carried bolo knives—and used it as a bat, deflecting the shell so that it exploded at a harmless distance. He had received highest decorations from three nations. It was all true, because the lieutenant had written about it in a letter.

Later, of course, another story was printed. The lieutenant had cabled a hurried denial, saying, "I thought you would know it was all a joke."

Papers back home more recently printed a letter from another lieutenant—an airman—who described how he had changed from one place to another in midair. The sequel to this story is not yet at hand.

There is a lesson in these back-home stories for those men in the A. E. F. who try to make their letters interesting for limited family circulation. Camouflaged romances usually have kick-backs. Stick to the truth—Stars and Stripes, France.

# The Bee's Letter Box

Railway Clerks' Union.

Council Bluffs, Ia., Dec. 1.—To the Editor of The Bee: In your issue of Saturday, November 30, you were good enough to place in a very prominent place in the paper an item headed "Railway Clerks' Plan Union to Control Wages." The item contemplated doing so, but we have done so, and today we are one of the strong railway brotherhoods of the railroad world, but, as you say, we are not organized to dictate wages, but only to maintain a living scale of wages from the railroads. It has always been that the least considered and smallest paid craft in railroad circles, and yet they are one of the most important. There are two lodges in Council Bluffs and one in Omaha, which have a very large membership, and I wish to state that the lodges in both cities are 100 per cent. Every self-respecting clerk is sure to join the brotherhood. Again I wish to say we are not here to put any dictation to the railroads, but only to protect ourselves for a wage that is enough to support our families in decency and permit ourselves to dress in neat style. The railroads expect of us in their offices. In connection I wish to state that every railroad in the United States and every city in the United States has a lodge, and we are under A. F. of L. with our grand lodge in Washington, D. C. Thanking you for the space for this letter, I will sign myself,

A RAILROAD CLERK.

Sacrifices in the War.

Council Bluffs, Ia., Dec. 2.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am surprised that there is a man in Omaha that would write as Mr. Edwards does.

Mr. Edwards says, "What has America done to give us the right to assume that we control the peace terms?" I will tell you, Mr. Edwards: We did what no other nation did or ever could do. We in 18 months put 4,000,000 of men in the field; we saved the day in the great war, we equipped our own men and fed them and the armies of the allies; besides, we fed the destitute of Belgium and many of our own destitute nations; we fed the German prisoners as well as we fed our own soldiers. The people of this country stepped forward, donated and subscribed nearly \$18,000,000 to this great world's war.

Our American boys went into the fight bravely and never did one of them show a white feather. In the pictorial side of The Omaha Bee of December 1 are the pictures of Harry C. Bowker, Clyde Kilgore, Robert Connell, Ellsworth C. Wood and Louis L. Walters, noble boys, all from Omaha, who gave their lives in battle that the world might be a better place for Mr. Edwards to live in.

Mr. Edwards, if you do not appreciate what we have done in this war, France, England and Belgium do, as all fair-minded people do. If you had watched the Red Cross women and girls work day and night, you would not take this position. Company L, boys of the famous Rainbow division that were nearly all from Council Bluffs, were as fine a lot of boys as ever went in one company. They have been pretty badly shot up, but when the living ones return I do not think that pro-German talk will gain entrance to this city.

WARREN HUGH.

If Mr. Hough will let his steam pressure go down to "safety" and carefully re-read Mr. Edwards' letter, he will find it contained no word lacking in patriotism or common sense. If he will also gather a few more facts in connection with the war he may modify some of his own views. For example, while American boys did fight gallantly and die bravely for the right, fewer than 40,000 gave up their lives in battle, while England alone lost 900,000 from the same cause. Measured by other standards, the ratio of sacrifice is about the same. Let us be fair with ourselves.—Ed. Bee.]

**MANY HAPPY RETURNS.**

The halo has returned to the boarding-house hash.

Each non de plumed dish is passed: For Hindenburg's army has all gone to smash.

And the Potsdam goat captured, hooray! No longer in style is our made-over hat. The knitting-bug's exit is certain. For on Kaiser Bill and his murderous crew Father Time has now run down the curtain.

The beefsteak's returned to the platter again. Blond braids take the place of brunettes. For our sons have evolved into heroic men. While old William's six sonnies have set.

The sugarbowl's back on the table again. The frosting returns to the cookies. But the gladdest return that I know of, to date, is that of our doughboys and rookies. Omaha. BAYLUM, NE TRIBUNE.

**TRADE MARK**

**WHY NOT NICHOLAS OILS**

**FILLING STATIONS:**

38th and Farnam

29th and Leavenworth.

12th and Hayney.

17th and Davenport.

24th and H, South Side.

Our Electric Pumps Insure Accuracy—Your Protection and Ours.

**"BUSINESS IS GOOD THANK YOU"**

**EXPORT TEST GASOLINE**

Is cut from the heart of the crude—is all gasoline and absolutely free from heavy, oily ends.

It brings a higher price because thrifty Europe has learned to distinguish between price per gallon and price per mile.

Your saving in its use is expressed in greater mileage—less carbon—no kerosene-spoiled lubricating oil—and, better still, no repair bills due to jolting and jamming jars of continued "missing."

"CRYSTAL BLITZEN" gasoline conforms to export test specifications and is worth every additional penny you pay for it.

LET YOUR MOTOR BE THE JUDGE. IT KNOWS—