

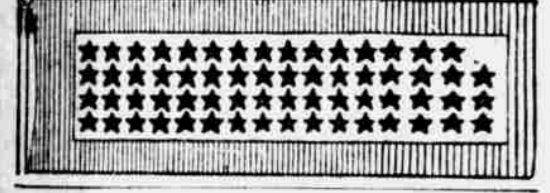
THE OMAHA BEE

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

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NOVEMBER CIRCULATION
Daily 69,418—Sunday 63,095

THE BEE'S SERVICE FLAG



Get your Red Cross out in front!

Free advice to President Wilson: Keep out of Portugal.

If worse comes to worst, George Creel is there to save the situation.

The greatest mother in the world wants you, and it only takes a dollar and a heart.

Colorado has also gone "bone dry," and Denver may now find out what real bootlegging is like.

Boys stationed in southern France say it is cold, but what about the lads in northern Russia?

Not a very fragrant odor about the fight between the potato producers and the fertilizer-makers.

Hear the returning soldiers shout for the Red Cross? That ought to help you make up your mind to join.

No danger that the legislature will run short of measures for consideration. The bill factory never fails to work overtime.

Now it is said the mistake at Hog Island was in making the yard too big. Well, maybe we will grow up to it in time.

The Dutch have asked Herr Hohenzollern to take his trunk and go, but he declines. His greater problem would be where to go.

Playing Santa to the boys must be great sport for Governor-elect McKelvie, but the tree does not hold enough presents to go round.

Poland has broken with Germany over the bolshevik question, but it will not be long until sounder reasons are disclosed for the breach.

Hotel owners are viewing a lot of labor-saving devices in New York, but they will see nothing to beat the safety razor for slicing the ham.

Mrs. Wilson is sharing the nice things said to her husband in Paris, preserving the well established reputation of the French for gallantry.

The people have the money and they are ready to spend it. The merchant who has the goods and advertises them right will get the business.

Railway stations seem to be favorite resorts for president assassins. The fatal shot was fired at President Garfield in the railway station at Washington.

The governor of Maryland proposes equal rights as a foundation for domestic peace. Good enough, and let us watch the southern states wheel into line.

The bootleggers' bund seems to be driving a brisk holiday trade. The higher the prices and the bigger the profit, the more desperate the chances that will be taken.

Postmaster General Burleson proposes to permit long distance telephoning after midnight at one-fourth the rates charged during daylight hours. All of us can then afford to talk in our sleep if we want to.

Another Mexican general has been assigned the task of overtaking the elusive Villa, who has outlived quite a long list of pursuers. Who can say but the expedition undertaken by "Black Jack" two years ago may not yet be brought to its reasonable conclusion?

The polished Parisian, long practiced in the art of handing out pretty compliments, has nothing on our president, who can give them word for word in the polite competition. Pretty soon, however, this must come to an end, and each side will get down to brass tacks on the peace negotiations. Of course, we all want the same thing, but how to go about to get it will engender some discussion.

"Passing the Buck"

"Passing the buck" is epidemic in Germany. It is the open season for alibis.

The Kaiser blames Von Bismann-Hollweg and Von Jagow for starting the war.

The defunct German government seeks to divert responsibility for the murders of Edith Cavell and Captain Fryatt from Berlin to any other quarter where there is hope of making it stick.

Various parts of the crumbled German empire are maneuvering to avoid paying shares of the war bill which will be presented by the victorious allies.

"George did it" and "Let George do it" business may be good mental exercise for all classes of Huns. It may give temporary comfort here and there to those who have a burning sense of guilt, but it will not divert the minds of the peoples and governments of Serbia, Belgium, France, Great Britain and Italy from the fact that the outrages inflicted on them by the German armies were virtually unprovoked in Germany as long as the armies were winning. The German masses were, to say the least, accessory after the fact. They stood by ready to profit by what the principals might gain for them by their crimes. Now they should be made to suffer for what they permitted themselves to be used for in the attempt to realize on the crimes.—Minneapolis Tribune.

MODIFY RED TAPE METHODS.

The Omaha city commissioners are moving expeditiously to reform the purchasing practices of the city. These have been found both extravagant and wasteful, and while something of a check of departmental expenditures has been provided, the methods by which that has been obtained are more costly than the value of the oversight. While they are about it they should take up the more important matter of planning for the annual outlay. A budget system has been adopted after a fashion, but it lacks the essential element of control. Heads of departments make estimates, which are lumped, and in the shake-out each gets at least all he reasonably expected to have, whether the better interests of the city are conserved or not. More careful consultation and closer scrutiny of community needs ought to produce a far more satisfactory division of funds, and while it is scarcely probable that less money will be needed, because of the continually expanding requirements of the city, service will be improved because of wiser ways of spending have been adopted.

Portugal's President Assassinated.

News of the assassination of President Paes of Portugal shocked the world at a time when it was preparing to celebrate the triumph of democracy. Such a crime is deplorable in any government, but in a republic, where the president is selected by the vote of his fellow countrymen, it becomes doubly calamitous, because it is more a blow at the liberties of the people than at the person of the victim. When King Charles was assassinated ten years ago some cause might have been found for such an act, because of the scandalous life of the monarch and the tyranny of his rule. When Manuel was unseated and the entire Braganza family banished two years later, Portugal became a republic, with such institutions as might be looked for in an enlightened government. Since that time the politics of the country have been stirred by the efforts of royalists on the one side and socialists on the other, but through it all the democracy of the people has asserted a stabilizing influence. When Portugal espoused the cause of the Allies against Germany the action aroused the intense opposition of the royalist element, which was pro-German, and the socialists, who were opportunists at the moment, and affairs in the little country have been sadly disturbed for the last two years. President Paes was energetic in pushing the Portuguese participation in the war, and incurred the bitter enmity of the opposing elements of the people. His death does not menace the existence of the republic, which seems to be well founded, but will be a cause of sorrow such as has been borne by the United States and France because of the act of a murderous lunatic.

Economy and Reform Combined.

A suggestion from the lieutenant governor-elect that legislators restrain their propensity for introducing duplicate measures is both wise and timely. It contains nothing that can operate to restrict the service of the lawmakers, or that will in any way tend to limit the views of one who seriously seeks to improve the laws of the state. Adoption of the suggestion should, however, have the effect of saving many dollars in stationery and printing cost, as well as a large amount of time for the members. Nebraska's experience is but little varied from that of other states, where the introduction of bills is without limit. Each session of the legislature finds the files clogged with measures, hundreds of them of such little moment that they never emerge from the chamber of the committee to whom they are referred, while other hundreds are killed at the end by a single sweeping resolution. And even with this wholesale slaughter, each session of the legislature adds from 300 to 500 new laws to the statutes. It is incredible that Nebraska or any other commonwealth requires this amount of tinkering with the written law each two years. Let the approaching legislature give these thoughts some consideration, and mercifully limit at least the number of bills offered. In the counsel of many lies wisdom, and the bills that deserve to survive and become laws will be all the better because they can have more careful consideration, the result of greater deliberation in committees and on the floor, and the state will be the gainer.

France and America—Comrades.

One note of encouragement has rung through all the pretty speeches made on both sides of the reception table since Mr. Wilson reached Paris. It has to do with the establishment of closer comradeship between France and America. Much has been said of the debt from one to the other; there should be less talk of this. Americans did feel a great sense of obligation to France for favors extended when the colonists were seeking to set up for themselves. It is hardly probable the French ever thought of that as a debt they might some day realize on. We may have felt it ought to be repaid, but it surely was not that alone which drew us into the war on the side of France. We must have had a higher purpose and a nobler aim than merely to wipe out a score that showed a balance against us. As a matter of fact, we owe the French far more than is involved in the help given us in the course of the Revolutionary war. From the spiritual side of France we have drawn more than we have from the material. This great war has drawn the two nations closer together, and in the communion thus established good for both will be found. France will be greater than ever, just as the United States will advance in all the things that make for humanity's betterment, and the strengthened friendship will bring good to the world. Civilization will suffer little while America, England and France is so united.

Italy is beginning to reckon up losses and expenses, and presents a total that must give that little country an honored place.

Five hundred thousand soldiers lost their lives, as many more were permanently disabled and \$11,000,000,000 was added to the national debt. This is going some for the country that had just emerged from a war Germany thought had crippled her to a point where she did not count. Little nations of Europe are coming to the surface with grievances that go back to the year 1, or before, and demand that something be done to settle them before peace is fully established. It will very likely take the form of wiping the slate clean and starting off anew.

TODAY

Right in the Spotlight. Prominent among the British representatives at the peace table will be Andrew Bonar Law, who is chancellor of the exchequer and leader of the unionists in the house of commons. Mr. Law is regarded as one of Great Britain's most astute statesmen. He is a Canadian Scotchman and behind a quiet exterior conceals much political acumen and energy. He entered parliament in 1900 from one of the divisions of Glasgow and from 1902 to 1906 he was parliamentary secretary to the board of trade in the Balfour administration. He is an authority on finance and economic questions and will probably be Lloyd George's right hand man in protecting British interests from this point of view.

One Year Ago Today in the War.

U. S. submarine F-1 rammed and sunk by F-3 in American waters, with loss of 19 lives. Sir Eric Geddes, first lord of British admiralty, announced loss of 11 vessels in a British convoy in North sea.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago Today.

Freddie, the two-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bowman, while playing in the alley, was attacked by a cock and before his cries



brought his mother to him, the cock had picked holes in his cheek and forehead and had badly lacerated the child's face.

The new bridge motor cars are running every day until midnight. There are six trains running every 12 minutes and averaging 75 to 80 passengers.

Burt G. Wheeler has resigned as stenographer for Blake, Bruce & Co. to take a similar position with the Armour-Cudahy Packing company of South Omaha.

Mrs. Chris Dun and daughter left to spend the winter in San Jose, Cal.

The Day We Celebrate.

Sir Patrick McGrath, president of the legislative council of Newfoundland, born at St. Johns, Newfoundland, 49 years ago.

William Lyon Mackenzie King, former minister of labor of Canada, born at Kitchener, Ont., 44 years ago.

Walter W. Graves, chief justice of the Missouri supreme court, born in Lafayette county, Missouri, 58 years ago.

Clinton Rogers Woodruff, a noted pioneer in good government and other public welfare movements, born in Philadelphia 50 years ago.

This Day in History.

1822—Frederick W. Lander, one of the early pathfinders across the plains and mountains, and a general in the civil war, born at Salem, Mass. Died at Paw Paw, Va., March 2, 1887.

1868—Dr. Usher Parsons, who was Commodore Perry's fleet surgeon, died at Providence, R. I. Born at Alfred, Me., in 1788.

1885—Sensation in England over Gladstone's conversion to Irish home rule.

1899—Appointment announced of Lord Roberts to the chief command of British forces in South Africa, with Lord Kitchener as his chief of staff.

1914—Berlin claimed an important victory for the Germans in the region of Warsaw.

1915—Italian liner Port Saud reported sunk by submarine.

1916—President Wilson transmitted the peace notes of Germany and Austria to the entente allies without comment.

Timely Jottings and Reminders.

Fifteen years ago today the Wright brothers made their first flights in the power aeroplane.

Eighty-three candidates will receive degrees and certificates at the 109th convocation of the University of Chicago today.

Maj. Gen. Clarence R. Edwards, commander of the department of the northeast and who led the Twenty-sixth division in France, is to be the principal speaker at the second annual meeting of the four-minute men of Connecticut, which will be held today at Bridgeport.

The liberation of Palestine is to be celebrated jointly by the Jewish, Catholic and Protestant faiths in a great meeting tonight in the Metropolitan opera house, New York City. Hon. Henry Morgenthau, former ambassador to Turkey, will preside at the meeting.

Storyette of the Day.

Two women were discussing a third. "She's a splendid worker, but still she isn't popular," commented the single one. "I wonder why?"

An old lady who had been listening, broke into the conversation. "She's too handily," she told them.

Both of the two young ones looked their wonder.

"Yes," explained the old lady, "too handily I mean. Doesn't the Bible say not to let your left hand know what your right hand does? But she doesn't do that. If she lends her neighbor on one side a cup of coffee she has to tell the one on the other side all about it. When she gives any one anything she tells about it. And you both know that no one likes to have their weaknesses advertised, even by the one who helps them most. She keeps one hand too well informed of the other hand's doings. That's why I say she's too handily."—Indianapolis News.

QUAINT BITS OF LIFE.

The mace of the lord mayor of London is carried before him upside down when he is attending a funeral, or the sovereign is present. This is an acknowledgment of the two powers that are above the lord mayor—the Sovereign and Death.

When a code book of the British navy becomes obsolete or too dilapidated for further use it is destroyed by fire under conditions of great formality. Its title and number are checked and rechecked, entered in a register and certified as the final act of the ship. The book is then placed in a furnace in the presence of a number of officers and reduced to ashes.

South Dakota's Chaplain

Stars and Stripes, France. When the Twenty-eighth infantry came out of the line in Argonne to sprawl in well-earned rest, an visitor to the candle-lit billets or to the little October campfires was sure, sooner or later, to hear the talk reach the name of their best friend and priest, Father O'Flaherty—Chaplain C. E. O'Flaherty, killed in action at Verdun, October, 1918.

Then is the time to get at the truth about a man, because after such a death seems far more than a fitting thing for any one to have pretty nothings said about him just because he is dead.

One night, when the fog dimmed the light of the full moon, they were talking about Father O'Flaherty—a chance miscellany of officers and men, gathered around a smoldering fire, where, on a sizzling griddle, someone was turning the flapjacks made from a supply of recently acquired German flour.

"I was with him when he was killed—or not more than a few minutes before he was killed." "Sure he did. I can see him now with that big cane of his, parading through the mud. I remember how he used to point this way and that with it. Once, when he was trying to show a bunch of German prisoners at St. Mihiel the way to the nearest lock-up for Heineis, he had to do all his talking with his cane. They thought he was going to hit them and yelled 'Kamerad' till he most died laughing."

"He accused me of swearing at him at St. Mihiel," said a captain, grinning reminiscently. "I denied it."

"Yes, you did, captain," he says, trying to look solemn, and highly improper it was, too. It was just before the zero hour and you barked at me. 'Keep that damned nut of yours down or you'll lose it!'"

"What I used to enjoy," said another, "was watching the doughboys tell me he went over the top with them at every fight since Soissons."

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State Press Comment

Aurora Republic: Nebraska has been securing some very desirable publicity in the New York, Boston and Philadelphia newspapers recently which really is gratifying. It is some of the fellows who have been demanding Bill's head on a charger will want to back up when all the facts are known.

Hastings Tribune: It was a Nebraska soldier who fired the first shot in the war in the Philippine Islands when assailed by the insurgent Filipinos. And it is said that it was Nebraska who fired the first shot at Chateau-Thierry last July when the second battle of the Marne was fought. Nebraska is foremost in many respects—even in presidential timber.

Crete Vindicator: Now that the war is over we must get out all the government dope. We notice when there is any paid advertising the government officials put it in the New York City papers but not in the good place for them to put the free dope also. We stood for this injustice during the war and tried to do our part, but patience ceases to be a virtue along this line, now that the war is over.

York News-Times: Those dear dear souls who are planning to plant the returned soldiers on the semi-arid plains of the west as a matter of governmental generosity are going to be badly disappointed. The American soldiers in France are well informed regarding the western country and if they had wanted some of that land they could have gone there long ago. It is likely some of the irrigated districts might prove attractive to some of the soldiers but the greater portion of them were raised on real farms in Iowa and other states and they are not going to rush pell mell to the west to get the lands which Uncle Sam might hand out to them.

WHITTLED TO A POINT. Baltimore American: Get the money first, then do your Christmas shopping. But get the money.

Washington Post: Poor Tommy Atkins! Just finished with his hard drives and now bottled up in Cologne.

Minneapolis Tribune: The Kaiser says he has some "friends still in America." Perhaps he means the friends who are still very still.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: In spite of the interest in aerial mail service, chief concern is as to when there is to be a return of normal efficiency of the postal mail.

Kansas City Star: The French distrust the severity of the Germans in their attitude toward the French army of occupation. Those Frenchmen certainly are the suspicious boys.

Brooklyn Eagle: When George Washington departed entangling alliances some 50,000 Americans had not died fighting for our liberties in France. The defenders of human freedom are allied in other ways than on paper.

New York Herald: If the Kaiser had attempted to commit suicide six months ago it would have convulsed the world. When he tried it yesterday everybody simply looked bored and turned to some other headline in the newspaper he was reading.

New York World: A new star-shaped perfected for our navy is expected to increase our efficiency in night fighting by 25 per cent. But wasn't it the American idea that Liberty's torch was so to light the world that there need be no nights of fighting?

New York World: In the case of women employees of the war industries board, whose services are dispensed with, it is announced that their railroad transportation home will be "personally" by the chairman of the board. That is generous; but why should not Uncle Sam himself do it?

SIDELIGHTS ON THE WAR.

Twenty-three languages will be spoken at the peace conference. Persons competent to translate a few of them may pull down a joyride to Paris at Uncle Sam's expense by getting in touch with Gen. W. W. Harts, equipment director of the American peace mission.

Woe has come in Belgium to men and women who consorted with the Huns and attempt to remain in the country. Pro-German men may not stay and live. Pro-German women are publicly branded by having their hair cut off.

Soldiers' sailors and marines returning to civil life are privileged to continue their government life insurance indefinitely. A series of payment options suited to policyholders in convalescence are available, and existing policies may be converted into any of the forms given by private concerns at any time during the next five years.

The United States treasury is no Fortunatus purse. Every dollar expended by it must come from the pockets of the people and it was high time to call a halt upon the extravagance and the waste which Senator Borah declares has become a national disease.—New York Herald.

War's Havoc Among Civilian

Between 300,000 and 350,000 civilian deaths are estimated by the public health service to have been caused by influenza and resultant pneumonia in the last 12 weeks in the United States. And the end is not yet. For the United States the old-time fact that war's diseases cost more lives than the fighting is a fact still. It was so in the Franco-Prussian war; the best French estimates showed 200,000 lives lost through the smallpox which followed that struggle, while across the border there were 170,000 German deaths from it. The cholera epidemic that accompanied the Austro-German war was estimated in Austria and Prussia alone to have cost 280,000 lives. It must be remembered that the conflict just closed saw terrible epidemics of typhus, typhoid and other diseases in the more unsanitary parts of Europe, and that even in the most sanitary countries malnutrition and exhaustion increased the mortality from ordinary ailments. We shall perhaps find that the deaths in the armies have been almost or quite matched by civilian deaths from disease.—New York Post.

People and Events

Six-cent fares on the trolley lines connecting sea-side cities have received official sanction in New Jersey.

The president's flag, which floats from a separate mast in front of the George Washington, is of blue bunting, 102 feet by 16 feet in size. In each of the four corners is a five-pointed star, with one point upward, and in the center of the flag is the national coat-of-arms.