

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER  
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NOVEMBER CIRCULATION  
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Happy New Year!  
Let us make 1919 the biggest and best year in Omaha's history.

A la carte meals on the dining cars do not mean that the cost of traveling is to be lowered by the change.

It will be a "victory" jubilee in Omaha, all right, but some of the "authority" of past years will be missed.

When Montana puts up the bars against booze the drags have a right to expect to carry New Jersey some day.

Georgia still holds its place at the head of the lynching parade, having double the number of the next highest states.

The new Turkish jubilee is reported to be pro-ally. Even a Turk will learn if the lesson is pounded into him right.

Belgium is satisfied with plans made for the economic restoration of that country, a sign that some progress is to be reported.

At any rate, no one will say that the new city prosecutor did not earn some sort of reward by his efforts to elect the mayor.

American envoys in Paris say Senator "Jimmy" Reed misunderstood them, but it may be he only placed his own interpretation on what they said.

Telephone and telegraph employees get a nice New Year's present from Mr. Burleson in the form of an increase in pay. Trying to equal McAdoo's record.

Bolshevik bombs in the City of Brotherly Love is not a special sign that the republic is failing. It just means we are harboring some dangerous criminals.

Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota are to resist the new express rates, and thereby are in danger of being added to Mr. Burleson's list of "blatherskites."

The county board wound up its year by ripping a bunch of names off its pay roll. It might have saved that money long ago with little or no loss to the service.

Open ventilators are all right in street cars during our normal weather, but when the Medicine Hat variety arrives, folks would as soon take a chance on flu as on freezing.

Admitting all that Senator Chamberlain said about the secretary of war, congress can not lodge all the blame for the situation. Delay has been as notable under the dome of the capitol as anywhere in Washington.

Joseph Daniels is no longer to be listed as a "little navy" man, his requests to congress for men and money being bigger now than ever. It is comforting to note that at least one democrat has awakened to the need of readiness in some department.

Mr. Wilson would better hurry home, if he wants to preserve his cabinet from the furious onslaughts of democratic senators, who have renewed their warfare. Burleson is showing signs of distress, and Baker has been so completely gassed it will take more than Creel to resuscitate him.

The record of lynchings for the United States in 1918 is a disgrace, even in war time. That we were making such effort to establish a rule of law and justice throughout the world and yet paid so little attention to it at home is small credit to a people who pretend to enlightenment.

Von Hindenburg would welcome British occupation of Berlin. So, it might help the crushed and defeated junkers to rehabilitate themselves to have a foreign army holding back the bolsheviks. If allied troops are sent to the Prussian capital, it will be to protect life and property and not to prop up a broken aristocracy.

Back to Face the Music

Of all the survivors of the war lord and junker period the man who is in the most helpless, undignified and embarrassing situation is Heinrich von Eckhardt. He has been holding on by the skin of his teeth to his place as German envoy at Mexico City. The new government at Berlin has been calling for his return with growing insistence, and so, after long delay, his patchwork excellency, with deep regret and growing apprehension, has decided to make the best of a bad business and start for home at an early date.

As he is persona non grata in Mexico, that country probably will let him go begging to the United States or Great Britain for a passage and for safe conduct.

It was Von Eckhardt who tried to bring about an understanding between Mexico and Japan, with a view to frightening America into continued neutrality. His activities were merely ludicrous, as far as this country was concerned, but were a real insult to our far eastern ally and deeply resented by her as such.

The envoy's position is very like that of certain generals who were ordered back to Paris by the committee of public safety in the early period of the great French revolution, for the very good and sufficient reason that they had committed blunders which could not be forgiven or condoned. Some refused to go, while others obeyed with results fatal to themselves.

But how will Von Eckhardt get there? It looks as if there would be nothing for him to do but turn up his coat collar and proceed to the fatherland under an assumed name. Then let his enemies and former friends do their worst.—New York Herald.

THE NEW YEAR AND THE OLD.

Most of us will say goodbye to 1918 with mingled emotions, just as we look forward to the days of the coming year with high hope. The last year was one of the most momentous in human history. It began with a dark cloud of war over all the world; it closes with peace assured and opportunity for all such as never was presented. Its early months were marked by anxiety and peril for free peoples; its later days brought the triumphant victory of right over wrong, of justice prevailing against might. In all of this is occasion for rejoicing.

Industrial and commercial life was subjected to disruption quite as great as that which came to our social life through the war. How extensive was this disturbance scarcely yet can be appreciated. The days of readjustment will afford a better measure of its effect, but just as the problems of war were taken up in a spirit of determined co-operation, so will the task of rehabilitation be faced with optimistic confidence.

Omaha's progress for 1918 is exhibited in The Bee in tables of figures and otherwise, and makes a most gratifying showing. Some of the compilations are not as impressive as in years past, a fact justly ascribable to the war, but others make an even more noteworthy display of the importance of the city's life. While no great war industry had its headquarters here, Omaha's contributions to the food and other supplies drawn on by the government for the support of its armed forces were notable.

The fact that local industries were not especially dislocated by the abnormal conditions of the year will make a resumption of business that much easier. Programs of the coming twelve months, already outlined, hold the prospect of intense activity in all lines of commercial and industrial endeavor. Naturally, with this will go equal growth in the cultural elements of community life. Omaha is awake to its opportunities, and another New Year's day merely means resolve to greater effort.

No Party Lines in Nepotism.

In season and out, The Bee has crusaded against the evil of nepotism in public office. In the legislature of 1913, The Bee spoke out with its usual frankness and courage in behalf of a bill introduced by Representative Ed A. Smith, forbidding any public officer from appointing a relative of the first degree to a place on the public payroll. The 1913 Omaha "home rule" charter, modeled by Victor Rosewater in person after the wish of his own heart and the dictates of his own brain, contained a similar provision as to Omaha city commissioners. Unfortunately, The Bee's campaign for legal prohibition of nepotism, like so many other of its campaigns, was not successful.—World-Herald.

Yes, and successful or unsuccessful, The Bee will continue its outspoken opposition to nepotism by public officers no matter what party banner they may fly.

Nepotism is a remnant of the idea that public office is a family snap. It recognizes no party lines. It is just as odious when practiced by a republican as by a democrat.

Nepotism knows no geographical location. It is just as inexcusable in the state house as it is in the city hall, in the capitol at Washington, as it is in the court house here at home.

But whoever heard of this democratic organ denouncing the nepotism of democratic office holders? Its insincerity is self-exposed by the fact that its censure for abuses of official power are reserved only for republicans and never directed at democrats except when a personal object is to be subserved by attacking them, as for example, right now the vicious attacks which Senator Hitchcock is making upon President Wilson and his administration.

Nepotism can be stopped but only by concerted action regardless of party. We are ready to welcome every honest and well-meaning recruit to The Bee's anti-nepotism crusade.

Co-Operative Thrift.

In round numbers two million dollars was earned and disbursed among the 42,000 non-borrowing members of nine saving and loan associations of Omaha during 1918. Viewed in the light of bygone war conditions the record is a notable one and attests the strength and pulling power of co-operative thrift among the people of the city.

For the greater part of the time our country was in the war, the business of associations remained at a standstill. Normal increases in assets were diverted to Liberty bonds and War Savings stamps and the sale of both federal saving securities encouraged in every possible way. In spite of this drain on all sources of saving, the associations as a whole advanced materially beyond the peace-time record and now represent in the aggregate 64 per cent of the total resources of the co-operative associations of Nebraska.

The importance of the growth of co-operative thrift is not limited to the profits and disbursements. It reaches deeper than the pocket into the well being of the people. It grips the promptings of the human heart, links the hope of a home with the reality and adds to the immortal song of Paine the dignity and independence of ownership. The gospel of association work has its roots in home ownership. Savings members and home getters co-operate for their respective aims. One is essential to the other. Together they accomplish good for themselves and do good for the city as a whole. No other instrumentality approaches the record of savings and loan associations in making Omaha a city of homeowners.

Never before has the savings habit been so thoroughly exploited and its value brought home to all the people. Hitherto the voice of saving was heard in spots only almost submerged in a wilderness of spenders. Uncle Sam's calls for money changed all this and drove home the necessity as well as the duty of saving. Millions of people heeded and practiced habits of self-denial never thought of before. Herein lies the most attractive opportunity that ever knocked at the gates of savings institutions. The field is nation-wide, plowed deep and ready for the seeding. The harvest is for those who buckle down to work intelligently and energetically, ever mindful of safety.

Most folks will wonder why the war bill for December, after the war is over, is the highest of all. Mr. Baker will perhaps have an elaborate explanation for this, but it will be hard to convince the public that the figures should not have been less rather than greater than when we actually were fighting, and when it stated from the army office that almost 600,000 men have been discharged from the service. If January shows a similar increase, the country will do well to go back to a basis of actual hostilities.

TODAY

Right in the Spotlight.

Though only 40 years old today, William Fox has the distinction of having been one of the pioneers in the motion picture industry in America and a prominent factor in the development of this popular form of entertainment to its present colossal proportions. Mr. Fox is a product of New York City. The cloth examining and shrinking business first engaged his attention. With a small capital thus acquired he opened the first picture house in Brooklyn, and was successful from the start. In a surprisingly short time he had established a chain of motion picture theaters and had become one of the magnates in the business. Then he branched out as a producer on his own account, forming a corporation of world-wide dimensions. At the age of 40, Mr. Fox is credited with the possession of a fortune of several million dollars, all of which has been made in the magical motion picture industry.

One Year Ago Today in the War.

To date Finland, Courland, the Ukraine, Siberia, Besarabia, and Turkestan had declared their independence, the last two with the intention of continuing the war.

In Omaha 30 Years Ago Today.

The much-heralded solar eclipse was a failure in Omaha so far as smoked glass observers were concerned.

At the Creighton observatory Father Rigge managed to locate it long enough to verify the time schedule of its flight. President Taylor and his wife headed the line of the Y. M. C. A. New Year's reception. The fire department during the year responded to 195 alarms.

Miss Sarah Brandeis gave a leap year party to over 100 of her young friends last night at her residence at Nineteenth and Leavenworth streets.

Miss Cora Smith returned to the Normal school at Peru.

The Day We Celebrate.

Vice Admiral Albert Gleaves, U. S. N., manager of the cruiser and transport operations during the war, born at Nashville, Tenn., 61 years ago.

Maj. Gen. Clarence R. Edwards, U. S. A., now in command of the northeastern department, born at Cleveland, O., 60 years ago.

Hon. John D. Reid, Canadian minister of railways and canals, born at Prescott, Ont., 60 years ago.

Hon. Thomas W. Crothers, late minister of labor in Canada, born in County Prince Edward, Ont., 69 years ago.

Lev Fields, well known actor and theatrical producer, born in New York City, 52 years ago.

This Day in History.

1831—Paul Hamilton Hayne, sometimes called "the southern poet laureate," born at Charleston, S. C. Died in 1886.

1839—James Ryder Randall, who wrote "Maryland, My Maryland," born in Baltimore. Died in 1908.

1894—A memorial in honor of the landing of Sir Frances Drake on the Pacific coast was unveiled in San Francisco.

1899—Letter postage in Canada was reduced to 2 cents.

1915—British battleship Formidable sunk in English channel, with loss of 700 men.

1916—Russians captured two lines of Austrian trenches in Galicia.

1917—Berlin reported French battleship Verite torpedoed by submarine.

Timely Jottings and Reminders.

The Happy New Year. The army and Montana start the new year as bone-dry states.

Legislative sessions begin today in Michigan, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

A bone-dry amendment to the existing prohibition law becomes operative today in the state of Washington.

Alfred E. Smith, democrat, will be inaugurated governor of New York today in succession to Charles S. Whitman, republican.

Negroes in various parts of the south have arranged to celebrate today the 300th anniversary of the landing of the first negroes in America at Jamestown, Va., in 1619.

The first retirement of the year among the officers of the United States army will be that of Col. George H. Morgan, who will be removed from the active list today on account of age.

Storiette of the Day.

"Tommy Atkins" pleaded exemption from military duty on the ground that he was an agnostic. The sergeant major assumed an expression of innocent interest.

"Don't you believe in the Ten Commandments?" he mildly asked the bold freethinker.

"Not one, sir," was the reply.

"What! Not the rule about keeping the Sabbath?"

"Ah, well, you're the very man I've been looking for to scrub out the canteen."—London Tit-Bits.

WHITTLED TO A POINT  
Philadelphia Ledger: With the Krupp works passing a dividend, Germany may yet be convinced that the war didn't pay.

The Business Future

New York Times.

It is odd that our nation, which faced the war so unitedly and resolutely, faces peace so irresolutely and distractedly. We come out of the war so much strengthened in all respects that the world recognizes us as a moral and financial leader. Yet few among ourselves see it, and there are prophets of woe who may convince the weak-spirited. This division of opinions there should be but one is illustrated in the joint debate in which the president of the City Bank joined issues with a professor of the New York university. The practitioner of finance saw new problems, but he and his institution proposed to rise to them and find new opportunities of service and profit. The professor saw "in the not distant future, crisis and panic, idle labor, bread lines and riot."

This contrast between the theorist and the practical man does not stand alone. A professor whose writings on finance have secured for him a banking connection sees nothing which can prevent a general fall in prices, and his theory prevents trying to alleviate it. But the president of a large industrial concern, long prominent in the Manufacturers' association, finds that demobilization of the army presents "no factor in this so-called problem." The soldiers were all employed before they went away, and they are all needed back again. "The shifting of labor from the work of war to the work of peace will be accomplished with scarcely a ripple." He is an employer who wanted 10,000 men. The Pennsylvania railway wants 8,500. The local utilities need thousands, so short-handed are their services, to the point of danger.

Other couples could be made of differences of opinion between practical and theoretical men, with the advantage on the side of the defenders of things as they are and will rather than of the proponents of theories and precedents as to what they have been and ought to be. No one in general falls in with the theory and theories collide to make a mess of theories. No doubt inflation is bad, and no doubt we are experiencing so much of inflation that there is need of some deflation. But there are other ways of deflating than by panic and ruin. The admission of inflation does not convict our bankers of error beyond undervaluing and excess. Our industries had to develop both the speed of the greyhound and the work of the snail. It is a general fall in prices, and wages were the fuel used to increase the velocity of the circulation of commodities, something as necessary to consider as the increase of tonnage. Probably the record increase of wages was an average of \$220 for each working day for four months for one die-cutter to speed shipbuilding. No union would be allowed to take them. There are faults to be found in the union but they have no monopoly thereof. Employers, including government, have their share to bear. The inflation of wages lies at the root of the inflation of all prices and credit. It was waste, for the wages were not economically earned, as appears from the fact that the wages increased more than the production. The excess of wages was and is the burden of the taxpayers. There is no cause for regret for the record of commodity circulation was attained and the war was won, as otherwise it could not have been.

Deflation is the reverse of that process. If skillfully managed the deflation can be so distributed as not to disturb the relation of prices between each other or of wages and cost of living. As Mr. Vanderlip remarked in his answer to the professor, it is not even necessary that wages should fall if production is given to match the increase. The eight-hour day can be given if the men will produce what is within their power without exhaustion, if the men will allow efficiency to manage the use of their labor power.

Mr. Vanderlip met the professor's prophecy of collapse through deflation by suggesting that we grow up to inflation. The world's possibility of profit is not exhausted, and if new profits can be made labor will have its share. More can be allowed to labor in proportion that labor allows more to capital by producing more for general consumption. The world's wants were undersupplied before the war killed or disabled 20,000,000 of the world's workers. Influenza took millions more in a half year. With that arrears of labor power to be made up, it is not within the power of a generation to supply its wants on the pre-war scale. Wants grow with satisfaction, and when the world finds that we, and we alone, can supply its wants, there will be an illimitable demand, only to be met by foreign trade. That is Mr. Vanderlip's prescription of the tonic to tone up our labor and capital to meet the prostration of the war's waste and cost. It is better to maintain what we can of war scale production than to liquidate wages, and to export what we can spare than to allow overproduction to shut our factories. We can find an antidote to domestic inflation in expansion of trade and can earn high wages and good profits by serving the world.

We are facing an opportunity rather than a crisis, and have only to choose between listening to the counsels of our practical men or to those of theorists.

Hog Island's Failure

No one denies that a valuable shipbuilding plant has been created at Hog Island, though the enormous cost can be justified only by the need for haste. But the testimony of Mr. Piez before the senate commerce committee is an admission of the failure of the corporation to carry out its ambitious plans. The 50 ships that were to be completed by the first of January have been reduced to three or four. The famous Quistconck, launched last August in the presence of the president, took the water when only 65 per cent riveted, and was not completed for 120 days after that, about twice the average time for American ships. It also appears that the cost per ton at Hog Island has been greatly in excess of the average. The Public Ledger called attention to the illusory nature of the promises made by the corporation when the enterprise was in its infancy, and was severely criticized for doing so. Yet the admitted facts now justify everything that was then printed in its columns. Where the major part of the blame lies we do not pretend to say. It has heads, but it has feet, however, that too little attention has been paid to the opinions of practical shipping men. The wooden ship fiasco is a convincing proof of that, and now Hog Island emphasizes the futility of the government policy in another respect.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Missouri Mules Make Good

Missouri is signally honored. Her mules "made good" on the western front. They were an indispensable help in winning the war, in making the world safe for democracy.

The chief witness in behalf of the Missouri mule is the British army. The witness is unbiased by any considerations of neighborliness. He never was in Missouri. Without intimidation or coercion, of his own free will, he signs the certificate of character.

Cambrai would never be what it is going to be in history if the Missouri mule had not been behind the gun. He kept the heavy artillery right up to the front with the attacking infantry. He went without his oats and waded through mud and over filled-in shell holes to show that he was game on the side of peace with victory and justice.

The Missouri mule took his share of the gas and shell shock. He slept out of nights in the rain and cold. He kept his "hee haw" muffled at critical moments. He pulled and pulled—my, how he pulled when put to it!

Who shall say that the mule veterans, having proved their stuff by his deeds, are entitled to roam rich pastures in the good old summer time and to hibernate in warm bays stalls the rest of their natural lives? It is back to the land, back to the oats and hay for them. They will tell no tales of their prowess, but on many of them always will be the marks of their stewardship in the struggle of titanic forces for good and ill.—Minneapolis Tribune.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS.

Song of the Dawn.

Wake! It is morning! The rose hue is stealing!  
Wake to the glory of yonder glad sky!  
Over the land a brave anthem is pealing!  
Back to the past cast your loyal "good bye!"  
Wake to the pleasures of life that surround you!  
Wake to the duties that lie in your way!  
Hail to the new year whose coming has found you!  
Up and alert for its work or its play!  
Over the past, with its burden of sorrow,  
Waste no regrets, neither sighs nor tears.  
Grasp at the triumphs that lie in to-morrow!  
Cling to the hopes of the on-coming year!  
Broad is the highway of noble success;  
Laurel and bay wait the conqueror's;  
Love is the guardian that honors and blesses;  
Rise and go forth to your victories now!  
—LURANA SHELLDON.

Comes the New Year.

The bright New Year;  
With peace upon her face a-shine,  
With gladness in your heart and mine;  
Restoring sons and brothers dear,  
Comes the New Year.  
Comes the New Year—  
The radiant year—  
With eager hearts and eager hands,  
Restoring devastated lands,  
And long-lost homes shall reappear  
With the New Year.  
Comes the New Year—  
A fresh New Year,  
With faces clean for men to write  
The doom of tyrants and might;  
With warmth to hearts long chilled by fear  
Comes the glad year.  
Comes the New Year—  
A bounteous year,  
With greater things to think and do,  
With higher planes and wider views,  
With souls out-reaching far and near  
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The Bee's Letter Box

Lynching Record of 1918.  
Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31.—To the Editor of The Bee: I send you the following records to lynchings for the year.  
According to the records compiled by Monroe N. Work, in charge of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were 62 lynchings in 1918. This is 24 more for the year 1917, of those lynched, 58 were negroes and four were whites. Five of those put to death were women. Sixteen or a little more than one-fourth of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged against the whites lynched were murder, 2; being in disloyal, 2.  
The offenses charged against the negroes were: Alleged complicity in murder, 14; murder, 7; charged with threats to kill, 8; charged with rape, 10; charged with attempted rape, 6; alleged participation in fight about alleged hog stealing, 3; killing officer of the law, 2; being intimate with a woman, 1; assisting man charged with murder to escape, 1; robbing house and frightening woman, 1; killing man in dispute about automobile repairs, 1; making unwise remarks, 1; killing landlord in a dispute over a farm contract, 1; assaulting with intent to murder, 1; resisting arrest, 1; robbery and resisting arrest, 1.  
The states in which lynchings occurred, and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 2; Arkansas, 2; California, 1; Florida, 2; Georgia, 18; Illinois, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 9; Mississippi, 6; North Carolina, 2; Oklahoma, 6; South Carolina, 1; Tennessee, 4; Texas, 9; Virginia, 1; Wyoming, 1.  
ROBERT R. MOTON, Principal.

Jerry on the Banquet.

Omaha, Dec. 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: I have been said that the world is moving, or rather, that phrases, and there is much truth in it. A phrase may mean more to the multitude of men than a bulky volume. The phrase "quoted by the British press" from President Wilson's speech at the state banquet at Buckingham Palace, "there is a great tide running in the hearts of men," I hope will obtain righteous results everywhere. However, your editorial on the banquet and phrase of comment is opportune when you say "Fifteen million dollars' worth of gold plate glistening on the board, and King George following President Wilson into the banquet hall—what a spectacle for democracy triumphant is there presented." I believe democracy's only hope of success is publicity. You are right. That much gold at a banquet is a spectacle to behold, while photographs of babies starving for lack of milk are on exhibition.

Democrats and City Salaries.

Omaha, Dec. 25.—To the Editor of The Bee: Reading in the paper where Jerry Howard, "Dr." Tanner and Dan Butler send a resolution to the city commissioners to send delegates to the senate and legislature to ask for a raise in firemen's and policemen's pay, it seems to me like another democratic dream. Dr. Tanner and Mr. Howard have been in Lincoln two or three times of late years, and the democrats for the last 12 years have tried to get home rule and haven't got it yet, or the commissioners would have had a

SOMETHING NEW

COLUMBIA LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Fremont, Neb.

A 20 Pay Life Policy—with Annual Dividends—that returns at end of 20 years, all premiums paid, and becomes a paid-up life policy in 14 years—guaranteed.

For Women—Waiver of premium and monthly income upon becoming totally and permanently disabled.

Policies at Non-Participating rates of premium, with annual dividends

AND many other good points. Also, all usual forms of old line policies.

LIBERAL COMMISSIONS TO AGENTS

How Do You Buy Your Clothes?

Surely not by saying: "All clothes are the same—they all come out of the same shop—just give me any old thing."

Good gasolines are carefully "cut" from the best crude oil—tailored and trimmed to avoid the heavy, oily, dirty ends so disastrous to the lubricating oil in your crank case.

We offer two good grades: Crystal Blitzen, (export test) . . . . . 27c Vulcan (dry test) . . . . . 24c "Let Your Motor Be the Judge—It Knows"

The L. V. Nicholas Oil Company