

THE OMAHA BEE

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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
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Omaha had a chair big enough to hold him, too.

A few more labels, and autos in Omaha will resemble billboards.

No matter what the cause, so long as the flu has flown, let us all rejoice.

Real estate deals are of a volume that show the faith of investors in Omaha property.

Colonel House says the peace conference will be harmonious. That ought to end the suspense.

No doubt whatever that "Sunny Holy" is a fine piece to be just about this season of the year.

Wonder if Thomas Nelson Page revived "The Colonel's Christmas" for the president's New Year?

Edsel Ford will have \$150,000 a year, but he may also live to envy the boy who went across for \$30 a month.

The legislature is about to convene, but no one seems to have taken note of the fact outside the members-elect.

Thank you, but there is no demand on the part of the public for a second serving out of the street car strike dish.

Brevets for the draft board members are all right; these men deserve more recognition than they have been given.

Ford stockholders divide a profit of 200 per cent, a fair profit that all the gain of the year was not turned over to the government.

England's peace delegates have been selected from among men whose names indicate at least the earnestness with which the Britishers are going into the business.

Where to get the money to meet the increased pay demands of firemen and policemen still is undecided. It looks as if a heavier tax may yet have to be levied.

Mary Garden, who doesn't care for Omaha, is back from Paris with four new bracelets and a new "sweetheart." This may be accepted as sign that Galli-Curci is going on a concert tour.

It seems the irony of fate to be shipwrecked on the home shores after passing the dangers of U-boats and the war, and the boys on the Northern Pacific will have something to say to the navy later on.

Cutting the city budget to fit the revenue is always in order. The time will come when the abolition of "trading points" will vanish and the business of getting full value for every dollar expended will be paramount.

Poland is giving the inhabitants of Hunland a little taste of their own medicine. The proceeding may be a bit irregular, but when the Germans are called upon to defend Berlin from the Poles, it will give the socialists something to do besides talk.

With a \$150,000,000 shortage of revenues as against total expense, government operation of railways by a democratic administration is simply a method of laying a colossal tax on transportation and its enforced collection from shippers and passengers.

It's likewise nepotism when a democratic secretary of state gets his brother-in-law appointed United States district attorney or when an army promotion goes to the brother-in-law of a certain democratic United States senator in deference to his influence as a member of the military affairs committee.

Great Britain also comes forward with the record of the greatest cash "turn over" for a single year in history of the realm. But, like that of the United States, much of the stupendous and impressive total is due to the enhanced prices of all commodities and not to an increase in the volume of business.

Peddling Paper Stocks

In preparing to go out of business on December 31, the capital issues committee, a war adjunct of the Treasury department, announces a purpose to get legislation from congress calculated to impose a permanent restraint upon the issue and sale of worthless securities.

This is an old national scandal and involves particularly the mining states of the west. It has become an especially flourishing form of thievery since the floating of the Liberty loans among great numbers of people unused to investments and easily persuaded to exchange their government security, as good as gold but yielding only 4 1/2 per cent, for mining or other stock of no value whatever but represented as certain to pay fabulous dividends and reach a fabulous value. No small part of the heavy current sales of Liberty bonds on the stock exchange is believed to be due to the cashing in by the swindlers of the bonds won from these swindlers.

Perhaps congress can do something to stamp out this evil. But the states can do more. They are primarily responsible. No certificate of stock representing a worthless or fraudulent enterprise ever finds its way to a victim for its good money that has not been issued under the seal of some state which has blindly or knowingly chartered the corporation issuing it.

This is the root of the trouble. There is somewhere a sovereign state which has made itself an accessory before the fact to the swindle. And if the evil is to be done away with at all effectively, the state which has not issued its good money that has not been issued under the seal of some state which has blindly or knowingly chartered the corporation issuing it.

Washington from the neglect of the state to make effective their own powers or to perform their own obvious duties and obligations.—New York World.

THE WAY TO STOP NEPOTISM.

The hyphenated democratic organ continues to harp on the continued out-crooping of odious practice of nepotism in public office despite The Bee's year in and year out agitation against it. It seeks to delude its readers with the suggestion that nepotism would be stopped if only The Bee would call on the newly-elected republican state officers to reconsider the announced intention to install their own relatives in certain appointive positions. The hyphenated knows that there is just as much reason and just as much prospect of compliance and no more, in a call on democrats offending in this respect, as on republicans and if it believes that method is efficacious, it might start it by calling its own democrats to account.

Incidentally we are reminded that The Bee's anti-nepotism principle was embodied in the defeated Omaha home-rule charter which its editor once helped to frame. Reference to this document discloses the following prohibition in it with appropriate penalty:

No person shall hereafter be appointed to any position who bears a relationship of the first degree with the officer charged with the appointment of such employee or with the wife of such officer.

This might be made stronger by making it apply also to "trades" by which two officers exchange payroll jobs for relatives. Such a law, however, would stop nepotism and stop it for democrats and republicans alike. We hope to see it written on the statute books of Nebraska—it would not be a bad move for our democratic United States senator to propose the same thing for the federal government, too, and see if he can't push it farther than he did his munitions embargo bill.

Guesswork is Always Dangerous.

Whatever may have been his motive, and we will admit he had only public good in mind, our city health commissioner got in bad when he permitted his zeal to betray him into making some sweeping statements reflecting on the morality of Omaha. Men of science as a rule are chary of advancing opinions to support which they can not readily produce facts, while conscientious public officials usually hesitate over assertions affecting the interests of the people unless they are certain of their grounds. Dr. Manning has offended against discretion in both regards. His "estimates" as to the number of lewd men and women in Omaha, the prevalence of social disease, and the conviction of hotel-keepers at moral obliquity, are of value only as would be similar guesses on the part of any; but when they are made by the health commissioner of the city of Omaha, they take on an official character that makes them dangerous unless accuracy can be established. He certainly would not tolerate such laxity in a student of medicine under his tutelage, nor is it conceivable that he is guilty of guesswork in his private practice. This makes it the more amazing that he should allow himself to indulge in probable exaggeration officially. Something should be done to curb a lot of loosely wagging tongues around the city hall.

Colonels to the Rescue Come.

Two of America's best known and well-beloved colonels have, with praiseworthy ardor, placed themselves before and behind the president to guard him from any untoward effect of present or prospective criticism. These are Colonel House of Texas, New York and the universe, and Colonel "Jimham" Lewis of Washington, London, New York, the boulevards, Pennsylvania avenue and Illinois. Colonel House has just soothed the tiger of France and quieted his threatening growl into a contented purr, so we are informed by "a member of the American delegation"—can it be Creel, thus modestly masking his identity while shedding the effulgence of his perspicacity? And Colonel Lewis has taken to task those temerarious senators who have dared to stand for the constitutional rights of the senate and the limitations that sacred document places on the executive. Here is consolation and encouragement for us all. We are uplifted by the knowledge that at home and abroad our national interests are so well watched, and that not only is Mr. Wilson thus preserved from possible embarrassment, but that dangers and difficulties are removed from his path by the vigilant and faithful colonels, who watch both his front and rear lines. The palladium of Liberty is secure while these are on guard.

Treatment of Returned Wounded.

Royal C. Johnson, congressman from South Dakota, who has recently returned from France, where he served as an officer in the American Expeditionary Force, has set on foot an inquiry that means a great deal to the people. It has to do with the reception of wounded soldiers on return to this country. Senator Chamberlain made the assertion last week that the War department was as unready to care for the returning soldier as it was to send him across at the start of the war. Many examples of this lack of preparation have been afforded. While a great deal has been said in regard to reconstruction work, and plans for rehabilitation of the wounded, more essential matters were lost sight of. It was quite as important that the sick and wounded men should be received at the port of debarkation with such care as would insure their comfort at least. This has not been provided. The particular cases cited by Lieutenant Johnson may or may not be typical, but seem sufficiently flagrant to justify his demand that careful inquiry be made, and responsibility for the condition be fixed.

The "weird women" at Washington appear to be wasting their time in picketing the empty White House.

Mr. Wilson did all he could to secure the adoption of the Susan B. Anthony amendment. It would be more to the point if the insistent sisters were to give attention to some of the senators who voted against the measure. For example, the democratic senator from Nebraska, whose vote would have carried the day for suffrage, had it been cast that way.

The republican party has been re-instated in power in Nebraska because of popular disgust and distrust of the democrats.

The only way to keep republicans in power, however, in this state is for the republicans occupying official position to make good and thus riving down the confidence of the voters.

According to advices from the court house, Omaha is to be deprived of its regular midwinter sport of wondering what the grand jury will do. None is to be called until next fall.

TODAY

Right in the Spotlight. Rt. Rev. Peter J. Muldoon, whose ecclesiastical friends at the Vatican are urging his appointment as archbishop of St. Paul to succeed the late Archbishop Ireland, is the present head of the Catholic diocese of Rockford, Ill. For many years Bishop Muldoon was one of the most popular parish priests in Chicago, where he numbered among his friends many men of wide influence. He is a Californian by birth, was educated in Kentucky and ordained priest in 1886. In 1889 he became chancellor of the Chicago archdiocese and secretary to Archbishop Quigley. In 1901 he was made auxiliary bishop of Chicago and seven years later was named bishop of Rockford. Bishop Muldoon is an able writer as well as an eloquent speaker, and has long been looked upon in church circles as a young prelate with a brilliant future.

One Year Ago Today in the War. Official report of first United States Army in Germany, 9,586,508; examined, 3,082,949; certified for service, 1,057,363; called to colors, 687,000.

In Omaha 30 Years Ago Today. A telegram from Chicago says, "Webster S. Seavey, chief of police of Omaha, is here to study police methods, more particularly the liquor traffic."

"Lieut. Will Wright" for his dog "Rags." (He is now Major General Wright, commanding a corps in France.) Among the mastiffs Rev. Father Colaneri's "Major" was first.

Union Pacific announced a reduction in pay of section hands on the Nebraska division of 15 cents a day, making the wages \$1.40. In Council Bluffs it remains at \$1.25.

The Day We Celebrate. Dr. L. S. Fields, born 1886. Rex H. Morehouse, born 1881. Ex-Governor Franklin Murphy of New Jersey, born at Jersey City 73 years ago.

James A. Tawney, former Minnesota congressman, born near Gettysburg, Pa., 64 years ago.

Lee S. Overman, United States senator from North Carolina, born at Salisbury, N. C., 65 years ago.

Rear Admiral Albert Ross, U. S. N., retired, born at Clarion, Pa., 73 years ago.

This Day in History. 1803—Douglas Jerrold, who wrote "Mrs. Caudle's Curious Lectures," born in London. Died there June 8, 1857.

1869—Commodore William D. Salter, U. S. N., the last survivor of the crew of the famous Constitution, died at Elizabeth, N. J. Born in New York City in 1794.

1879—General U. S. Grant was presented with the freedom of the City of Dublin.

1894—Elizabeth Palmer Peabody, who established the first public kindergarten in the United States, died at Jamaica Plain, Mass. Born at Billerica, Mass., in 1804.

1909—American battleship fleet reached Suez on its tour around the world.

1915—British empire observed a day of prayer for the success of the allied cause.

1916—Russians and Austro-Germans began great battle for Czernowitz.

Timely Jottings and Reminders.

Today is the 100th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Hill Watts, who served as governor of Alabama during the latter years of the civil war.

The Rt. Rev. Alexander MacDonald today celebrates the 10th anniversary of his consecration as Roman Catholic bishop of Victoria, B. C.

The Illinois State Poultry Show, one of the largest exhibitions of its kind in the middle west, opens today at Carbondale.

Storyteller of the Day.

There is at least one old colored man in Accomac, Va., who will not be fooled on his Liberty bonds. Our good old Accomac county friend of a long and honorable life told a visitor how some "sharp boy" came around the "diggings" and first offered him \$95 for his second Liberty bond.

RIGHT TO THE POINT.

Detroit Free Press: Frau Cosima Wagner is dead. She was one of the most consistent haters of America in all Germany.

Minneapolis Journal: The turkey and the cranberries are at the top-notch, which is one way to "keep the home buyers squirming."

Washington Post: "I have no announcement to make except to say that I know nothing about it," says Champ Clark. Double negative!

New York World: The man who sells Liberty bonds to get 300 per cent dividends in the Goose Creek radium mine is at least serving as an illuminating example to others of the fact that one such is born every minute.

Philadelphia Ledger: It will be surprising if the German government, once it is established, omits to take over the Hohenzollern property. The value is estimated at more than \$100,000,000.

Sum which Germany would find very handy just now.

Freedom of the Seas

From an Address by Viscount Grey. The question of the league of nations seems to become daily more important, not only for itself, but because it is becoming more and more clear that the subject is most closely bound up with a question sure to be of the greatest importance in our foreign affairs, that of our relations with the United States of America. I see no reason whatever why the naval policies of the United States and Great Britain should not only not come into conflict, but should not be in close co-operation and conciliation. This ought to be comparatively easy, provided the peoples are perfectly frank on both sides and do not let misunderstandings grow up as to what each means.

We hear from the United States that there is a great amount of talk about the freedom of the seas, that President Wilson attaches great importance to it, and that it is anticipated or feared that it will create difficulties between himself and our government. I think it a great pity that so much has been said about the freedom of the seas without its being defined. It is quite true that there is a considerable prejudice against the phrase in this country, greatly due, I think, to the fact that it is believed to be a German phrase, and that it was made in the United States, and the Germans adopted it, and used it for their own purposes, in a sense and with an intention which we never could have agreed. Therefore it has never become very popular.

What we have to consider is what the United States means, what President Wilson means, by the phrase "freedom of the seas." Until he defines it, until he comes to discuss it, it is not an American phrase. It was made in the United States, and the Germans adopted it, and used it for their own purposes, in a sense and with an intention which we never could have agreed. Therefore it has never become very popular.

I think that even in the United States there is some rule that foreign ships are not allowed to carry out of United States ports and the Philippines. Some other countries have had a rule of the same kind. Well, we have never had a rule like that. We have been more completely for the freedom of the seas in times of peace than any other nation, and however strong our navy has been we have never varied in recent times on that point, and we have used our sea power, however great it has been, for the purpose of freedom of the seas, for every other nation, just as much as for ourselves, in times of peace. I think we ought to receive a little more recognition than we do receive for the fact that we have never used British naval power in time of peace to make the use of the seas more easy for ourselves without making it at the same time more easy for others on the same terms. (Cheers.)

If the question is one of freedom of the seas, not in time of peace, but in time of war, I would say this. The United States in this war has taken, as we all know, as we all most gratefully recognize—a part in the last two years of the war without which we could not have had the success which the allies have now won. You cannot emphasize that too much or express too much appreciation of it. Since the United States entered the war, as I believe, has most strongly co-operated in carrying out the blockade of Germany. In the early stages of the war it was not so. Our blockade could not have been nearly so complete, because the United States raised many questions about it. But in the later years of the war the blockade was made complete with the co-operation of the United States, and without that blockade success in the war could not have been won, indeed, without the blockade, Germany might have won the war.

Now supposing you had this situation over again. Supposing you had again to fight a war like this against a Germany which had behaved in the same way. It is impossible to suppose that the United States is going to say that there is no blockade. It is impossible that the United States should now set up the line that if you had to deal with Germany over again the blockade, which was an essential if success, should not be allowed. Why that would stultify everything that they have done in this war. I think it is absolutely impossible. I think it really an insult to suggest that the United States would in future advocate any course in a war such as that which is one of complete blockade of the offending nation. If that be so, do not we come to this, that probably what is in President Wilson's mind is that freedom of the seas should be secured to any nation which observes the covenant of a league of nations; and should be denied to any nation which breaks the covenant of a league of nations? (Cheers.) If that be so, then the league is the solution of the whole question. (Renewed cheers.) Freedom of the seas is bound up with the question of a league of nations, and cannot be discussed apart from it. On those grounds I believe there may be complete agreement between the two countries only if a league of nations be formed, or, if, when it is formed, it fails to perform its obligations, then of course the peoples' hands must be free.

But what I want to see is a league of nations formed, not to make rules of war, but to prevent all war (cheers); formed to insist that when disputes arise between two countries those disputes should be settled by some means other than that of war. If one nation is willing to settle its disputes with another, and if it would be bound to do so by covenant with the league of nations, and another refuses, then the whole league sides with the nation which is willing to settle against the one which is not.

Foch's Military Commandments

- 1. Keep your eyes and ears ready and your mouth in the safety-net, for it is your soldierly duty to see and hear clearly, but as a rule you should be heard mainly in the sentry challenges or the charging cheer.
2. Obey orders first, and, if still alive, kick afterward if you have been wronged.
3. Keep your arms and equipment clean and in good order; treat your animals fairly and kindly and your pet or other machine as though it belonged to you and was the only one in the world. Do not waste your ammunition or your gas, your food, your time, nor your opportunity.
4. Never try to fire an empty gun nor at an empty trench, but when you shoot, shoot to kill, and forget not that at close quarters a bayonet beats a bullet.
5. Tell the truth squarely, face the music, and take your punishment like a man; for a good soldier won't lie, he doesn't sulk, and is no squealer.
6. Be merciful to the women of your foe and shame them not, for you are a man; pity and shield the children in your captured territory, for you are a Christian.
7. Bear in mind that the enemy is your enemy and the enemy of humanity until he is killed or captured; then he is your dear brother or fellow soldier beaten or ashamed, whom you should no further humiliate.
8. Do your best to keep your head clear and cool, your body clean and comfortable, and your feet good condition, for you think with your head, fight with your body, and march with your feet.
9. Be of good cheer and high courage; shirk neither work nor danger; suffer in silence, and cheer the comrades at your side with a smile.
10. Dread defeat, but not wounds; fear dishonor, but not death, and die with whatever the task, remember the motto of the division, "It Shall Be Done."—Trench and Camp.

In the Wake of War

The Palace of Versailles, where the peace conference is to meet, cost \$200,000,000 to build. In the original copy of the coming peace treaty it will be signed in the alphabetical order of the various countries' names, but the copy for each country will contain the name of that country first.

The large number of guns captured by the British from the Germans are to be shown in all the towns of England. The most imposing array of them will be in London, in the great road leading from the Admiralty to Buckingham palace. There some 600 guns will be on view.

One reason why Germany and Austria were able to keep going during the war, and that in spite of the blockade, is that they have a greater acreage of forest than any other European country except Russia. Twenty-six acres out of each hundred in Germany's area are forest; and Austria has even more. Its forest covering 32 acres of each hundred. These countries, therefore, had plenty of raw material for pit prop, saw timber, trench mortar and duck boards, as well as for paper and explosives.

Versailles, where the most historic meeting of the world has ever known is to be taken place, is one of the show cities of France, and is most frequented by foreigners than perhaps any other French city, not even excepting Paris. Versailles is a great city for pleasure, and has been so for hundreds of years. It is about 11 miles to the southwest of Paris and is one of the most regularly laid out towns of Europe, its streets nearly being very wide, straight, and at right angles to one another. It is a town of avenues and squares, both being lined with elm trees.

AIMED AT OMAHA.

Work News-Times: The skip row order has been lifted in Omaha. A skip row rule would have been more logical.

Minneapolis Tribune: Omaha claims to be the greatest club town of its size in the country. No explanation is offered as to why the men do not go home.

Hastings Tribune: That \$5,000 federal job that ex-Mayor James Dahlman chased proved to be nothing but a phantom. But that isn't the first time that Mayor Jim chased a will-o'-the-wisp.

Kearney Hub: The newly appointed chief state officer for enforcement of prohibition in Nebraska, Gas Hovers of Lincoln, makes public declaration that he will enforce the prohibition law to the limit. But he will find Omaha the hardest proposition of all, the most urgent and the most dangerous.

Fremont Tribune: For men to smash each other under the chin until one is knocked insensible is not "idea" as claimed by Oregon fighting advocates, and if the next legislature enacts a bill to permit it will regret the blunder. It is not a "idea" as claimed by Oregon fighting advocates, and if the next legislature enacts a bill to permit it will regret the blunder.

Hastings Tribune: That Omaha has a big suit for divorce against her husband because he kissed another woman two months after he had said "I do" no doubt was a little late about making the discovery. The average Omaha is so fond of osculation that he seldom waits two months after marriage before he passes up his wife to kiss a "peach."

LAUGHING GAS.

She—Am I the first girl you ever kissed? He—Gosh, no! Wasn't I in France the first time you were kissed?—Stars and Stripes.

"Can't you give me something better from your waist to eat, man?" asked the tramp at the kitchen door. "But, my man, you couldn't eat prune pie," said the boarding house lady.—Yonkers Statesman.

Husband—"Have you brought your opera glass?" She—"Yes, but I can't use it." "Why not?" "She—"I have left my bracelets at home."—London Opinion.

"Do they really prefer the army mule to motors?" "Sure, motor engines go dead sometimes, but who ever saw a dead mule?"—Baltimore American.

"What did your father say when he broke his pipe, Walter?" "Shall I leave out the wicked words, mother?" "Why, certainly, dear." "I don't believe there is anything to tell you, mother."—Harper's Magazine.

"The worst part of the war is over," remarked the paper strategist. "So you think," returned the Gentle Reader, "that the German towns and rivers won't be so hard to pronounce as the French ones?"—Life.

ICELAND, NOT IRELAND.

I read it in the printed line. At least I thought so, sure. Ah! 'twere these old eyes of mine are growing mighty poor.

"Autonomy for Ireland!" It seemed the paper said, "Autonomy for Ireland!"

"I turned me poor old head. But when I took another look. Me oath 'ud break a Bishop's crook: "Autonomy for Ireland!"

"Sure, that was what I read. Of course I was the devil's fool to think that they, the wise. Would let old Erin have Home Rule; But could I doubt me eyes?"

"I danced a Kerry reel; "Autonomy for Ireland!" "I thought I thought I'd kneel. But once again I read the word And then me curse ye could have heard: "Autonomy for Ireland!"

I ground it with me heel! Me tired old heart awoke and lepped. To think that they, the wise. As young love leaps at dawn. Says I, "And have the English kept their promise, soldier boys?"

"Autonomy for Ireland!" The sun laughed in the sky. I saw green flag fly. I was as I cried, "At last, O Pile!" But when I read I must have been. "Autonomy for Ireland!"

"—AND ONE MORE DREAM'S GONE BY!— JOHN O'KEEFE, in N. Y. World.

The Bee's Letter Box

Lecture to Laboring Men. Seward, Neb. Dec. 22.—The Editor of The Bee: In looking over The Bee's Letter Box, I noticed an article written by J. J. Clark, 3150 Jackson street, Omaha. Mr. Clark has his article by asking "Who are the public?" He seems to think that the public does not include the laboring class, but that only they who ride in automobiles are considered to be the public.

I would ask Mr. Clark who was to blame for the street car strike. You say you had to walk. Those of the public whom you encountered were "best" and "worse" with the strikers. Mr. Clark, you have no cause to complain; you upheld the carmen in the striking, if you and other laboring people had to walk four or five miles to your work. You should take your medicine the same as the rest of the people had to for nine days.

What did they strike for? What were their grievances? Why were they not willing to arbitrate their differences with the street car company? The company was willing to do this, and President Short of the carmen's union is quoted as saying: "We're going to win this strike. We are not willing to submit this case to arbitration, and if soldiers are sent here, we are not afraid of them; they won't fire on laboring men."

How dear this sounds to law-abiding citizens. Doesn't this sort of talk sound like "might makes right"? Did they strike for their wages? No; they seemed to be satisfied with their wages. Then what did they want? They wanted to force the carmen to recognize their union. Mr. Clark, do you think this is right? Do you think it is right to place pickets around the company property? By so doing you deprive those men of their constitutional rights as free American citizens. Under our laws they have a right to hire whom they please and discharge whom they please. The laboring man has the same rights before the law. He doesn't have to work for any man against his will.

Now, I believe the laboring men have a right to organize for their own interest and protection against greed and unfair treatment. But I don't believe in the methods that the unions use. I don't believe in using force for this is the rule that Germany used in Belgium and France; "that might makes right." This is what our boys are fighting for, and fighting against the union is wrong when they place a premium on the lazy shirkers who belong to the union. They tell the employer that he must pay this man much more wages as the man who makes good. If he discharges this man, the union will call a strike until the lazy man is reinstated. Is this true justice in this?

Now I want to say in conclusion that I am a friend of the laboring man, and when I say this I mean the man who gives value received for the work he receives from his employer. But I have nothing but contempt for the lazy shirker. Now I want to say to Mr. Clark and all other men who belong to a union, that if you want to keep in with the law, you must keep within the law; you must be willing to arbitrate your grievances; you must be willing to recognize negotiators and put cool-headed men with good judgment in their places. Public sentiment is always with the laboring man when he has a just cause. M. M. CAMPION.

Boys of the Civil War.

Manly, Neb., Dec. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: In The Bee of December 25, I read with some amusement that I read the letter signed "Another Mother." I am an old soldier of three years' service in the great civil war, and I have spent 40 long years. Her first complaint is that there shall be no more promotions. That surely brought a smile to the old veteran of the long ago sixties. We boys of the blue never thought of such a thing as that. Our term of service had expired when the war closed, and what we needed was a home with mother and father and friends. I cannot see how he could have spent so much time in the trenches and go to school, and get no pay. I can not see how he could write home such bitter letters. In all my three years' service I never wrote home a bitter letter.

We were always busy, and never drew a dollar pay the last nine months we were in the service, nor got it when we were discharged. We had to get our own word of complaint from the boys about not getting it. If we were in need of a little money, all we had to do was to write home for it and we soon got it. We expected to be fed and clothed by the government, and generally we were never disappointed. We got our hard-earned, got our meat and coffee and took it without complaint. We never heard of a Red Cross or K. C. or Y. M. C. A. If we needed anything, we had plenty of friends to send us what we needed. We had nights without sleep and 10 days and nights without a change to change clothes. Why, dear me, I have gone weeks without a change, but when we would stop to rest (as we did some marching) we would wash what clothes we could in some river or creek nearby and hang them on some bush to dry, and then take a plunge if I went too cold.

When I went into the service I was but 19 years old and 80 per cent of my company and my regiment were under 21 years. We went into the service pure and clean boys, and those who were spared to come home were the same kind of boys, and we did not need a V. D. pamphlet No. 24 as sent out a few days ago from the U. S. P. H. S. of 225 First street, Washington, D. C.

Such, I know, we did not need and our people at home knew we did not need. Now to close, I will say without fear of contradiction that the boys of the blue and the boys of the grey made one of the greatest armies the world had seen or ever will see. W. B. ESSICK, Civil War Veteran.



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