

THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING)—EVENING—SUNDAY

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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Chairman Wilson has some job on his hands.

Just a little cold weather to hold back over-
ly-ambitious vegetation would not be amiss.Secretary Houston also sees prospects for an
abundance of wheat. This makes it unanimous.Naval programs are expected to wait on the
peace program. This is about the proper order.No one ever yet suffered severely because
there was an over-supply of food in the world.Purified and glorified movies are all right in
their way, but who doesn't like a little spice
in life?Making the Russians pay their debts is about
the direct form of punishment that could be in-
flicted on the bolsheviks.Some of the "higher-ups" among the auto-
mobile thieves are falling into the clutches of
the law. Let the good work go on.Presence of robins in this vicinity is encour-
aging, but do not let the bird's optimism mis-
lead you into neglecting the home fires.Reports from interior towns warrant the con-
clusion that all the contraband booze is not
found in Omaha. Some comfort in this.Auto truck freight lines are said to be serv-
ing Omaha so well that interurban trolleys are
not needed. The two would work well together.This is "Bill" Hohenzollern's 60th birthday,
and he will very likely spend some part of it
in reviewing the blunders of at least four sadly
misspent years.The merchant tailors report they have dis-
covered the "perfect" man in the Yankee army.
We will wager that search would disclose about
4,000,000 of him.Little nations have been assured of a square
deal by the big, and so are willing to go along
with the game, which is to fix a foundation for
justice in the world.All undeveloped city property will be avail-
able for gardens next summer. This rule ought
to apply to private property as well, for Omaha
will eat all that is produced.The Interstate Commerce commission again
mildly insists that the war is over and that it
has charge of railroad rates. Its job will be to
convince Walker D. Hines of this.Lawmakers at Lincoln complain that too
many "canned" bills are making their appear-
ance. Well, the bureau has to make some sort
of showing to justify its existence.Nebraska bankers are again objecting to
John Skelton Williams as comptroller of the
currency. That will very likely be accepted at
Washington as justification for the appointment.Ogden Armour is willing to have the pack-
ing industry under close government super-
vision, whatever that may mean. If it will
quiet endless suspicion it would be good for
all. Why not try it?The president spent his Sunday looking over
some of the devastated portions of France,
getting a "close-up" of the Hun's work. This
ought to help him make up his mind as to future
dealings with the offenders.The democratic senator from Nebraska finds
state's rights a convenient bulwark between him-
self and the suffrage amendment. But votes
for women scarcely can be any more distaste-
ful to some states than was prohibition to
others.A movement is under way to revive the
national guard, but it ought not to take the form
of a restoration of the 49 little armies that
existed where one general organization should
have existed. State troops are all right, but
they should be under central control if they are
to be effective for general service.

Value of Initiative

When the officers of German battalions were
slain in action the German morale notoriously
crumbled. No man in the ranks dared take the
initiative. The cog in the machine was not fit
to become a driving wheel. The infantry
turned out after a uniform pattern by the
stamping mill of German militarism were con-
fused and scattered when their browbeating
leadership was gone.This paralysis of the individual initiative
was one of the evil fruits of the German sys-
tem. The marching soldier was not a sentient
participant; he was only a mite in a tremendous
mass.The American soldier was resourceful and
adaptable. He was not flurried by the over-
setting of a plan; his wits worked at high speed
in a tight place. He did not wait to be told
what to do when there was none to tell him.
Instead of waiting for destruction to overwhelm
him he acted on his own best judgment.Countless instances come from the battle-
field of noncommissioned officers and privates
who stepped into the places of those who had
fallen, rallied their comrades and turned the
tide of disaster. The course of their previous
education, though it had not taught them that
an officer is the noblest work of God, or that
marksmanship is the chief end of man, or that
the goosestep is the ideal gait, or that a blind
reaction to an order is the paramount virtue,
had bred in them a certain mental slavery, a
quick perception of the right thing to do and
the right time to do it, that have made out of
lovers of peace the "first-class fighting man,"
whose nerve and mettle and fiery impetus met
and overcame the flower of the troops put into
the field by Germany.—Philadelphia Ledger.

BIRTH OF A LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Unanimous adoption by the peace confer-
ence delegation of a resolution "that a league
of nations be created to promote international
obligations and to provide safeguards against
war" practically assures the formation of such
a body. The scope of its purpose is ample, and
membership is open to "every civilized nation
which can be relied upon to promote its objects."

This is the first formal move of the great
conference towards the end for which it was
assembled. Other points in the peace program
are properly provided for through the estab-
lishment of commissions to consider and report to
the main body on the subjects referred to them.
It may safely be assumed that a substantial
settlement has been approached on all topics
over which disagreement might have been ex-
pected or on which serious difference of opinion
could arise. This is the expected outcome of
the preliminary and informal conferences and
conversations.

Great importance will attach to the work of
the high commission to whom has been en-
trusted the formulation of detailed plans for
organization and government of the league of
nations. Mr. Wilson is to be the chairman of
this vital body, and will guide its deliberations
and influence its conclusions. We may, there-
fore, expect that in the final report the ideas
he has put forward will be embodied in prac-
tical form.

It will not be easy to formulate any sched-
ule entirely devoid of ambiguity, clearly defin-
ing the rights and limitations of each power,
and reconciling them with the rights and powers
of the membership of the league, but it can be
done. Some sacrifice must be made, not of any-
thing vital to the national existence of a
people, but in the degree that the individual
foregoes his natural rights to some extent when
he comes into communal relationship with
others.

One general family of nations may not yet
be possible, but the "parliament of the world"
is nearer at hand than it ever was before.

Nebraska's Hospitals for the Insane.

Word comes up from Lincoln that the legis-
lature is to be asked to provide for the exten-
sion of Nebraska's hospitals for the insane. No
objection will be raised to this, if necessity
for the action can be shown. This state has
made humane provisions for the care of those
unfortunates whose reason has been deranged,
no matter what the cause, and will continue to
do so.

It is somewhat startling, though, to be told
that an emergency threatens us in the form of
insane soldiers. To assume that 300 or any
other considerable number of soldiers will come
home with deranged minds is going beyond
bounds. It is true that many have suffered from
shattered nerves, incident to shell shock or
other vicissitudes and hazards of military ser-
vice, but to conclude that these are permanently
affected is unwarranted.

The surgeon general of the army met a sen-
sational statement last week by announcing that
of all the men invalided home suffering from
nervous disorders, only two had been found
insane to a degree that required their being
taken to a hospital for treatment. Others are
given care to restore them to usefulness, and
generally with success. Let us, if need be, ex-
tend the accommodations of the state hospitals,
but do not predicate the move on the prob-
ability of a large number of insane soldiers be-
ing returned from France.

Milling Industry in Nebraska.

Nebraska millers are meeting in Omaha for
the purpose of consulting as to the future of
their business. They find a menace in the gov-
ernment guaranty as to the price of wheat,
under which they expect to find themselves
grinding wheat at a cost around \$2.18 a bushel,
at the same time selling flour in competition
with millers who are able to buy Canadian or
other wheat in the open market. Naturally,
this rests upon the assumption that the price
for wheat is going to fall well away from its
present figure, and that the government will
not take any of the loss on its guaranty. In
some circles it has been contended that the
government would be expected to absorb the
margin between the assured and the actual
market price, assertions having been made in
congress that this will cost the public funds at
least half a billion dollars. The danger to the
millers is real, and how it is to be avoided is not
plain. A plan may be worked out under which
the home industry will receive the consideration
it deserves, and be well secured against loss,
while the farmer and householder alike will
have some advantage from the fact that Ne-
braska wheat is made into flour within the
state. In this connection it is encouraging to
note that at present the milling capacity of
Nebraska is above 22,000 barrels of flour per
day. Such business is worth fostering.

About the Municipal Auditorium.

The music department of The Bee started
something. It has to do with the municipal
auditorium. The question is whether the city
should finish the job begun so long ago, and set
the structure before the public in complete and
comfortable form. Its usefulness has been fully
established, and its inconveniences are quite as
well known. Since it was taken over from "the
people," who failed to provide the money for its
completion and brought under public owner-
ship, little attention has been bestowed on it
other than to maintain it for service at the least
possible outlay. It is the one place in Omaha
where great indoor assemblages are possible.
But inside and out it lacks finish. Commis-
sioner Zimman is charged with oversight of the
building, and might be induced to bring in a
recommendation as to its future.

George Horace Lorimer sees in the elevation

of Mr. Glass to the cabinet a recognition of
the house of representatives and suggests the
country might be better served if the practice
were extended. He thinks it would bring the
executive and the legislative departments closer
together. The trouble has been, under the
present administration, that all the executive
required of congress was obedience.

The Omaha girl who turned in a riot call,

saved a woman's life, put out a fire, then went
on to the dance she had started to attend is a
good example of self-reliance without regard
to sex.

The packers at least have no cause to com-

plain that the knife was not unsparingly wielded
at the "clinic."

The Constitution During the War and Afterward.

By Henry Wollman in The Annalist.

IN THREE PARTS—PART I.

The United States may be said to have two
constitutions, one made for times of peace and
one for wartime. The peace constitution may
be said to be designed to protect the people
against the government; the war constitution
may be said to be designed to protect the gov-
ernment against the people.

The question is asked: What laws did the
United States pass and what measures did it
adopt during this war that it would be well for
the people to adopt in the era of peace, upon
which we are about to enter? I would say prac-
tically none, for the reason that those laws were
passed and measures undertaken to meet a tem-
porary crisis, and were practically all based
wholly on actual military necessity, and had as
a sole reason for their enactment the country's
immediate demands brought about by the ex-
istence of war. They were not designed to
solve, nor could they aid at all in solving, any
of the governmental, economic or social prob-
lems of a nonwar era, but merely to find a
way, regardless of the rights of individuals,
municipalities or states, of overcoming an en-
emy whose existence was an absolute menace to
the existence of this nation.

The constitution gives congress power "to
declare war" and "to raise and support armies,"
and provides that "the president shall be com-
mander-in-chief of the army and navy of the
United States, and of the militia of the several
states when called into the actual service of
the United States." While those provisions are
in the act and have operative force, nearly all of
the remainder of the constitution—that is, those
parts with reference to the relation between
government and citizen—is temporarily put in
the scrap heap.

If it were not for the fact that pretty nearly
anything and everything that the government
does in time of war is constitutional, one would
say that a large percentage of things that were
authorized by congress to be done and were
done were unconstitutional. Consequently, when
the war provisions of the constitution again
become inactive and peace puts the remainder
of the constitution in operation, there would be
no way of sustaining the greater percentage of
the so-called war measures.

Under the constitutional provisions above
quoted, practically every right of a citizen in
time of war may be taken when the properly
authorized officials deem it necessary that they
should be taken. Courts, during the time of
war, practically recognize no law, except the
law of necessity, of which they permit the mili-
tary authorities to be the judges. United States
Judge Hunt, who often holds court in this
(New York) city, speaking for the United States
Circuit Court of Appeals at San Francisco, on
July 1 last, in Pappas against United States,
252 Fed. 55, and referring to the power exer-
cised by the government during the war, said:
"It is obvious that, to avoid calamity to
the nation, the powers referred to in their
greatest strength must be upheld as indispen-
sable incidental to the power to declare war."
In *Wainwright against United States*, 253
Fed. Rep. 466, United States Judge Tieber, on
November 4 last, at St. Louis, sustained a cer-
tain provision in the law, authorizing the "ar-
rest of railroads, on the theory that 'the act
and regulations may well be sustained upon the
ground that 'salus populi suprema lex est,' the
welfare of the people is the paramount law."

The government in war time can lawfully
tear up contracts between individuals, because
it may require the material for the manufac-
ture of which those contracts were made and the
federal law then ends those contracts. It can,
without a minute's notice, dispossess owners
from their homes because it deems them neces-
sary for governmental use. The secretary of
war is really given legislative power to silence
state laws and municipal ordinances; he can
say that this or that, which states or municipali-
ties only in time of peace have the power to
prohibit, shall not be done in a certain terri-
tory, the boundaries of which may be one, 10
or even 100 miles in every direction from a
military post, and which he, in his unappealable
discretion, fixes. The government says to the
citizens: "You cannot do this," "you cannot
use that," "you cannot charge this and you can-
not pay that." Practically every country re-
cognizes property rights of individuals, but in
a free country the most cherished right is that
of free speech and probably the most important
right is the "freedom of the press," but during
this war those rights were drastically curtailed.

All of the government's war measures ex-
cept the most necessary, and the most neces-
sary, were regarded by everybody as lawful
and right, because they were necessary to aid
in bringing victory. Nobody chafed. No right-
thinking man complained. No good citizen
cared or asked whether these measures, taking
from him his prior constitutional rights, were
valid. He neither argued nor reasoned. He
knew it was necessary, and without one thought
of complaint, he gracefully bowed in amiable
submission.

Now, however, that peace, in effect, though
not technically, has been declared, and the ne-
cessity for the deprivation of the citizen of his
constitutional rights has vanished or will van-
ish, he demands their fullest recognition and
restoration.

(To Be Continued.)

Webster and Omaha Art.

A bunch of Omaha's upper tendom under
the guise of "Friends of Art" are having an
art exhibit at the Fontenelle and there are all
raged up the back because the common herd
fails to enthuse and would rather go to the
movies. John Lee Webster, one of Omaha's
prominent attorneys, is particularly peeved and
he says: "The Huns, brutal as they are, valued
the works of art in the cities they captured
more than they did human life. John L. has
his wires crossed. The Huns did value art
treasures more than they did human life, but
they didn't value human life at all. John L.
should keep his history on straight. The Huns
valued the art treasures that they could steal
and carry away, but they destroyed all that
they couldn't steal. And John L. calls that
'love of art.' Excuse me while I smile.—Nor-
folk (Neb.) Press.

TODAY

The Day We Celebrate.

William Lampman, accountant in county
treasurer's office, born 1872.

George M. Bosworth, chairman of the Cana-
dian Pacific Ocean services, born at Ogden-
burg, N. Y., 61 years ago.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American
Federation of Labor, born in London, 69 years
ago.

Rt. Rev. William Lenox Mills, Anglican
bishop of Ontario, born at Woodstock, Ont.,
73 years ago.

Philip Joseph Doherty, whose services as a
lawyer have been enlisted by the federal gov-
ernment in many important cases, born at
Charlestown, Mass., 63 years ago.

Bishop Thomas Nicholson, of the Methodist
Episcopal church, born at Woodburn, Ont., 57
years ago.

In Omaha 30 Years Ago.

Rev. T. M. House, preached at the First
M. E. church on "Take No Thought for the
Morrow."

Capt. C. B. Rustin left for Mexico in con-
nection with his silver mine interests and will
be joined by John A. McShane later.

The Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul road
ran out its first vestibuled train from Omaha.

Potter and Miller, the evangelists now labor-
ing at Kansas City, are coming to Omaha.

P. H. Updike of Harvard, Neb., is stopping
at the Millard.

L. Mendelsolhn, Paxton block, is advertising
for "a healthy wet nurse for a baby 6 months
old—at once."

The Bee's Letter Box

Poor Advertising for Omaha.

Omaha, Jan. 25.—To the Editor of
The Bee: The indiscriminate
searching of baggage and passen-
gers at depots, bridges and on trains
by "hoose bounds" without legal
warrant and often without due re-
ason for suspicion would not be tol-
erated even under the most auto-
cratic government and I hope that
some citizen or citizens will have
nerve enough to protest such search
and sue for heavy damages in case
it is carried out or an arrest is made.

Some of these petty officials have
an unduly large opinion of their im-
portance and authority and are
driving away, to other routes, trav-
elers who would ordinarily pass
through and perhaps stop at Omaha.
The hoose that comes into Omaha
in the grips of passengers is in-
finitesimal as compared with that
which comes via the various night
and underground routes by boat,
freight and truck.

If 50 passengers are searched and
perhaps a long hunt found in one of
the grips, far more damage is done
than any resulting good, and every
one of these passengers is "sore" at
Omaha—more at the official who
states, but at Omaha—and these
meddling officials seem to delight in
an especial pick at Omaha.

I have already found several of
our citizens who have avoided the
Omaha gateway to the coast because
word has gotten abroad that passen-
gers are searched, and not because
they desired to carry booze, but
merely to avoid any trouble or an-
noyance.
GEO. H. LEE.

Jobs for Soldiers.

Omaha, Jan. 24.—To the Editor of
The Bee: I have seen several
letters on the subject of giving re-
turning soldiers their old jobs back,
but as yet I have not seen any evi-
dence that anyone is trying to help
the men who have no position to
return to. It seems to me that the
men who were not anchored to any
position and must now look for a new
life are more in need of assistance
than the ones who were in solid
enough to have been promised their old
places back. You must remember
that ours is a young army and many
of the men were students when they
left; and you will find, if you care
to investigate, that the offers these
men are finding are a disgrace to
their country of opportunity, for
which they have been fighting.

JAMES BLACK.

A Returned Soldier.

Packers and Butchers.

Omaha, Jan. 24.—To the Editor of
The Bee: This man Francis J.
Honey, who, no doubt, has done
some very meritorious work in the
past in prosecuting his grafting cor-
poration, is rapidly developing into
a grandstander and a crank. I
notice in one of his tirades against
the big packing concerns the other
day he said the big packers had
become a gigantic monopoly and
hand shut out the local butcher. Per-
mit me to say that it has been a
mighty good thing for the people of
this country, both financially and
from the standpoint of health, if the
big packing houses have shut out the
local butcher.

When I was a boy the local butch-
er used to ride out into the country
and buy up any old kind of a cow
or lumpy-jawed steer and drive them
to the slaughter house in the middle
of town and butcher them. "Butcher"
was the word, for half of them did
not know or care how they dressed
a beef or a sheep. There was no
inspection of those days and in-
spection by the government or anyone
else, except the purchaser of the
meat at the butcher shop. Who
would want to go back to the old
days of the local butcher, even if he
could?

Another thing: The big packing
houses now pay more for a steer on
the hoof than they get for the meat
portion of the animal after he is
dressed. How do they do this? By
making use of every particle of the
wool, hair, hide, hoofs, intestines,
blood and gall—making all of their
profits out of the by-products, most
of which were thrown away by the
small butcher. The waste of the old
meat waste and bad odor about the
old-time slaughter pens in the sub-
urbs of the town or city than there
is now in all the packing houses of
South Omaha.
J. M. GILLAN.

Success for Books.

Omaha, Jan. 23, 1919.—To the
Editor of The Bee: Recent editorials
in the World-Herald deprecate the
fact that Governor McKelvie, along
with other statesmen, recommends
a work on popular psychology as a
help to any aspiring person.

What can be the motive of the
writer in prefacing the minds of
the reading public against the ideals
and worthy teachings of the popular
book referred to? Thousands of
our parents encourage their chil-
dren to habitually follow the prin-
ciples of conduct outlined in books
of this character and business men
have benefited and have gained
much of their present day efficiency
by the inspirational character of
books of this sort.

If the writer was simply trying to
pick the mote out of the governor's
eye, he should surely take the advice
of another good book and cast the
beam from his own book, for no one
can benefit his weaker brother by
trying to suggest to those who as-
pire toward higher things a certain
means of attaining the greatest de-
gree of success, morally, physically
and financially.

To read between the cynical lines
of the editorial repulses the student
of even the most elementary prin-
ciples of psychology and demon-
strates that the writer of that par-
ticular editorial is sadly in need him-
self of the \$3 book on mind training.
P. C. BOWMAN.

Daily Cartoonette.

I'M GOING TO ASK THE BOSS
FOR A RAISE! I'LL GET IT—
TOO!

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

AND HE DID.

Little Folks' Corner

DREAMLAND ADVENTURE

By DADDY.

(In this story Peggy and Billy Belgium have a delightful adventure with Santa Claus and help him spread gladness over the land.)

CHAPTER I.

The Reindeer.

"Tingle-tangle! Tingle-tan-
gle!" Clear and sweet the
music of the sleighbells sounded
through the swift falling snow, call-
ing Peggy to the window to watch
with eager eyes for what might be
passing.

"Tingle-tangle! Tingle-tan-
gle!" Clear drew the melodious jingling
until it was right above her. Glanc-
ing upward, Peggy's eyes fell upon
a most surprising sight—there
amidst the snow flurries was a rein-
deer.

The reindeer was galloping
through the air, and as it galloped
it shook strings of sleighbells fast-
ened to its harness. These pealed
out the merry tune which had first
drawn Peggy's attention. Just then
she saw a sleigh.

Peggy's Eyes Fell Upon a Most Sur-
prising Sight.

The deer saw her and came straight
to her window. "Can you tell me, please, where I
can find Princess Peggy?" cried the
reindeer.

"In Princess Peggy," she an-
swered, astonished that the reindeer
should be seeking her.

"Hall, Princess Peggy," cried the
reindeer.

AROUND THE STATE.

The attorney general's opinion
that the governor does not have to
live in the executive mansion draws
applause from the Harvard Courier.

"This means," Editor Buck observes,
"that the governor doesn't have to
tear up and move in the middle of
winter, which is a good thing. He
has plenty to do nowadays without
fooling away time putting up stoves
and taking down carpets."

Plattsmouth reports the sale of 80
acres of Cass county farm land lo-
cated four miles from town at \$100
per acre. To what extent improve-
ments figured in the sale price is
not disclosed. Even with a liberal
allowance for improvement the sale
price goes far over the top of last
year's record and sets a notable
price for 1919. The high level of
1918 in the river country was the
shareholder's sale a year ago of the
tract of 320 acres in Douglas county
at \$265.50, an acre without improve-
ments. This and previous sales
clearly point to a steady uplift in
Nebraska land values.

Government ownership may be all
right for those on the payroll, but
it doesn't command ordinary respect
from the farmers of Hamilton
county, shareholding owners of the
Hamilton County Telephone com-
pany. Last week, after a brief ex-
perience with Postmaster General
Burleson's methods of doing busi-
ness, the shareholders got together
and expressed the right to conduct
the affairs of a purely local