

THE OMAHA BEE DAILY (MORNING)—EVENING—SUNDAY

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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Give the soldier his old job, or a better one. Readjustment is on the way, but at present is moving by jerks only.

The king of Hedjaz does not ask much, but he may not get even that. Henry Ford may have gone to the very verge of treason, but he had lots of company.

Herr Ebert warns the Allies not to "push Germany too far." How far would that have to be? The house committee favors a policy of making good with the farmer. This is only justice.

The president's homecoming will be memorable by his signing the heaviest tax bill ever levied. Paderewski has carried Poland, and the world may lose a great piano player and gain an ordinary statesman.

Railroads are to be held liable for broken eggs, but that does not necessarily refer to the scrambled ones. "Hi" Johnson is having bad luck with his Russian resolution, but if he keeps at it long enough he may get a vote.

Western fruit jobbers have condemned the American Railway express. So have most folks who have had experience with it. The inspired and ever-vigilant Hefflin is right there when it comes to defending the administration, whether it needs it or not.

Josephus Daniels gets practically all he wants in the way of navy personnel; now it is up to Mr. Baker to make his requisition. London trade unionists threaten to "censor" newspapers that do not adopt or reflect their views. And they are champions of "democracy!"

Fifty thousand American soldiers have enrolled in the army post schools abroad. The boys are going to take advantage of every opportunity. Why not abolish all army regulations and adopt the simple Russian method of letting every man do as best suits him? That would save a lot of trouble.

Accounts of the proceedings in Bremen while the "reds" were trying to take the town remind us somewhat of certain political caucuses that used to be held in this glorious land of the free—they were so informal. "Model" prisons for the army are included in Secretary Baker's program. Meaning probably places where slackers will not be put to any inconvenience of discipline, and where they can draw wages as regularly as men in trenches.

France expects Germany to pay to the uttermost franc, but does not expect to get it in a lump sum. The Huns occupied four years in doing the damage, and ought to be allowed at least that long a time in which to make a settlement. Whaddayamean, "men in this house more fit to be president than the president himself?" Who was Martin Dies of Beaumont, Tex., looking at when he said that—Champ Clark? Not a chance. Also, Mr. Dies will do well to recall the fate of "Jim" Slayden.

The Germans, who have been dillydallying along over the work of carrying out the terms imposed by the armistice, are about to receive a sharp reminder that they did not win the war. Foch still has power to compel compliance, and most people will credit him with the will also. "Loose methods" is what ails the Omaha police force, according to the chief of detectives, and those who have cared to observe will agree with him. Looseness almost to the extent of no methods at all seems to have prevailed for months. A little tightening up of the machinery all around might work wonders.

War Brides from Europe

Hardly a steamer now arrives at New York from British or French ports but brings a contingent of the newly-wed wives of American soldiers in foreign service. They constitute the advance guard of a novel, and what is bound to be a peculiarly interesting immigration. What their final number will prove to be can be determined only when the last soldier is safely home from the wives of European womanhood. Not in modern times, indeed, has there been anything like this acquisition of foreign brides by an army. No doubt Caesar's legions married while on their campaigns, and the Napoleonic wars may have fostered similar matrimonial alliances, there were romances of the kind in our own civil war. But undoubtedly there has been no recent parallel to the present wholesale marriages of American soldiers with English and French girls. Here are new examples of entangling alliances the sum total of which may be expected to affect favorably our future relations with our war allies.

As another phase of the new international marriage relationship, a Paris newspaper estimates that 200,000 American soldiers will remain in France, most of them as the husbands of French women. Surely a fanciful estimate, but with a basis of truth to it sufficient to indicate the drift. And how many of the American girls in war and relief work in France will marry and stay there? The subject is an interesting one from any angle, most of all, perhaps, in the mass of romance which all this international love-making connote.—New York World.

ON THE BOARDS AT PARIS.

Readers who have been watching the progress of the peace council must have concluded before this that its greatest problem has not as yet been brought into the full light. While the delegates have been discussing abstract principles, and giving utterance to many finely turned phrases in support of magnificent ideals, they have been stepping very gingerly over the ground they are expected to cover. They know that under the surface and not very far out of sight are planted the bombs in which lurk the elements of destruction.

Plainly, it is now understood, or ought to be, that with the exception of the United States, all other nations journeyed to Paris in expectation of getting something worth having. The delegates are there to gain advantage rather than to make concessions. Japan does not propose to give back to China the province of Shantung, wrested from the Hun, unless the conference forces such action.

Italy declines to relinquish its claim to the Dalmatian coast, despite the Jugo-Slav protests. Czech-Slavonia, Ukraina and Poland each has a boundary claim that it wants to settle in its own way, by resort to arms if need be, rather than submit to the council. These are only the outstanding features of the European muddle there presented.

Mr. Balfour is authority for the statement that the league or society of nations, when formed, will not disturb any treaties of alliance already in existence. Our president is earnestly at work seeking some formula for resolving this maze of national aspirations. He sees each day less attention given to his principles, and more to the interests of the peoples concerned. It is not to be wondered at that in congress and elsewhere in his country, far enough away from Paris to get an effective perspective, doubt as to the outcome is creeping in.

If Mr. Wilson can bring all these discordant ingredients into harmony and set them on the way to agreement, he will indeed have justified all the wonderful things prophesied for him. But somebody must recede from the ground now held before this is possible.

"No Crime Wave in Omaha." Chief of Police Eberstein assures the citizens there is no crime wave in Omaha, that is in comparison with other places, where crimes are more numerous. Unfortunately, folks who have suffered loss of property and some damage to person as a result of the activities of brigands now operating here are likely to feel a sense of deprivation not to be so easily quieted. The chief may soothe his own conscience by reflecting that things are not so bad here, that they might be worse, but this will not restore to the victims those things now missing. To these the local situation presents many aspects that might warrant concern on part of the head of our constabulary. Let him reflect, if he wishes, that in other communities misdeeds are more numerous and more serious than here, but let him also keep in mind that his problem is to provide for Omaha the protection afforded by a well disciplined and eternally vigilant police force. After he has cleaned up the mess that now offends the citizens, he may discourse on prevalence of crime elsewhere.

Does Nebraska Need a State Constabulary? Governor McKelvie is quoted as favoring the establishment of a state constabulary for Nebraska, along the lines of the Pennsylvania and New York organizations. He presents as a prime reason the difficulty in enforcing the prohibition law. If this is all the support the measure will have, it seems unnecessary. At present the governor has control of a fund for apprehending and prosecuting violators of the liquor law, with full authority to employ state agents to carry out his plans. On July 1 the business of making prohibition effective passes to the federal government. This should relieve the state of any extra expense or effort on this score.

Another occasion for the state constabulary in Pennsylvania and New York was to deal with local crime, supplementing the efforts of the community peace officers. Nebraska scarcely has reached the stage of development necessitating such a body of officers. Sheriffs, town marshals and city police are yet sufficient, or ought to be, to grapple with the criminal element of our society.

If the third object in the older states, that of having a body of men ready to deal with disturbances incident to labor strikes or the like, is contemplated, the need seems even more remote. Omaha and Lincoln are the communities most likely to be affected through this cause, and they have met any such emergencies in the past with reasonable effectiveness. At any rate, with national prohibition coming on July 1, Nebraska will hardly require a special state army to keep down the illicit traffic in booze.

At the Weimar Conference. If a new birth of liberty is to come in Germany, and a republic or even a constitutional monarchy is to arise from the present wreckage of the empire, it is peculiarly appropriate that it should emerge at Weimar. For longer than a thousand years this has been a center of increasing culture. It is inseparably connected with the only history in which Germany has a right to feel decent pride. Here gentle Goethe lived for fifty years, writing and teaching principles forgotten by the majority of the German people in their madness for material things. Schiller also lived and wrote at Weimar, and others whose names belong to the classic period of German literature, when the soul was exalted above the mere accumulation of wealth. That the elements of present German life have there gathered to effect if possible such coalescence as will bring permanent order again to the land may be significant. No conference now in progress is of more interest than that meeting at Weimar, and its course will be watched with concern by students of history.

Democrats not finding the facts in the Henry Ford election case all in their favor, have agreed to let the matter go over to the next congress, and there it will probably end. Even a democrat is getting so he can tell a diver when he sees one. America did not learn the meaning of economy during the war, says a local speaker. Yes, but we got some splendid examples of magnificent extravagance.

Real Art in Oratory

Omaha counts its orators by scores. Every known range of the art responds to their vocal touch. When the temperature is right and the atmosphere soothing, some major vocalists hitch their mental chariots to stars, reach over the windshield and pluck gems of rhetoric from the shimmering highways. Others keep their feet on the ground, satisfied with making "the welkin ring." Still others are born with the talent, but hide their lights under a smoke screen, or something like that, locally. Theirs is a sort of business oratory, fashioned for rural needs, matching surroundings and seasons. That it is the real art is beyond dispute. Keen business rivals admit it, and their praise is praise indeed.

Among the printed proceedings of the Farm Mortgage Bankers' association convention, held in Omaha early in December, is a unique testimonial to oratorical power in a quarter hitherto unsuspected. The revelation was lost on the reporters at the time, but is preserved as a rare jewel in a setting of distracting words. "It is particularly appropriate," said Secretary Chassell of Chicago, reporting on the business of the association, "that the subject of farm loans should be discussed in Omaha, because in this city is the home of one of the best managers and most successful federal land banks of the entire system. Its officers are shrewd and experienced financiers whose personal integrity is of the highest character."

Secretary Chassell might have stopped at this period and called it an honest day's work. But he paused not. The revelation in his system could not be carried longer, so it popped out in these words: "I understand that they have orators traveling the country who so eloquently expound the rural credit system that their audiences can hear the meadow larks singing in the snow-covered fields in January." It is unnecessary to follow Chassell further. The quoted words are enough to map the route of the Chamber of Commerce when listening to genuine warblers. The road is short and well sheltered.

Scrambling Railroad Business

Preliminary statements of railway earnings for the month of December and for the full year 1918 have a direct bearing on the point now being debated as to whether government control should be continued for the full 21 months after peace has been declared, or whether there should be an early return to private ownership. St. Paul shows for the full year a decrease in net income of no less than \$17,000,000, or 82 per cent, whereas Union Pacific, another western system, extending from the Missouri river to the Pacific coast, reports an actual increase in net income of 30 per cent. Delaware & Hudson had a decrease of 56 per cent in income, whereas Lackawanna, another anthracite road, shows a falling off of only 2 per cent.

The question raised by these statements is why should railroads operating in the same part of the country, under exactly the same rates, and the same labor, weather and industrial conditions, show such striking differences in net income? Under private ownership there were times when the eastern roads, for example, would show decreases in earnings, while those in the west or some other part of the country would show gains. In the old days, however, companies serving the same territory would show similar results. In the railway statements now at hand the striking feature is the conflict in the returns, even between companies operating in the same neighborhood. The reason for these changes is that under government operation federal managers' route traffic without giving any consideration to the interests of the stockholders of the road on which the business originates.

Before there is a return to private ownership an effort must be made to divert traffic back into its normal channels. With the government guaranteeing net income the fact that the earnings of an industry are far below the amount required to pay fixed charges and dividends is immaterial. Under private ownership such conditions would bring about receivership of the companies.—New York Post.

Barleson in a Corner

It must be said that Postmaster General Barleson did not fare very well before the house postoffice committee the other day in showing cause why government operation of the telegraph and telephone services should be extended for two years more or why it was ever assumed.

The argument of the war as making such action imperative is weakened a trifle by the fact that Mr. Barleson was on record before the war in favor of postoffice control of these enterprises. When Mr. Barleson urges continued government control after the war as a transitional measure in getting back to peace conditions, he is met not only by that same war record of personal predilection but by questions from the committee of why two years and why not for many other industries besides?

And when to these questions Mr. Barleson took refuge in the "contradictory, overlapping, vexatious control of 48 states," and so on, one of the committee came back with the statement that 95 per cent of these services are purely local. The postmaster general's reply to that is unrecorded and probably unrecordable. If Mr. Barleson favors a virtually indefinite continuance of present government control in the purpose of effecting ultimate government ownership of telephones and telegraphs, his position is quite understandable. Otherwise it is not.

And in so far as he finds support in such a position from the owning companies, that also is understandable in view of the assurances which are theirs that a sale to the government would be at good prices, with government guarantees meantime of the old profits and dividends.—New York World.

TODAY

The Day We Celebrate. Benjamin S. Baker, lawyer, born 1855. A. J. Eggers, president of the Omaha Fiber and Corrugated Box company, born 1866. Albert C. Kugel, former city commissioner, born 1867. Baron Rothschild, head of the English branch of the great family of financiers, born in London 51 years ago. Dr. Rich Rhee, president of the University of Rochester, born in Chicago 59 years ago. Rear Admiral William W. Mead, U. S. N., retired, born at Burlington, Ky., 74 years ago. Alva Boardman Johnson, one of the eminent industrial leaders of Philadelphia, born in Pittsburgh 61 years ago. Ad Wolgast, one-time champion lightweight, born at Cadillac, Mich., 31 years ago.

In Omaha 30 Years Ago. Mr. and Mrs. George W. Lininger, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Haller, held a reception characterized as the most brilliant social event of the season. The Creighton Guards entertainment was opened with a piano solo by August Borglum, followed by a literary program. At a meeting of Sixth ward republicans Secretary F. W. Hitch resigned because of removing out of the ward and P. E. Robinson was made secretary in his place. Miss McKoon will be in charge of the Mason school, scheduled to open next week. Colonel and Mrs. Eddy and Mrs. T. M. Orr left for Mexico.

People You Ask About

Information About Folks in the Public Eye Will Be Given in This Column in Answer to Readers' Questions. Your Name Will Not Be Printed. Let The Bee Tell You. Inquirer.—Francis Burton Harrison, governor general of the Philippines, has held his post in the islands for five years. The governor is now in the United States on a six months furlough. P. A. M.—The number of rulers of German states ousted by the war is not known definitely. Immediately following the abdication and flight of the kaiser reports showed that all the minor thrones toppled into the royal junkie. The empire consisted of 24 separate kingdoms, grand duchies, duchies and principalities, and few if any royal jobholders escaped the revolution. The late Nat C. Goodwin, comedian and matrimonial star, ran up a record of five wives, and was about to wed the sixth when the man with the scythe intervened. His wives in the order of marriage were Elizabeth Weatherly, Nellie R. Baker Pease, Maxine Elliott, Edna Connor, Margaret Moreland. Death separated Goodwin from the first wife and divorce from the rest. Governor Alfred E. Smith of New York believes there are times when it is becoming to shed the dignity of the job and act just natural. One day at a party in New York he had a family reception at which the governor danced a jig and sang a song, a performance which "brought down the house."

The late John T. Milliken of St. Louis piled up a fortune of \$20,000,000 in real estate and investments in grain and oil. The latter fortune goes to the widow, two daughters and one son. When Capt. Edward Rickenbacker rose to respond to the greetings of the banquetees in New York he turned toward the crowded gallery of the banquetees in New York and a little woman who was gazing with gold-rimmed eyes through gold-rimmed glasses. "My mother," said the aviator, "is here with me. As she brought his hand to salute, the scene following may be imagined. "Eddie" abdicated as guest of honor in favor of mother, who rose repeatedly to acknowledge a tumult of applause and salutes.

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STATE PRESS COMMENT Hastings Tribune: Since the Nebraska legislature voted to do away with smoking within the legislative hall the solons can now take their lunch with them and feel right at home. Beatrice Express: It is announced that the women's next struggle will be for the right to sit on juries. And yet, as a general thing, no man nor girl sits on a jury in this state. Norfolk Press: It is said that the meek and lowly prune contains a small per cent of alcohol—not much, but sufficient to command respect and respectability. The prune may yet come when to say a man is "full of prunes" will have a meaning all its own. Kearney Hub: There is no more through and through Americanism to be taught in American grade schools than that English should be taught in the common schools of any foreign country. American citizens, who are naturally patriotic, have the great stake in this matter if they desire that their children and their children's children shall be through and through Americans. And not just the children, either.

Harvard Courier: If a fellow incorporates a country newspaper business in Nebraska he gets a letter from the blue sky department of the state government, right away asking him to file certain particulars before selling any stock. It seems that all companies and individuals who come into the state and sell stock in wholesale lots without interruption. The trouble is probably not with the commission but with the law. The legislature should make such changes in the law as may be necessary to put a stop to such business.

RIGHT TO THE POINT.

Washington Post: Now that President Wilson has seen the deplorable portion of France, he may wish to add a fifteenth point. St. Louis Globe Democrat: The finest possible welcome for a returning soldier is a white star in the service flag of his old employer, signifying that all his former estimates were guesswork, which goes to show how practical spenders can outdo mere theorists when it comes to making away with the coin. New York World: The release of more than 100 conscientious objectors from Fort Leavenworth with full pay and allowances for the whole term of their imprisonment emphasizes the demand for a revision of court-martial law, which in this case is weak to the point of sentimentality, whereas in many other instances involving fighting misdeeds by real fighting men, it is harsh and unyielding.

Baltimore American: A search and seizure bill, as proposed, is the logical result of drastic prohibition legislation, although the constitution says that the people must be safe in their homes from unreasonable searches and seizures. In this case the question of reasonable or unreasonable proceedings is to rest with those who are at once accusers, juries, judges and executioners, and with this in active eruption personal liberty will soon become an iridescent dream.

Stability of the Catholic Church.

Omaha, Feb. 3.—To the Editor of The Bee: If G. B. Thomas would turn back a few pages in the United States history he would not so vehemently plead to the people in favor of this bill to back it up, as he would find it unconstitutional. What is more than I can understand is that the so-called highly educated students of the public school can have the nerve to introduce such a bill. Evidently they also have not studied much about the laws of the United States, or they would have known better. Do you think that we won this war for democracy alone, or with the aid of the Almighty? Did not God say to gain his help we must serve Him first, and to know how religion we must learn Him properly but in the Catholic parochial schools? Remember, 1,000 years and recall that the Catholic church was the only institution on this side of the Atlantic that withstood the shock of ages, that kept its head reared above the tumult, and strife.

TWO CANES.

Two canes passed by on a city street; One man's cane was a broken staff; It glowed and twinkled with a jaunty swing, hand twirled with a jaunty air. It flaunted itself as a useless thing. An outward symbol of aimless mind. With naught to show for the good of mankind. One cane was touched to a city street; It proudly added a soldier's feet. And to each step that he took it bore Grim witness, still, to his loss in war. And those who saw had in mind one thought. A bursting shell or a victory fought. With countless valor, the will to dare; Of these his cane was a token fair. Two canes passed by and alike they seemed. But within the eye of a maiden gleamed A flash of scorn for the one to head. And she left for the soldier's head. With a smile Herie's New York Herald.

Daily Cartoonette.

BABY RUNS AWAY SO MUCH THAT I'LL HIM TO ROVER WHILE I GO IN THE HOUSE!

AND HE DID!

Little Folks' Corner

DREAMLAND ADVENTURE

By DADDY.

CHAPTER VI. Back to the Outside.

"M Y Baby Bunny, oh, please let him go, good Mr. Owl!" squeaked the saucy rabbit, dancing up and down in a frenzy of fear. "Dark, hark, what a lark. Catching bunnies in the dark." So answered Judge Owl, alighting on the limb of a low tree and solemnly winking at Peggy and Billy. "Give me him back to me, please, kind Mr. Owl." "Judge Owl is my name and I'm kind only to those who deserve kindness," replied Judge Owl.

"I tell time. I am a sun dial," said Gloomy Nooks. "I tell time. I am a sun dial," said Gloomy Nooks. "I tell time. I am a sun dial," said Gloomy Nooks. "I tell time. I am a sun dial," said Gloomy Nooks.

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Things we may as well feast and be merry. There are a lot of more tender young bunnies where this one came from.

"Oh, Judge Owl, let my baby bunny go and I'll show you the way out of the Land of Lost Things," squeaked the rabbit. Judge Owl gave Peggy and Billy another big wink. Then they understood the game he was up to. He didn't intend to eat the baby bunny as Peggy for a moment had feared, but was just holding him as a hostage to make the saucy rabbit show them the way out. But Judge Owl hesitated a moment before he answered. He held the young rabbit up and hungrily looked him over. "He's nice and fat," remarked the Judge reluctantly. "You'd better get out of the woods in a hurry or I may get such an appetite that I can't resist taking a bite."

"I'll have you out quicker than a cat," promised the rabbit. "This is the way." The rabbit darted away and when Billy pressed back the bushes to follow, a faint path was revealed. Into this path poured all the lost things, hurrying along as fast as they could. "Thank you, Billy Belgium! Thank you, Princess Peggy! Thank you, Judge Owl!" they cried, as they ran out of sight.

"Don't thank us, thank Baby Bunny here," chuckled the Owl. As the last of the lost things trooped down the path, Peggy and Billy started to follow up as King because there wasn't anything better to do, confessed Gloomy Nooks. "Put me back in the sunshine and I'll gladly work every hour of the day, telling the time." So Peggy and Billy hopped his up.

"What in the world could we ever do with you?" asked Billy. "I tell time. I'm a sun dial. Wash me up and see how the time I am," replied Gloomy Nooks. "Peggy and Billy, much surprised at his revelation that he was a sun dial, did as he said and washed him with water from the brook. There he stood, a charming figure of Mercury, handsome enough to decorate any garden.

"I once stood on a beautiful lawn, but I thought how fine it would be in the dark woods, so I tempted men to steal me. I've been sorry ever since. I set myself up as King because there wasn't anything better to do," confessed Gloomy Nooks. "Put me back in the sunshine and I'll gladly work every hour of the day, telling the time." So Peggy and Billy hopped his up.

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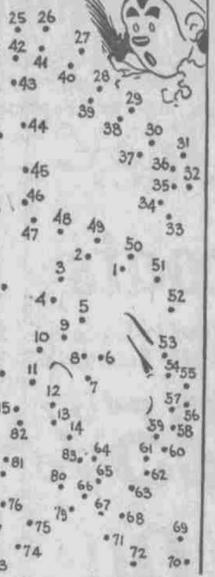
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Daily Dot Puzzle



When you come to eighty-three Then you'll see a rabbit. Draw one line to two and so on to the end.

and hurried down the path, with Judge Owl flapping along behind. Only a few yards away from the Land of Lost Things they came upon the road where they had first seen the rabbit. He was now waiting for them.

"Here's your bunny, safe and sound," hooted Judge Owl, placing the bunny on the ground. Away it scooted and away scooted the saucy rabbit after it.

"Good-by!" shouted Peggy. "You taught us a good lesson." "And I guess I taught him one," chuckled Judge Owl. (In the coming story Peggy and Billy have an odd adventure at a Mexican Ball Fight.)



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