

THE OMAHA BEE DAILY (MORNING)—EVENING—SUNDAY

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The Hun must come clean.

Old Boreas wants it understood he has one more good blow.

Omaha retailers see only a prosperous season.

The call to arms will again sound if the armistice terms are not observed by the vanquished. This is right.

Roumania has also concluded to get along without a king. The hereditary monarch will be a lonesome bird in a short time.

The United States senate declines to get excited over the potash situation, but a little more vigorous prodding might get results.

Claude Kitchen promises to reduce the "luxury" tax. Democrats have always looked on necessities as the proper sources of revenue.

Enoch Crowder draws a renomination as judge advocate general of the army. This is one case where real service has been recognized.

Wall Street generally sees coming events pretty well ahead, and so present strength of the stock market ought to encourage everybody.

The new detective broom has been told to sweep clean. Captain Dunn will make a great record if he does straighten out the tangle in the force.

It is a cold day in congress when some honorable gentleman does not deal the regular army a wallop, and yet that body has only fought the enemies of its country.

Again the anarchist agitators have invoked the law they flout, and demand to be permitted to remain in a country they affect to despise. It is no part of their plan to be consistent.

The blessed bolsheviks having abolished God, religion, marriage, property, poverty, work, and a few other outworn institutions, might do the world a real service by putting a ban on cold weather.

Solomon is reported to have made silver as sions in the streets of Jerusalem, but under Woodrow it is being shoveled as fuel into the fire. Where, oh, where is the Old Original Paramount?

Local historians who insist that 1,000 people constitute the greatest number ever fed at a banquet in Omaha should look up the record of the famous but apparently forgotten Bryan dollar-dinner.

John Bull does not propose to scale his bill for damages against the Hun, and the new Ebert government must act accordingly. No "white" peace for Germany is thought of outside the German lines.

New York gamblers are rubbing it in when they insist their victims wear evening clothes and rubber heels. Such rules may be all right in the sybaritic east, but out in this neck of the woods what the gambler first looks for is the bank roll.

Democrats in congress are alarmed over the slow progress made and see an extra session looming, in spite of the fact that the president does not want one. This is an inevitable outcome of the talk-fest that has been in progress since last November.

The German citizen who is required to forfeit his Nebraska farm and go back to Germany is paying a rather high price for his fealty to the kaiser, yet it is only just that he be given full opportunity to enjoy his fatherland to the utmost. Men of his sort are out of place in America.

The secretary of the Farmers' National council has served formal notice on congress that the farmers will oppose "unfriendly" members of congress at the next election. This might be construed as meaning the farmers want something they are not likely to get. At least, it is not a tactful way of going about securing a concession.

Moonshine and Morals

The poetry and romance of moonshine whiskey have always come from the southern mountains. There the people believe that they have exactly the same moral right to distill their corn into whiskey that they have to grind it up into meal.

Church members in good standing will run moonshine stills without shame, and without reproach unless some revenue officer happens to nab them and cast them into jail. In that case they will be regarded by their neighbors as the victims of an unjust law.

But while the moral vindication of moonshine has spread all over the country, revenue officers uncover stills in kitchens and flats in various parts of this city with reasonable regularity. The still found in a cooperage at Valley Stream, where the vats held 50 gallons each and were capable of turning out \$30,000 worth of illicit whiskey in a year, was simply a larger and more businesslike form of the effort to "beat the law" which is constantly going on in one form or another.

Whether that case is a warning of the sort of lawlessness which we shall encounter under prohibition is a question which cannot be answered until prohibition comes. Of course, there will be attempts to evade that law as there are to evade other restrictive laws, but it is unlikely that we shall ever encounter here the moral justification for law-breaking which is the distinguishing mark of the southern moonshiner. An isolated mountaineer may grow up into that creed, but no man is likely to adopt it after he has grown to manhood in a community in which law is enforced.—Brooklyn Eagle.

AMERICANIZATION.

It looks as if the present Nebraska legislature is reaching agreement on a sane and reasonably effective Americanization program. That some far-reaching measures should be enacted along this line is to be expected, for it inevitably follows from the fact that at the same election in which the people chose their lawmakers the people also registered a decisive majority for a constitutional amendment taking the suffrage away from so-called first paper voters, as well as from those who are ignorant of some of the difficulties encountered during the war with unassimilated elements of our population.

Like The Bee, the people of Nebraska, with few exceptions, are for America—first, last and all the time—and they want to make sure that America takes precedence unconditionally with all our citizenship of the future. Therefore the odious law for compulsory teaching of German in our public schools has been repealed and the law for publishing legal notices in foreign language newspapers is going the same way. For the same reason, the demand is made for such a control over all the schools in Nebraska as will insure every child an education in the English language that will really equip him for the duties of American citizenship.

Apparently the only serious sticking point turns upon the question how far the state control should go. It is understood that all the interests involved concede that these schools should come under the supervision of public authorities, that their teachers should qualify the same as public school teachers, that their courses of study and text books should be standardized and made equivalent to the corresponding requirements in the public schools, that their subjects should be taught in the English language. The supporters of the parochial schools want the program to stop there, for fear that if not permitted to continue religious instruction in the language employed in the church service, the connection of the young people with the church of their parents may be broken altogether. Even those who recognize the eventual necessity of complete Americanization of the church services feel that the bridge can be crossed better by going slowly, and the legislature seems inclined to accord consideration to these obvious difficulties.

What The Bee wants to emphasize is that the progress that will be made in applying the principle of state control over all schools, private as well as public, to the extent now acquiesced in by all concerned, will be a tremendous step forward—a step that two years ago looked remotely distant. To make this much progress on a systematic plan of Americanization and nail it down as we go, seems to us far preferable to jeopardizing the whole proposition for the sake of the few points in dispute.

Future of the American Army.

Debate in congress over the probable strength of the standing army in peace times is tinged to a considerable degree with pre-war sentiment. Chairman Dent of the house military committee is one of the most influential opponents of the army. His position prior to and during the war has been against military preparedness.

Pacifists now rally around him, and with the National Guard as a pretext, are energetically lambasting the "regular" army, and generally preparing the way for an onslaught against universal training when the army reconstruction program fairly comes before the body. These people learn but little from Paris.

Rejection of the French proposal that an international military force be maintained to enforce the decrees of the League of Nations is ample notice that each nation must be ready to support its own rights. America is preparing in every way to extend its commercial activities throughout the world, and thereby increase its dangers. It is not very likely that the "watchful waiting" policy adopted with Mexico will become the permanent practice of this country. On the other hand, it is quite probable that vigorous life will be given the promises of both the great political parties that Americans will be protected in their rights, no matter where they are located, on land or sea.

This necessarily means readiness to defend both the country and its citizens. An army will be needed as well as a navy if this course is to be made effective. While a standing army of 175,000 may be ample for peace times, and to serve as a nucleus for a greater force in event of war, the costly lessons of 1917 should not be dismissed.

One way to make certain that we will not have to go through with a similar experience will be to give all young men intensive training in military science. This contains no vestige of militarism, but is the very essence of self-defense.

Recruit in a Good Cause.

The Bee has some pleasure in noting the support given by the local organ of democracy to the plan of feeding prisoners at the county jail on a cost basis. Only a few years ago that paper took great pleasure in helping upset the plan, which had been established because of the Bee's persistence, but it was a democratic sheriff who benefited. The legislature has a good chance now to end a source of annoyance by putting the prisoner feeding business on a proper basis.

Aliens Within Our Borders.

A deputy commissioner of naturalization reports that more than ten million unassimilated aliens are now resident within our borders. This is almost 1 in 10 of our total citizenship. Here is cause for serious reflection. The condition was brought out sharply when the country took up the business of going to war, and much debate has been heard about the need for efforts to induce these people to become citizens, and to thoroughly Americanize them. How careless we have been is shown by the startling total just announced. Immediate danger is seen in the possible spread of bolshevism or similar social lunacy. The commissioner of immigration says that no wholesale deportation is planned, but that the dangerous agitators will be sent away. What is more to the purpose is the plan for reaching these strangers and teaching them the advantages of citizenship. They have not had the opportunity to learn the first lessons of Americanization, and the effort now being made to bring them into better relations with the country and its institutions is one of our most important jobs.

While Wilson Is Away

Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Yesterday, while President Wilson was talking of endless peace at Paris, Secretary Daniels talked at Annapolis of a dominant navy. Before anyone can tell whether we are drifting into a period of quietude or to years of overwhelming armaments and new mighty enemies, the house committee on military affairs is placidly approving plans for a standing army of 500,000.

Postmaster General Burleson, at play amid the telegraph wires, is getting deeper into his muddle. He seems happier for it. There is hardly a day when Senator Borah and Senator Lodge do not arise to let it be known that after the world has made up its mind and arranged its peace they will have something terrible to say. Indeed, it is impossible to look toward Washington in these times without experiencing a sense of loose and flying ends of thought, of fogs and uncertainty, of an absence of ideas and convictions and working knowledge.

Congress, for example, if it were to arise to talk they would suggest a better method than that which Mr. Wilson and the other Americans are applying at the peace conference. There is one serious fault to be found with most of the criticism aimed at the Wilsonian policies. It is suited only to old times, and everybody knows that old times never return.

It is commonly said in Washington that the president is to blame because he delegates the country—or its senators and representatives—into his confidence before he went abroad. Does the skipper of a ship tell his owners just how he is to make his course daily and hourly upon strange seas?

Mr. Wilson appears to have known before he started for Europe what everyone who reads has since been able to perceive—that he was to be opposed by forces as formless and as dangerous as a tempest and as difficult to grapple with. It is apparent that he has had to steer, as any good navigator steers, not in accordance with previously determined forms and formulas, but according to the drift of tides and wind and weather.

Of course, Washington is distressed and mystified. The whole world is distressed and mystified. To listen to Mr. Lodge and Mr. Borah, to study the reactions of Mr. Daniels and Mr. Burleson and the other cabinet members who grope in circles is to be acutely aware of the mental vacuum that now afflicts most of official Washington.

Those who are actually interested in America will do well to spend a few days and talk in easy and achievement difficult. The critic has no responsibilities. Those whom he criticizes have great and heavy ones. Washington is killing time. A part of it is getting into mischief for the want of better things to do. Mr. Burleson, with his wires, and Secretary Wilson of the Department of Labor, when he talks of the bolsheviks in America, are running rather wild. They show the absence of a guiding hand. They, too, are symptoms of a general affliction. Washington is like a man in an empty house, who feels suddenly anxious and forlorn and wishes the family were home, without knowing what to do meanwhile.

Definite criticism, definite plans, schemes for the future will be impossible until the president returns and makes his report to the nation. We shall have to know the nature of the future world before we can know the terms upon which we can deal with it.

For the present the world is in flux. There is no precedent to guide America, nothing in history which might guide a man in dealing with the situation which confronts the American delegates at Paris. We shall have to trust for the present to the astuteness and devotion of the president. But there are men in Washington with reputations for sagacity to maintain and others who haven't outlived the pleasure which they derive from seeing their names in print, if only in the Record. When we know how far the nations of Europe are willing to go to avoid the sickening menace of future wars and the almost equally ruinous burden of armaments we shall be able to make plans and talk intelligently of the future.

And we shall know, too, whether the president has succeeded or failed. Washington means well enough. It will be its old self when it has something tangible to think about. Meanwhile we can bear its little whimsies. And it is worth remembering that there are men in Washington who understand the immensity of our present and future problems. But they are waiting. They rarely talk. They are the silent ones.

Higher Railroad Rates

It seems to be a condition of railroad finances and not a theory of future railroad control which the more immediately confronts the country. The condition is that the railroads are still running behind in net earnings, and that meantime traffic is declining in volume under the return of peace conditions. It is that, as things are now going, the current year of 1919 will yield no surplus under the government's contracts with the roads, but a deficit of \$25,000,000. It is that, if this deficit is not overcome in some way, the government must make it up from taxpayers.

How shall that deficit be overcome? Only one way appears to be available and that is by another large increase in rates.

The deficit cannot be overcome by general railroad economies, for these have been crowded about to the limit under government direction of the roads. As the deficit is being caused by the enormous increase in railroad wages, amounting to around 80 per cent within a few years, it could be easily overcome by some moderation of expenditures along this line. But railroad employees are demanding still further wage increases and are in no mood to submit to reductions.

We must evidently prepare for rates still higher, and already so high as perceptible to affect the general cost of living, and if these should start another merry-go-round of wage increases to meet the new increase in cost of living? And if these should reduce rail traffic by as much as they increase rail revenue?—New York World.

TODAY

- The Day We Celebrate. John A. McKenzie, attorney, born 1878. Rudolph Dietz, grocer, born 1884. George A. Roberts, grain dealer, born 1884. Prof. Andrew C. McLaughlin, head of the history department of the University of Chicago, born at Beardstown, Ill., 58 years ago. Florence Roberts, a celebrated actress of the American stage, born in New York City 48 years ago. Israel Zangwill, famous as an author and playwright, born in London 55 years ago. William Shaw, general secretary of the Christian Endeavor societies, born at Ballardvale, Mass., 59 years ago. In Omaha 30 Years Ago. The Pennsylvania society assembled around the banquet board, with R. C. Peterson as toastmaster and a big galaxy of speakers. R. R. Cable, president of the Rock Island road, went through Omaha on his way to Denver. G. P. Dietz, 1602 North Twenty-eighth street, was one of a party of 11 Omaha people in the Sutherland hotel when it burned in Florida. Saddest of all was the loss of all their fine clothes by the women in the excursion, among them Mrs. C. T. Taylor and Miss Taylor, Mrs. E. F. Smythe, Mrs. Jesse Lowe and the Misses Kittie and Irene Lowe. The marriage of Mr. M. L. Roeder and Miss Pauline Goldsmith at the bride's residence at Twentieth and Dodge.

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.

B. F. McC—Prof. Scott Nearing, now on trial in the federal court of New York for violation of the espionage act, came into public notice before the war as a member of the teaching staff of the University of Pennsylvania. His radical views became obnoxious to the trustees of the university and his dismissal provoked an outcry against the "suppression of academic freedom." Later on the professor occupied a chair of social science in the Toledo College of Arts and Science, where his radicalism was his undoing in the past two years he has been chairman of the "People's Council of America," a mythical organization for the promotion of anti-war activities. Nearing is a Pennsylvanian by birth, born August 6, 1883.

M. P. R.—Current biographies of Rosa Luxemburg, reported shot by a Berlin mob, do not even guess at her age. That was one of the secrets the red terror kept to herself. A Russian by birth she reached womanhood amid surroundings that bred anarchy. She was a vivid speaker, a vocal flame thrower, and could talk tenaciously in Russian, German or French. It is said she wanted her end to be a violent one and the fates granted her wish.

W. J. McAdoo's salary as counsel for the California prince of the movie world is said to be eight times that of secretary of the treasury. This is an important asset for an elderly man with a young family. Even more important is the show-down of force of habit. His shifting of jobs was simply a leap from one pile of money to another.

The marrying parson of the "Great Green" of Maryland, Rev. John McElmoyre, D. D., by his business activities has split the Presbyterians of Elkton into two factions, called the "cream" and "skimmed milk" crowds. Recently the presbytery ruled that the parson should marry no couples whom he had not known for at least sixty days. He defied the ruling and took an appeal to the Baltimore synod. Meanwhile other ministers are getting the business and the doctor losing the jingling fruits of years of matrimonial publicity.

The highest salaried woman in the United States is said to be Henrietta H. Reid, general manager of the Bush Terminal, Brooklyn, N. Y. The exact sum is a secret to all but the income tax collectors, but is somewhere between \$25,000 and \$50,000 a year.

THIS QUESTION AND ANSWER COLUMN

- Sunday—Advice As to Health. Monday—Questions About People. Tuesday—Friend of the Soldier. Wednesday—Free Legal Aid. Thursday—Friend of the Soldier. Friday—Questions About People. Saturday—Friend of the Soldier. Ask Our Help—Watch for Replies.

AIMED AT OMAHA.

Fairbury News: The Omaha minister who advertised a "Heart to Heart" on "Sexology" last Sunday night knew how to draw a crowd.

Harvard Courier: With its customary enterprise the Omaha Bee is first in the field with a column of market quotations on bootleg whiskey. It should also give curbstone quotations on stolen automobiles.

Fairbury News: It has finally come. Airplane dealers have struck Nebraska. An airplane firm announced in last Sunday's Bee that it had the agency for a biplane and now has one on exhibition on its show room floor.

York News-Times: During the month of January 21,480 hogs were hauled to the South Omaha market in trucks. This shows that the motor truck is going to be a great factor in the freight situation eventually. If the Omaha people would put in a bridge so farmers in Iowa, on the southeast could get across the river without going north to the city and paying toll there would be many more loads of hogs brought directly to the South Omaha market. With good roads it is no uncommon thing for a farmer to haul hogs 50 miles to market these days. Last summer a York county farmer hauled hogs to South Omaha and says he saved on freight.

EDITORIAL SNAPSHOTS.

Baltimore American: When the country becomes dry, what a race of inventors we are going to become!

Kansas City Star: The army of occupiers has received its American machine guns in excellent time for the Rhine duck shooting season.

Minneapolis Tribune: There's a reason for the adoption of the automobile flag by the socialist. That's the place where you sometimes get the snide jewelry.

St. Louis Globe Democrat: There is an absurd difference between coming and possessing. Colonies are settlements populated by people who go out from the mother country to make their homes there. Possessions are merely foreign lands owned by a conquering race.

DAILY CARTOONETTE

TRY THIS CHAIR—YOU'LL FIND IT STRONG AND COMFORTABLE!



Little Folks' Corner

DREAMLAND ADVENTURE

By DADDY.

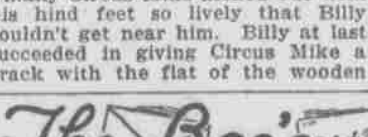
(Peggy and Billy Belgium seek to save Red Spot, a bull, from death in a Mexican bull-fight.)

CHAPTER V. The Matador Is Surprised. "Now is the time," cried Peggy, throwing open the arena gates. Out marched Circus Mike, Nanny Goat and Boston Bull, on their hind legs. And after them, swaggering along, came Billy Belgium dressed as a clown matador. Peggy was managing the show, and she didn't appear as yet. Neither did Countess Alice, who waited until Peggy gave her the word.

The funny parade caused a roar of laughter from the crowd. The Mexicans couldn't understand what it meant, but it amused them greatly.

As for the bull-fighters and attendants, they were so surprised they didn't know what to do. Out to the center of the ring marched Circus Mike, Nanny Goat and Boston Bull, saluting as the others had done while the Mexicans cheered in glee.

Then Circus Mike pretended to be a bull and Billy acted like a matador. He had a wooden sword which he brandished at Circus Mike while the mule boxed with his front feet. Flurry Circus Mike kicked out with his hind feet so lively that Billy couldn't get near him. Billy at last succeeded in giving Circus Mike a crack with the flat of the wooden



One of the bull-fighters waved a red flag in his face.

provements could be imposed without the consent of a majority of those who have to pay them, and the majority rules among American people. Any interested party could petition the city council in opposition to proposed improvements. If he could not secure a majority against them the results would, in effect, be the same as under the present system, where the initiative belongs with the people themselves.

Such a law provides a substantial boost for the indifferent owner who thinks little about the question of improvement and cares less. One progressive person in a community could present the value of a definite project to the city commissioners and thus get the thing started. When an owner starts to work so much easier to persuade these indifferent owners to see the error of their way than if no steps at all had been taken. At least they would be afraid to put themselves up before their fellow citizens as being opposed to projects which live-wire men and women were pushing.

This system of securing public improvements goes along with the commission form of city government which Omaha has today. The adoption of this bill would be a very good way to assist above the progressive spirit which Omaha has manifested on so many occasions.

Our cities would be much better off today if they would take the advice of experts and place themselves on a firm business basis such as that of any firm or corporation. Omaha has great possibilities for such in the present commission form of government and should not neglect as great an opportunity as this to push forward to its rightful place among American cities.

In closing I would like to say that I am heartily in accord with everything that Mr. Eubank said in his article. Such a law would be particularly useful in settling the problem of nonresident owner or speculator who stands in the way of many projects favored by the real citizenry, unless they prove highly productive of ill-gotten gain. Such opinions as his are really worth while and possess real value.

ROCHESTER F. SIMS.

Give the Commission Power.

Omaha, Feb. 11.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am not a home owner in Omaha, but have been greatly interested in the subject of city government for several years and have studied it from different angles. The rights of the individual taxpayers are not to be surrendered under the provisions of the proposed bill to amend the Omaha city charter, giving the commission authority to order improvements. The people will have as great an opportunity to protest against various improvements as ever. It will only be necessary for a majority to object to being imposed the attempt of any "gang." There is no reason to believe that taxes, which would result from the placing of public im-

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The big crowd howled with laughter. They thought it a lot of fun. But the bull-fighters didn't like it a bit, and Senator Matador gave the signal for the real bull-fight to begin. A door swung open and out into the bright light trotted Red Spot, looking big, powerful, ferocious.

Red Spot stood blinking for a moment and pawed the ground. One of the bull-fighters darted in front of him, waving a red flag in his face. With a roar Red Spot started for that red flag, driving the man helter-skelter through a narrow safety door in the wall of the arena.

"Keep cool!" shrieked Peggy to him, and King Bird and the other birds sang their song of the waiting herd.

Now four horsemen bearing spears and riding blindfolded horses started for Red Spot. But they didn't get to him. Nanny Goat butted straight into the legs of one of the horses, and down it went with his rider. The red spears drove the tail of another horse, and it kicked up so suddenly that it sent its rider sprawling over its head. Circus Mike, with mouth wide open, went for the third horseman, grabbing him by the belt and tearing him off his horse. King Bird, who couldn't keep out of the fray, attacked the fourth horseman about the head so viciously that the Mexican bawled around with his spear and didn't notice where he was going. His horse stumbled over Nanny Goat and the rider went flying through the air.

Thus as quick as a wink all four horsemen were put out of business. The crowd roared with mirth. This aroused Senator Matador to a fury. He didn't want his grand bullfight turned into a joke. So Senator Matador ran out to kill Red Spot.

He held in one hand a red flag, which he waved in Red Spot's eyes. The red spears drove the bull mad, and he belted with rage and lowered his head to charge his tormentor.

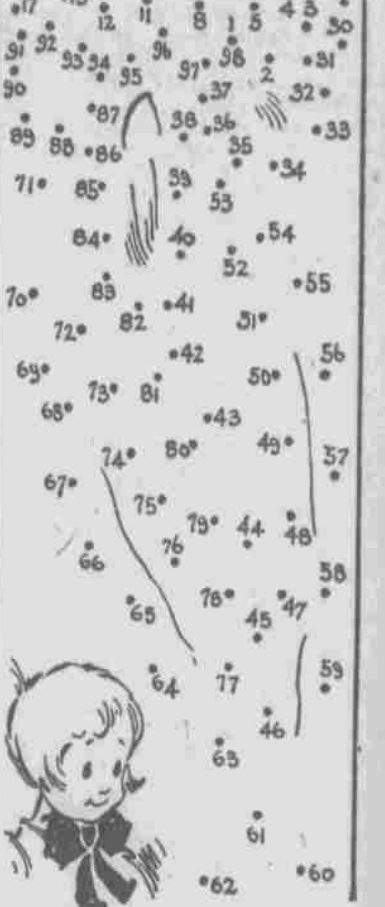
That was just what Senator Matador wanted. He wanted to jump nimbly aside as Red Spot charged and run his sword into the bull's heart. Senator Matador was so busy getting ready for his deathblow he didn't see what was happening behind him. Just as he drew back his sword Nanny Goat went flying through the air.

When Nanny Goat landed on the proud matador and knocked him flat on his face, his sword flying out of his hand.

"Er-r-r-oo-oo-h-ump-mump!" roared Red Spot, charging at his fallen foe. His horns caught under the matador's short coat, and with a mighty toss of his head Red Spot flung the man up, right into the governor's box, and upon the governor's lap.

(Tomorrow will be told how Red Spot escapes.)

Daily Dot Puzzle



What has Willie drawn? Draw from one to two and so on to the end.

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(Tomorrow will be told how Red Spot escapes.)

THINK OF THE MONEY YOU CAN SAVE ON SHOES

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