

THE OMAHA BEE

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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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Line up now for the Victory loan.

Municipal home rule is a pretty good slogan to stick to.

Berlinese shake their fists at Americans, but let it end there.

Goodby, congress! May we never see your likes again!

At any rate the school board is doing its bit to accelerate activity in real estate.

Joseph Daniels says there is no danger of unemployment. For once we hope he is right.

Note that the local German propaganda organ is now busily disseminating Mormon church propaganda.

The peace conference is preparing the "had news" for Berlin, the bill at present being totaled at \$120,000,000.

Politics in an extra session? Oh, no! But if the democrats had only been kept in control of the next congress—oh, yes.

Congress may quit today, but the legislature is back on the job, and will afford us something to look at for the next few weeks.

Most members of congress will be glad to have a little breathing spell, although that is all most of them have done—breathe.

War-time prohibition also went down with the ship, and the 1st of July does not look nearly so blue as it did a few days ago.

Army recruiting has started again in Omaha after a recess of almost two years. The boys who want to go back now have a chance.

Charles Frohman made many another rich, but left less money of his own than he paid many an actor for a single night's performance. His genius was for art, not finance.

Congressmen who were criticized by the National Security league have evened up the score by accusing the league heads of trying to influence elections. Take your choice.

The Sixty-fifth congress has one record that probably will stand forever. It appropriated more money and levied heavier taxes than any governmental agency that ever before existed.

Omaha police pride themselves that only forty-two autos were stolen here during February. This is a notable reduction in the figures, but it is forty-two more than should be so recorded.

Notice served from Lincoln that the private wires between the governor's office and "Prince Arthur's" Omaha headquarters are grounded must have a sad reflection in the senate office building at Washington, where help will be needed in the not distant future.

The man who defends his home against lawless invasion is following the footsteps of his sires. But a home sheltering a bootlegging plant ceases to be a castle as against a search warrant. No use trying to make a martyr out of a booze runner.

Vardaman of Mississippi winds up his career as senator by accusing the anthracite roads of controlling the mining industry, and all the while they are under government control. Maybe it is just as well he is retiring from the senate.

Thomas W. Gregory quits his office with a recommendation that the disloyal whom he so ardently pursued to conviction and sentence be all pardoned. His view may have changed with his attitude, but the people will generally believe he was right the first time.

Some Minnesota and North Dakota espionage sentences have been upheld by the supreme court, which brings the greater fish closer to the judgment. The mistake Gene Debs, Vic Berger and others made was in not taking an appeal to the War department instead of to the supreme court.

A Submerged Fame

Julian Story, who died in Philadelphia recently, was a man of distinguished lineage, being the son of W. W. Story, the sculptor, and the grandson of Chief Justice Joseph Story, one of the greatest lawyers who has sat upon the bench of our supreme court, and he had also achieved a creditable, perhaps a distinguished, place in his own field of painting, more especially as a portrait painter.

Yet it is the irony of fate that for most of his life this able artist was more widely known as the husband of Emma Eames than by his own work. No other artist commands the public interest to any such degree as does the successful opera singer, in whose case interest sometimes rises to adulation expressed in a sort of blind fury like idol worship. When to an exquisite voice and purity of style is added great beauty, worship is easy. In the case of Mme. Eames the beauty was increased by the co-operation of her artist husband in designing gowns for her. Mr. Story's art in the exquisite costumes he planned for his wife as Elsa, Marguerite, Mrs. Ford in "Falstaff" and as Aida, was admired by thousands for every dozen who went to the galleries to see his pictures. That is the fate of almost every man who hitches his wagon to an operatic star, and Mr. Story was in no way exceptional in his submergence. When the Story-Eames marriage was dissolved the resulting publicity tended to fix the artist yet more firmly in the public mind in his relation to the singer. Now that he is gone it is his due to emphasize his achievement as a painter, which has been officially recognized in Europe and which had been differently married would have brought him a much wider recognition here at home.—Brooklyn Eagle.

ANOTHER INVOICE TIME AT HAND.

Noon today marks the half-way point of Woodrow Wilson's second term as president. The two years that have sped since March 4, 1917, have been the most momentous in history, and the part that America has taken in the proceedings has brought to the country much of glory and credit.

The president's share in the work of the world has been enormous. At home he has had the support of an united people; his chief, and almost sole, opposition in his war program came from his own party. He must, therefore, accept all responsibility for what was or was not done. Just now the record is incomplete, but it will soon be time to give as much serious attention to the costly mistakes as has been devoted to approval of material achievements.

At the moment the president stands at a height never before attained by mortal man. The eyes of the world are on him, looking to him for leadership. He seeks to induce his countrymen to follow him in an experiment the outcome of which is uncertain, but from which he hopes to bring great good to mankind. That he will finally have this plan tried is almost beyond argument. Its present form is almost modified, but the germ will be unchanged.

At this time, also, it is clear that the president is looking ahead to yet another term of office. The pledge of the Baltimore platform has vanished entirely; his taste of power wiped out completely his notions as to a single term as president being all one man should aspire to. From the apex of his greatness, he looks down on a world, vocal in its unrestrained laudation of him. He knows his country is devoted to peace, and he confidently faces a future in which all countries will accept his doctrines.

Will he be content to rest on laurels gained by having kept us out of war, led us through war, and finally into a haven where war is pushed far back among the remote possibilities? It looks now as if no democrat would presume to ask a nomination Woodrow Wilson wants. His account with the country yet remains to be made up, and in the calm days that are to come the people will give more careful consideration to the record than is now possible.

Bolshevism and the Bible.

"Can you oppose bolshevism with the Bible?" asks Ignace Jan Paderewski, provisional president of Poland, somewhat nettled at the suggestion that the Leninites can be talked out of their lunacy. The direct answer to his question is, no, but a more reasonable reply would be that the Bible affords ample authority for dealing with the bolsheviks as they deserve.

Bolshevism is distinctly and characteristically atheistic. It has found its readiest and most zealous recruits among those who had tired of the repression of orthodox religion, of whatever faith, and who find in the license of their new life a strange zest in defying all they were told is holy. The Bible holds no traces of bolshevism, nor does it justify the claims set up by the so-called "Christian" socialists.

In Judges we are told: "In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did that which was right in his own eyes." But there was law and order in Israel, and strong men, such as Jephthah, Abimelech, Gideon and a long line of champions, maintained that law, and the people obeyed it in letter and spirit.

The jubilee set up by the Mosaic code has nothing in common with the program of the bolsheviks. It was a system whereby the extremes of wealth and poverty were averted among the Israelites, but nothing in it served to avoid the natural result of industry and thrift on the one hand and idleness and waste on the other. This custom went the way of similar institutions among the free tribes of the early days. It has no counterpart now; the witenage of the Saxons survives in a manner in the national assembly of the Swiss, but as the Jews gave over the jubilee so did the Saxons suspend their court, the cares of increasing prosperity leading them to delegate authority to their chosen representatives.

The moral obligations endured, and even the bolsheviks can not evade them. As Jephthah dealt with the Ephraimites, and as Barak smote Sisera, or as Gideon routed the Midianites, even so will the forces of right and justice deal with the elements of disorder, anarchy and savagery now grouped under the name of bolsheviks. Paderewski is right.

Pocket Wireless Telegraphy.

London sends us word that it will not be long until the pedestrian may be alarmed by the ringing of a bell in his pocket, from which he will exult the apparatus and proceed to hold wireless converse with whoever has called him. The thought is entrancing, but the practice would have its disadvantages. Such an appliance would destroy the small opportunity left for the busy man to escape the unwelcome attentions of those who consume his time to no purpose. This would deter many from carrying with them such instruments.

The imagination, however, easily carries the thought a bit farther ahead, and envisages the time when communication will be carried on by the transmission of thought, without the intervention of words or wires. Why not a device whereby one may challenge or arrest the attention of another by simply taking thought. And, with the minds thus brought into touch, thoughts could be transferred, questions asked and answered, arrangements made and agreements entered into, all in a twinkling, and with no exertion greater than that of thought. Such convenience might get in the way of secret service departments, for example, but it also would hamper the designing plotters of whatever degree.

The editor, the preacher, the president, and others who guide and instruct the public would thus be spared a lot of effort. Possibilities of the plan are limitless. Let us have the wireless pocket phone, but do not stop there; let it be but a step to the greater bond, and the lazy man's paradise will be at hand.

Omaha has itself to blame for the necessity of depending upon a legislature at Lincoln for changes in the charter.—W.H.

Only in part, for the chief blame rests upon the hypochondriac in league with the public service corporations that manufactured a false issue to kill the home rule charter when presented for popular approval.

The shipyard strikers at Seattle are finding self-enforced idleness both costly and irksome, and are getting back to work. As an object lesson that demonstration ought to serve Americans for a long time.

Navy officers are vigorously pursuing the petty grafters who broke into the service. The navy is jealous of its personnel, if nothing else.

Problem of War Debts

New York Evening Post.

The cables of the past 24 hours show that the European governments are now taking up the grave problems of public finance which the war has left. Our own Federal Reserve Board lately estimated the total cost of the European war at \$179,000,000,000. Part of this percentage sum was paid through taxes. But in no belligerent country did taxation provide for more than a third of the total war expenditure; in some countries, such as Germany, only a trifling per centage of it was thus met. The national debt of the leading belligerent states before the war was something less than \$26,000,000,000; it is now not far short of \$170,000,000,000. Careful observers noticed, more than a year ago, that the mere annual interest on the debt of several belligerents exceeded their total public revenue as reported before the war.

As there was reason to expect, it is France and Germany whose situation presents the greatest difficulties. The financial burden left on each is of appalling magnitude. This is not only because these two nations were the principal antagonists, but because, in the case of France, the fact of invasion and the enemy's prolonged occupation of part of the national domain crippled the country's economic power, and because, in the case of Germany, the government's overweening confidence in a short war and a huge indemnity led to absolutely unsound methods of war finance. As a result, both nations have resorted on a large scale to inflation of the currency for the direct financing of the war. The paper money of France represents today nearly five times as great a sum as it did in July of 1914; \$6,500,000,000 is outstanding. In Germany including the "loan bank" issues, more than \$8,700,000,000 is outstanding, or 17 times as much as in 1914, and it is even now increasing at the rate of \$100,000,000 weekly.

What is the prospect for the public finances of either belligerent? M. Clemenceau lately pointed out that the French are still large holders of foreign securities, even aside from the repudiated Russian bonds. Some hope is based on expectation that the "tourist expenditure" which formerly made up so great a part of the country's national income will soon be resumed on a large scale. Moreover all past experience has shown how rapidly the thrifty and active French producer brings about the recuperation of his country from the losses of war.

But there remain the actual burden of interest on the funded war debt, the immense floating debt not yet provided for (the Paris estimate is \$4,800,000,000) and the sums borrowed by France from the government of her allies, exceeding \$5,000,000,000. When to these are added the great sums required to reconstruct the area devastated by the Germans, it is not strange that the French ministers are relying on the part which the "reparation indemnity from Germany will play, and at times at leniency on the part of the foreign creditor.

But the case of Germany is worse; first because of the unsoundness of her war finance, but very largely because, in addition to meeting existing obligations, her government will have to pay the war indemnity to France. There is evidence, in the discussions of the fiscal situation as reported last week, that the German government is to confront the problems which this international payment will create. The case is hard enough, without that complicating consideration. Yesterday's review of the position by the new finance minister, Dr. Schiffer, could hardly have provided cheerful reading for the German people. Germany's whole financing of the war, he tells them, was "a program of desperation." Paying the indemnity will be almost entirely with bonds bearing 5 per cent interest and sold at a discount, the government will need \$4,750,000,000 this year to meet interest payments alone. He asks for fresh borrowing powers in the sum of \$6,325,000,000, or \$2,500,000,000 greater than the largest credit granted by the Reichstag, even in war-time.

This, let it be observed, makes no provision for such indemnity as may be assessed on Germany, and the minister's own view of the nature of the outlook may be judged from his remark that "no one is yet in a position to say whether Germany will be able to extricate herself financially." There would, indeed, appear to be no human possibility of such extrication, all considered, except through such a direct levy on the aggregate capital and resources of her citizens as would reduce her from a rich to a poor community.

Justice in Courts Martial

The senate in passing the house bill which authorizes the courts martial to impose the death or other sentences imposed by courts-martial has met the almost universal desires of the American people. Nothing, indeed, has so shocked the sense of justice and American fair play as the admitted facts about the extreme sentences imposed by army courts for what were, in some cases, trivial offenses. Under the circumstances, public opinion being what it is, it is not unlikely that congress will pass a bill revising court-martial procedure in general; while it would not be surprising if the measure of Representative Hayden, directing the secretary of war to cause a review to be made of all court-martial proceedings incident to the present war, were also favorably considered. It is not that the public does not believe in the strictest military discipline and the most profound sense of duty being set up during war times for the good of the service. That it does and did believe in military discipline being met and lived up to is shown in the way in which there was a universal sentiment in favor of the draft and in the strict discipline of the camps, that in so short a time trained raw recruits for active service at the front, where what they did has again called for the most extreme praise from the president himself on his landing in Boston. But sound discipline is one thing and unfair trials and grotesque and cruel verdicts and outrageous sentences are another. And on this latter issue the country feels very keenly and is not likely to change its opinion. So it looks as if the bureaucrats of the War department will get small support from congress or the people at large in any of these remedial matters that have been raised in connection with their hide-bound adherence to old and discredited procedures during the war.—Philadelphia Ledger.

TODAY

The Day We Celebrate. H. C. Nicholson, vice president Packer's National bank, born 1879.

Alfred J. Creigh, realtor, born 1884. Ralph R. Rainey, United States National bank, born 1880.

August E. Koutze, of Koutze Brothers, bankers, born 1870. Brand Wittlock, United States minister to Belgium, born at Urbana, Ohio, 50 years ago.

Rear Admiral David W. Taylor, U. S. N., chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repair, born in Louisiana County, Va., 55 years ago.

Rev. Dr. Arthur C. McGiffert, president of Union Theological Seminary, born at Sauquoit, N. Y., 58 years ago.

In Omaha 30 Years Ago. Benjamin Harrison was inaugurated president of the United States. In the inaugural party were Mrs. Russell Harrison of Omaha.

Miss Amy Fay gave "a piano conversation" at Meyer's Music Hall.

Harry E. Moore left for Europe and a visit to the Paris World's fair.

John A. McShane, Lew Hill, W. A. Paxton, jr., Captain Rustin and Charles Balbach are home from Mexico, where they looked into mining properties in which they were interested.

H. B. Allan fell through the scaffolding at the new building of the Water company at Florence and was severely injured.

Friend of the Soldier

Replies will be given in this column to questions relating to the soldier and his problems, in and out of the army. Names will not be printed. Ask The Bee to Answer.

Effects of Deceased Soldiers.

Mrs. Evelyn May Humphrey, Elgin—If you will write to "Effects Bureau, Port of Embarkation, Hoboken, N. J., you will probably receive word concerning the personal effects of your husband. This is the bureau formed by the War department to take charge of the effects of soldiers who have lost their lives, and to communicate with relatives concerning them. The offices of the War department at Washington are far behind with their work, which may explain the delay and uncertainty you have encountered in getting information as to your husband's death. Would suggest you write to his company commander for information.

Death of a Soldier.

Mrs. D. E. M.—The confusion at the War department, occasioned by the enormous amount of work suddenly thrust on the organization by the end of the war may explain the delay you have encountered in getting word concerning your son. Would suggest that you write to the captain of his company, at A. P. O. 715, 12th Infantry, with the 34th division, in the Oureq, on July 31st this division was at Cherry-Charthouse; from September 2 to November 4 it was in the 24th Infantry, in the campaign. Can not give you the location of any particular unit or the engagements it took part in. The address of the 12th Infantry is scheduled for return in May. The government has decided not to undertake to bring home the bodies of those who died in France.

Confusion in Reports.

C. P. F. H., Denver—Your experience shows the extent to which confusion has reigned in the War department are confused, the result of the large amount of work thrust upon them. Your only recourse is to get the address of the commanding officer of the army, asking for accurate information. You might gain some news by writing to his company commander, if you have the address.

Many Questions Answered.

Faye Barstow—We have no information as to the whereabouts of any of the marine corps units.

Miss L. E.—The 109th supply train is part of the 34th division yet in France. No word as to when it will be returned.

Mrs. W. C. R.—The 165th ammunition train is in the 30th division; A. P. O. 907, located at Bar-le-Duc (Meuse). This organization is under orders to sail March 27 for America.

A Soldier's Wife—A. P. O. 912 is stationary with the 34th division in France; part of that division is in America; can not say when rest will be returned.

August Wiegand—The 17th balloon company is under orders for early return home.

E. J. Fremont—Company H, 352d Infantry, is part of the 88th division, A. P. O. 735, is stationary with this division, headquarters at Lagny.

A Brother—The 36th division is scheduled to sail home March 27.

O. C. P., Auburn—The 46th division is part of the 12th army corps, A. P. O. 931; it is not assigned to early convoy, although the order is out that all these divisions are to be returned home as soon as possible. The 27th supply company is in the service of supply; A. P. O. 792 is at Paris; not scheduled for early return.

Y. S.—A. P. O. 792 is at Paris; this section is not scheduled for early return; General Pershing reports that the mail situation is now greatly improved.

Mrs. C. S. Campbell—See answer to E. J. Fremont.

Mrs. L. A. L.—See answer to "Soldier's Wife."

A Soldier's Worried Sister—Balloon Company No. 21 is assigned to early convoy home.

Mrs. E. M. B., Woopling Water—Base hospital No. 49 is at Allerey (Saone-et-Loire), A. P. O. 735. No word as to when it will be sent home.

Mary E., Callaway—The 67th coast artillery was part of the 35th brigade, C. A. C., A. P. O. 753, which is at Limoges, (Haute Marne). The War department reported that this regiment was to reach New York on February 22 on the transport America.

W. E. L.—The 352d Infantry is part of the 17th brigade, 83d division; A. P. O. 735. No word as to time of return.

A Soldier's Sister—The 13th Infantry is in the 35th Division, A. P. O. 747, scheduled to sail for home on April 26.

A Friend—See answer to W. E. L. The 339th machine gun company is in the 17th brigade.

G. R., Ashland—See answer to Mrs. W. B.

F. M. W., Sidney—See answer to Mary B., Callaway.

E. N., Genoa—The 144th Infantry is part of the 36th Division, First corps, 1st Army, A. P. O. 736. No date set for its return.

J. C.—The 117th transportation company is at Nevers (Nièvre), south of Paris; A. P. O. 708.

Mrs. A. B.—The 312th Infantry is part of the 156th brigade, 78th division, A. P. O. 755; under schedule to return in May.

STATE PRESS COMMENT

Hastings Tribune: With wheat at \$2.26 per bushel the farmer is the real "dough boy."

Fremont Tribune: The Nebraska preacher who objects to skating because it encourages people to buy slides forgets that skaters are going forward most of the time, many at a snail that beats the devil.

Kerney Hub: The reconstruction congress once took a decided stand against government ownership of railroads, which we believe is in accord with a rapidly growing sentiment in the United States.

Little Folks' Corner

DREAMLAND ADVENTURE

By DADDY

CHAPTER II.

Laughs Win a Battle.

"H. O. H. O. Ho, ho! That's a good joke on Billy," roared Jokeer as Billy picked himself up after driving his fist right through Jokeer's airy head.

"And here's one on you!" shouted Billy, aiming a hard punch at Jokeer's fat stomach. His fist went through Jokeer, just as it had gone through Mocker's head. And Billy, carried along by the force of the blow, tumbled through the misty sprites, landing on the ground with a heavy thud.

"Ho, ho, ho! He, he, he!" laughed all the mean sprites. "Here's a new fun-maker come to fight!" yelled Jokeer and Billy was wise. He saw that he couldn't punish the mean sprites with his fist. He would have to try something else.

"You'll have to use your brains," suggested Peggy.

"Why suggest the impossible?" asked Will, leading the mean sprites in a noisy burst of laughter.

"He has lots of them, as you'll find out," declared Peggy, coming stanchly to Billy's defense.

"Billy may like her," jeered Mocker. Billy's fist tightened, but he made no answer. He was studying the mean sprites so intently that presently Mocker, Jokeer and Will appeared.



His Fist Went Through Jokeer.

Heard to become uncomfortable and their laughter grew a bit uneasy. Then Billy began to chuckle, then to snicker, then to laugh, then to roar, then to shake and double up in a regular game of glee.

The mean sprites couldn't understand what Billy was laughing at and so they stopped laughing themselves and looked at him in keen curiosity. Tears rolled down Billy's cheeks and he laughed so hard he could scarcely gasp.

"What's the matter?" cried Peggy, but it was some time before Billy could stop laughing long enough to tell her.

"Do you remember how you fussed old King Crow by looking at his feet?" whispered Billy between laughs.

"Yes," answered Peggy. "I'm giving these sprites the same for merely expressing political opinions."

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MR. FAMILY MAN:

Why Spend So Much Money on Shoes?

Here is what Tracy Munson of Joplin, Missouri, says of Neolin Soles: "Judging from my own experience, they wear four times longer than other soles and have the additional advantage of being waterproof and slip-proof."

Why continue to wear extravagant old-fashioned shoes when you can get these money-saving, long-wearing soles on new shoes in any style you like for any member of the family? Good shoe stores everywhere carry them.

And don't throw away your old shoes. Have them re-bottomed with Neolin Soles and enjoy the comfort of a re-soled shoe which is not stiff or clumsy. Neolin Soles are a discovery of Science, and are made by The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., Akron, Ohio, who also make Wingfoot Heels—guaranteed to outwear all other heels.

Neolin Soles

A Nation's Safety depends upon more than wealth or the power of its mighty guns. It rests in its robust children and in its strong, vigorous manhood.

SCOTT'S EMULSION

An ideal constructive tonic-food, brings to the system elements easily assimilated and imparts strength and promotes normal growth.

Scott's Emulsion builds up the weak and fortifies the strong.

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The Bee