

**THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETOR**  
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Subscribers leaving the city should have The Bee mailed to them. Address changed as often as requested.  
Well, what is the constitution between democrats?  
Again we wish the president a pleasant voyage and a safe return.  
If you do put on sackcloth and ashes today, try to live up to the display.  
Foch is making it plain to Germany that it was the Allies and not the Huns who came out on top.  
The appropriation to pay the wheat guaranty went through, which is some encouragement to the farmer.  
Charity begins at home, we are told, but the world's business just now has preference over the nation's.  
Wall street felt the jar when the administration program fell. It will get even, though, when the Victory loan is floated.  
The "mystery woman" failed to add even a note of the melodrama to the bootlegging business. In the "movies they do it."  
Contemplation of the city pay roll will remind the taxpayers that the war affected other things besides the price of pork and butter.  
Madly-running "booze" cars are becoming a more serious menace than ever the Demon Rum could hope to be. Is there not a way to stop them?  
If the bolsheviks continue to press American troops in northern Russia till the Yankee boys get impatient, then we will have another story to tell.  
A new bath house at "Muny" beach will be acceptable, and a few more swimming holes in the parks might not rouse any popular resentment.  
Holland wants the headquarters of the League of Nations, but will have to get rid of one of its present guests before its bid will be considered.  
By the middle of April the railroads will be running on their own funds, as they were before the government took hold. This may aid in the return of prosperity.  
And Jeanette Rankin ceased to be "the lady from Montana" when the clock struck noon, but she will always remain the first woman ever to have held a seat in congress.  
The woman who withstood her conscience for nine years before she made good on the railroad ticket is of interest only in that she did not get accented to its prickings.  
Little nations present at Paris also object to the conditions of the league constitution. That document will soon have no more respect than is given the Baltimore platform.  
Guatemala has just emerged from two years under martial law, a fact that ought to interest the peace congress, although most of us had forgotten that that country was a belligerent.  
Gallivan of Boston told the house that congressmen who did not vote to free Ireland were "dealing with dynamite." And some who did will find they were monkeying with another sort of explosive. And there you are.  
Bolshevik troops who invaded Lithuania have been lashed to the point of crying "enough," but the Lithuanians say nay, and propose to satisfy themselves that the reds are vanquished. This is good medicine and will remedy the disease.  
That governors' conference at Washington bids fair to get the spot-light, now that congress is out of the way. What the governor of New Jersey said to the governor of Ohio will be recalled as snappier, at least, if not so hospitable as the interchange between the Carolina executives.

**CONGRESS: A RECORD OF FAILURE.**  
When the Sixty-fifth congress expired by constitutional limitation at noon yesterday, the entire reconstructive program of the administration crashed. Not only that, but big supply bills, including those for the support of the army and navy after June 30, the sundry civil bill, and some appropriations of lesser importance went down also.

In the face of this situation, the president obdurately refuses to convene an extraordinary session of congress. He insists that his paramount duty is in Paris, and declines to admit that lawmakers could go ahead with their work in his absence. He showed little of this trepidation when he went abroad before, although his absence clearly resulted in the omission by congress, controlled by his party and moving under his own direction, to provide for the country those things that are necessary for its well-being and orderly management.

Taking the \$750,000,000 appropriation to aid the railroads for his text, the president scolds the republican members because they did not accede to his wishes with the same docility as did the democrats. His partisan effort to shift responsibility for the situation onto the minority will hardly serve to exculpate the democrats. They are at least guilty of contributory negligence. It was under their manipulations that the great mass of legislation was permitted to accumulate in committees and on the calendar, to die simply because of the physical impossibility of passing all the bills looked for in five legislative days.

If Mr. Wilson finds it imperatively necessary to leave his Washington office for his Paris headquarters, such absence should not operate to suspend the constitution of the United States, which provides that in event of the inability of the president to discharge the duties of his office, the same shall devolve on the vice president. And Mr. Wilson has sworn to uphold and defend this provision.

Last December it was agreed that the absence from the country of the president presented no insuperable obstacle to the continuance of congress in session. The vice president tremulously declined to assume the duties laid on him by the constitution, and for two months the government went on with its executive head in Paris. Present exigencies might justify a repetition of this experiment, but the world would have a far better impression if the champion of the constitutional league of nations were to show greater devotion to the constitution of his own country.

If the presence of the president is essential to the proper conduct of congress, then the failure of the democrats to carry out the program of their leader should rest with him. However, it is a condition and not a theory that confronts us. Mr. Wilson may put off calling the extra session at his convenience, but it is the country that will suffer and the country that will pay the bills.

**Other Nations and the League.**  
Ardent advocates of the League of Nations, particularly those who profess excessive loyalty to the president and avouch a willingness to accept in advance any proposal he may make, would have the world believe that the only criticism of the draft of the constitution of the league as presented in Paris is heard in this country. Such have deliberately overlooked the attitude of France and Italy, who are to be equal partners with the United States, Great Britain and Japan in control. And now Japan is added to the list of objectors.

France and Italy have serious problems that are not solved by the league as outlined. With Germany outside the pale, and declining to come in, France is confronted by the menace that has clouded its borders for generations. Nothing written can restrain the Germans from a sudden swoop on Paris; only the presence of a sufficient defense guarantees the safety of the French. France, therefore, has reserved the right to offer such amendments as may seem necessary to secure the country from future invasion on the east.

Italy's problem is not so imminent, but none the less it is present, and calls for similar treatment. The Adriatic question is acute, and no inclination on part of either side to yield on the point is noted. Thus another of the proposed ruling quintet holds aloof.

Japan has a more formidable objection, that of racial recognition and social discrimination. Americans are deeply concerned in this, for it touches of the policy of Asiatic exclusion. The apparent design of the Japanese to try their case against the United States at Paris is so plain as to need no further advertisement.

These facts should be taken into full account when insisting that the draft of the constitution be gulped down by the world. Mr. Wilson admits it is tentative only and subject to amendment, and the prospects of its being greatly altered in form at least are good.

**Arbor Day Memorial to Soldiers.**  
A suggestion from the Omaha Woman's Club, that trees be planted along the Lincoln highway as a memorial to the soldier dead, is worthy in all ways. Nebraska certainly intends to commemorate the services and the sacrifices of its sons who died in camp and field and trench, and many plans are under consideration all looking to the end that this sentiment find expression in permanent form. The planting of a tree in the name of each soldier who lost his life while in the service of his country will not interfere with any other project, but will stimulate the thought that is back of the movement.

Attention should be given to the matter by the civic organizations of the state, for all can afford to join with the women in this undertaking. The Bee suggests that it be made a continuing custom, to the end that in me a broad avenue across the state from east to west, bordered by stately trees, well kept and beautiful in all its aspects, will stand a tribute from the people of the state to the boys whose names are now the subjects of fresh sorrow.

Superintendent Beveridge proposes a swimming pool for the new High School of Commerce, saying all the boys should learn to swim. Why not add a bowling alley, a shooting gallery and a few other modern conveniences to soften the asperity of study? The boy who has not learned to swim by the time he reaches the high school age seldom acquires that accomplishment.

Carter Glass gets "carte blanche" on the Victory loan, thanks to a democratic congress. Wait till the taxpayers come to get returns on this act of liberality, and then listen to the commensal.

Germany is to be required to struggle along for the future with an army of only 200,000, but even that many will look big to the neighbors.

### Restoration of St. Sophia

**Marquise de Fontenay in Washington Post.**  
Lord Bryce has assumed the chairmanship of a very influential committee just formed in England for the purpose of bringing about the restoration of the mosque of St. Sophia, at Constantinople, to Christendom; of course, to that denomination of Christendom to which it formerly belonged in the days of the Byzantine empire, namely, the orthodox Greek rite.

The committee comprises several members of the present government as well as Lord Salisbury, Lord Selborne, Lord Crewe, Lord Beauchamp, Lord Halifax, etc., with Sir Samuel Hoare, M. P., as treasurer. It proposes to inaugurate a series of meetings, both in the United Kingdom and abroad, especially in America, with a view to spreading the movement and endeavoring it with irresistible force.

The accomplishment of its aims will be a matter of no small difficulty, owing to the very large Mohammedan population subject to British and French rule. England commands the allegiance of about 130,000,000 Moslems, and France has some 35,000,000. There is no doubt that all these followers of the prophet would view with resentment the substitution of the cross for the crescent on the dome of St. Sophia and the restoration to Christianity of a former basilica which has been sacred to Islam for the last five centuries or thereabout.

Yet, if St. Sophia is to be preserved as one of the most interesting memorials of the Byzantine era of the sixth century of the Christian era—it was built by Justinian the Great on the foundations of an earlier basilica erected in 403—it urgently requires an amount of repair, which cannot be with safety entrusted to any Moslem engineers or architects, while as long as it remains a Mohammedan place of worship it would be out of the question for Christian architects to undertake the job. It is a wonder that it should have lasted throughout all these 14 centuries, the eight superb porphyry columns in the four bays at the corner of the nave being thousands of years old, hailing from the Temple of the Sun, at Baalbek. An object of the greatest care until the downfall of the Byzantine empire, the inconceivable neglect of the Turks, who, unlike their coreligionists elsewhere, are always destructive instead of constructive, has reduced the basilica to a shabby condition of rack and ruin, calling for immediate and extensive repair if it is to be preserved from collapse.

The first thing that will have to be undertaken, when once Christian engineers and architects get this wonderful monument in hand, will be the radical cleansing thereof. The accumulation of dirt and filth—an accumulation of centuries—is simply indescribable, and surpasses in its stench the only attempt at cleansing by the Turks, if cleansing it could be called, having been an occasional whitewashing of the glorious and priceless Byzantine mosaics and the vandalistic dingy colored plastering of the exquisite marbles of the walls and their beautiful carvings.

When the work in question is undertaken, the architect and engineers engaged therein will have the opportunity for the first time since Constantinople fell into the hands of the Turks, nearly half a century before the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus, to explore the vaults of the basilica and its various secret recesses, above and below ground, where most of the sacred vessels, reliquaries and treasures of the church were concealed by its clergy during the siege of Stamboul.

When the Turks seized St. Sophia, they are said to have gathered the idea that whatever gold and jewels there were would be found in that portion of the edifice devoted to the immense collection of manuscripts and books. In order to get these out of the way during the fruitless search for treasures, they were tumbled pell mell into the vaults, where they have remained, sealed up and untouched ever since. The manuscripts alone are said to number nearly 2,000,000.

Many vain endeavors have been made by German, French, English and Italian students and archaeologists during the last 40 years to obtain permission to explore the crypt and vaults of St. Sophia. But not even the sultans would dare to outrage the religious prejudices of the Moslem clergy of the mosque nor the fanaticism of the unruly soothsayers—those students of Koranic lore, who have always played a leading role in the massacres of Constantinople—by granting the desired permits. When once, however, it is ousted from St. Sophia and Stamboul has passed from the possession of the Turks, there is no knowing what priceless treasures in the way of jeweled Byzantine art and of documentary contributions to history and to Christian lore may be brought to light, for Constantinople was at the time of the Turkish conquest the greatest repository of ancient and medieval literature in the world.

**Bogus War Heroes**  
A bill introduced in the House by Representative Gould to punish wearers of bogus military decorations meets a need that is bound to grow more manifest as demobilization proceeds. It imposes a fine of \$100 or imprisonment for twenty years, or both, on any person convicted of wearing without right to it a Congressional Medal of Honor, a Distinguished Conduct Medal, a Distinguished Service Cross or any decoration awarded by our associates in the war.

These are stiff penalties, but some sort of effective means must be found for the protection of American soldiers against the desecration of their hard-won war medals by fakers and impostors. For these they gave their health and often endured to become cripples or blind; in many cases the decoration was won never to be worn. If they are to signify anything to the men who earned them with their gallantry or to families to whom the cross or medal recalls the supreme sacrifice of son or brother, they must be guarded from the counterfeit.

There is no manner kind of imposture than that which steals the insignia of bravery. The way to deal with the threatened crop of bogus war heroes is to punish them to the limit—New York World.

**TODAY**  
The Day We Celebrate.  
W. H. Dorrance, undertaker, born 1880.  
Thomas W. Blackburn, attorney, born 1853.  
George H. Lee of the Lee Manufacturing company, born 1866.  
William H. Maxwell, former superintendent of schools of New York City, born in Ireland, 67 years ago.  
George F. Slosson, veteran professional billiard player, born at De Kalb, N. Y., 65 years ago.  
Freddie Welsh, former holder of the lightweight pugilistic championship, born in Wales, 33 years ago.

A slip of the pencil or the types added 10 uncelebrated birthdays to the record of Charles R. Sherman of the Sherman & McConnell Drug company on the 2d instant. Luckily, taking off 10 years is a simple operation, and leaves Mr. Sherman, at 57, all the better for it.)

**In Omaha 30 Years Ago.**  
Cartwright is leading in the six-day go-as-you-please foot race out at the Coliseum.  
The ministers of the city Y. M. C. A. organization presented protests to the council against the advertised public presentation of the "Passion Play."  
At the Elks entertainment, the program included musical numbers by Mme. Muensterling, Miss Boulier, Lieutenant Kinzie, Jules Lombard and Prof. Butler.  
F. A. Ober entered a Y. M. C. A. audience with a lecture on Mexico.  
George P. Shelton, president of the Phoenix Insurance company of Brooklyn, is the guest of H. K. ...

### 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.**  
**Lake Front—**You are quite correct in assuming that William Hale Thompson, mayor of Chicago, is the one surviving "cowboy mayor" in the public spotlight. Prospects are not encouraging for beating the record for continuity on the job held by Omaha's former "Mayor Jim" Thompson. Born in Boston not quite 50 years ago, and educated in Chicago, Thompson felt the lure of the plains in his teens and plunged into the cattle business for money and the outdoor life. He made good in both. A fortune inherited from his father brought him back to Chicago, where his experience on the roundup fitted into the system of Chicago politics.

**Bostonian—**Congressman James A. Gallivan, representative of the Twelfth Massachusetts district, is Boston born, a graduate of Harvard and the recipient of the Boston school of politics and the local press. He is classed as an "eloquent and energetic representative of the old-fashioned type of New Englander, a very progressive democrat and a sharp critic of southern democratic domination. Recently in 40th Congress he was elected to the United States House of Representatives in the National Guards in the war and on several occasions exposed what he termed the injustice perpetrated by the West Point clique on commissioned officers from civil life.

The late Sir Wilfrid Laurier, master of the peace conference, was one of the rare personages in public life of whom it is said that never by spoken word did he hurt the sensibilities of a political opponent. The stinging rebuff was not for him. No matter how fierce the attack or how great the outflow of vituperation, Laurier, if he chose reply, employed the most courteous and scholarly wit. Typical of his ready wit is one incident among the number. Sir Wilfrid was lean of figure, a regular habit of his being to wear a hat, which he removed on entering a room. One day he was seated at a table with a portly opponent. A portly opponent arose in parliament and accused Sir Wilfrid of "fattening on the toll and sweat of the people." Laurier stood up in his place and smilingly said: "I leave the house to judge which of us two is the more exposed to that charge."

One of the first of the secondary personages to state his people's desires in the peace conference was President Wilson as a prior confidant, was Sheriff Felsch, third son of the emir of Mecca and a lineal descendant of the prophet Mohammed, who journeyed to Paris to see that in the reconstruction of the Ottoman empire the just claims of the Arabs, both in Arabia and Palestine, were not overlooked. The Arabian revolt against Turkish rule made possible the conquest of the Holy Land by the allies at the peace conference.

An extensive and varied career as colonial viceroy, topped with experience as war minister, fits Viscount Milner for the task of "subbing" for the allied forces in Germany during the absence of the premier at parliament. Born in Germany of an English father and German mother, he speaks both languages and is the most loyal of Britishers and an imperialist. In the Boer war days he was governor of Cape Colony and later with Kitchener reorganized the government and finances of Egypt.

**SIGNPOSTS OF PROGRESS**  
Tobacco growing has been developed to a large extent in Denmark during the war.  
In 55 factories along the coast of Maine there are being packed approximately 400,000 cases of sardines, worth about \$10,000,000.  
From 60 to 75 per cent of the cars in Uruguay today are of American make. It is believed that both American cars and films are here to stay.

A distinctive war time development in English industry has been the establishment of women police forces in factories where women are employed.  
The total value of the mineral production in Canada during 1918 was probably not less than \$220,000,000. The total value in 1917 was \$189,648,820.  
The United States industries use practically 6,000,000 pounds of bromine powder annually and 35 per cent of the total consumption was in 1918 imported from Germany, but is now made in America.

The parliament of Alberta, Canada, at its recent session enacted a new law on the subject of workmen's compensation, which supersedes the act of 1908 and considerably enlarges the scope and liberality of the provisions made for industrial injuries.

There are at present more than 20 lead pencil factories in Tokio alone, and monthly exports reach \$5,000,000 gross. The graphite is found in Japan, but is of poor quality. Before the war Japan made only 400,000 gross a year, and Germany held almost all the trade.

During January the oil fields completed 173 wells with a new production of 148,167 barrels, according to the Oil City Derrick's monthly field report. While there was a loss of 50,000 barrels in comparison with the December figures, the fresh oil obtained shows the handsome increase of 23,227 barrels. The increase in production was furnished by Oklahoma, North Texas and Louisiana.

### Little Folks' Corner

**DREAMLAND ADVENTURE**  
By DADDY  
FUNDLAND.  
Billy and Peggy had hit upon another of the weak points of the mean sprites—their tendency to get fussed when laughed at.

Billy ran at Joker, blowing hard and Joker took to his legs. In a moment all the mean sprites were running away as fast as they could. The agreeable sprites crowded joyfully around Billy and Peggy. "Hurrah!" they cried. "This gallant knight and fair lady have beaten the pests of Fundland!"

Now Peggy asked a question she had been wanting to ask ever since she had noticed the end look on the faces of the agreeable sprites: "If this is Fundland why are you so nervous?" "Because those Good-Time-Spoilers have upset our happy, care-free realm with their mischievous pranks, turning Fundland into Meanland," chorused the sprites, and because they have carried their harmful joking so far as to kidnap King Fun and hide him away."

"Such, oh, oh!" suddenly shrieked Tickle, chorused the sprites, "they are afraid of ridicule, afraid of having holes blown in them, and afraid of heat."

"Ah, ha, ha!" laughed Billy. "Ha, ha, ha!" laughed Peggy and all the agreeable sprites.

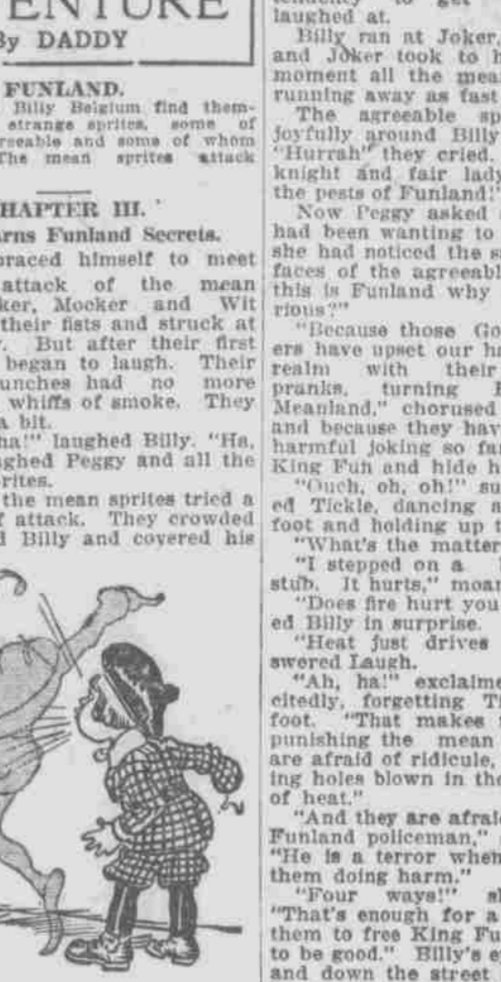
In a rage the mean sprites tried a new form of attack. They crowded close around Billy and covered his mouth with their hands. Now Billy got laughing in a hurry, for he found that he couldn't breathe. The misty hands of the sprites were like heavy smothered hands.

But suddenly Billy blew out with all his might. "Whiff!" off went Mocker's hand and he jumped to catch it and fasten it back on his arm. Peggy, seeing this, ran up and blew at Joke, and she blew so hard she blew a big hole in Joke's smother. He jumped away with a howl and began to patch himself up. Peggy blew at Wit and he went howling up the street trying to catch half of his head. It was plain that Billy gives the mean sprites a big scare.

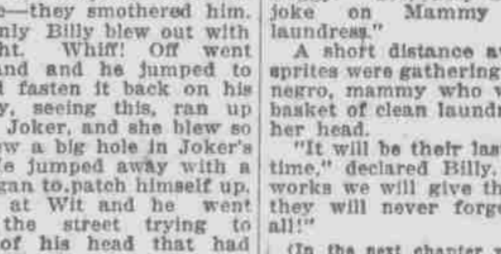
**The Bee's Letter Box**  
The Bee in the Camps.  
Camp Humphrey, Va., Feb. 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: Just a line to congratulate you on your most appreciated paper, as a former soldier and again in service, and after discharged, I am receiving a copy of your daily paper every day through a friend of mine and I want to tell you it is the most welcome and appreciated paper around the barracks. Several Nebraska boys are here with me and every one wants to read your paper in succession. We expect to be at home in a few weeks, and I take this opportunity to thank you in the name of all.

FRANK B. VAIRO,  
Hgt. Co. 210, Engineers.  
Wilson and the League.  
Seward, Neb., Feb. 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: Since the big talk at the White House luncheon it is disclosed that Mr. Wilson informed the committee that the league of nations would not prevent war, and that its prerogatives and powers were in violation of the constitution and that our sovereignty would be impaired, which means that we would lose our independence, what further reasoning do we desire for turning the proposition to the wall? A government with its authority crippled is simply no government. I understand that England permits the people of India to think that they have a part in English control. Do the people of the United States wish to put themselves in a position that they cannot act as a nation without first having the consent of three monarchies, England, Japan and Italy. We were fighting our hardest to be, for the purpose of establishing free government and not to perpetuate monarchy. The people of the United States will hardly desire the supreme authority which controls them or suggests for them to reside in Europe or be decided by Europeans and Asiatics. If Mr. Wilson desires to live in Europe no one has any objection. But the

### Daily Dot Puzzle



comes with April showers, And loves to — among the flowers. Draw from one to two and so on to the end.



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The kind you used to buy six years ago—  
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### Some Good Precedents

Disarmament by agreement between nations is not an untried idea. We have, as ex-President Taft points out, a highly successful example of it at our own doors. For a hundred years the United States and Canada have observed the compact not to place armed vessels on the Great Lakes. The treaty has been kept without friction and with general advantage. The lakes are a fair field for commerce and unquestioned friendliness prevails. A few decades ago the British government closed the last of its military barracks on the Canadian border. The mutual sentiment of peaceful amity rendered it useless, a mere relic of outgrown conditions. It shows how two peoples, living side by side across a whole continent, can get along smoothly by simply agreeing to do it. We had for some time a difference with Canada on Alaska's coast boundary, but it was finally settled in our favor by an arbitration board that held its meetings in England, and the deciding votes were British. As a result Canada has no seaport of its own on the Alaskan coast. But its shipping interests do not suffer in that region. The disposition on both sides is considerate and amicable. Peace is so largely a state of mind that a league of nations is by no means as complex as many imagine.

The most dangerous controversy we have had with the British government since the War of 1812 was successfully arbitrated. During the civil war confederate cruisers, covertly built and fitted out in British ports, not only captured many American ships, but virtually destroyed our ocean marine. The consequential damages were immensely more injurious than the loss of individual ships and cargoes. Yet the score was wiped out by arbitration. It might have been a powder magazine if a warlike spirit had been cultivated. Again a state of mind resulted in a peaceful solution.

If it takes two to quarrel, and not even one wants war, there will be no quarrel.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

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