

THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING)—EVENING—SUNDAY
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Looks like the referendum might work both ways.

No minimum wage legislation for Nebraska this time, either. Oh, well.

"Boat drill" disturbed the president's slumber; but we thought the U-boat danger had passed.

"Health of the troops in the United States" continues very good, says the surgeon general. Keep it so.

The experiment of the French government in selling food to cut off profiteering is working well in Paris at any rate.

Harness makers have received solemn warning from the Federal Trade commission. This will end the trade-maybe.

Peace is urgent, and all agree to that; the argument is over tying peace up with possibilities of future disagreement.

Now the county is going into the ice business for itself. This ought to encourage the "muny" plant to greater activity.

It will take stronger testimony than that of Raymond Robins to get much credit for Lenine and Trotsky in this country.

John Bull proposes to keep right on watching the Rhine until peace is determined. France thinks a perpetual watch there will not be wasted.

"Nick" Longworth at least is not afraid to voice his views as to the make-up of the house committee list. In time merit will win over seniority.

Judge Gary thinks the price of steel might be "stabilized" without any effort on part of the government, but he will get some assistance, just the same.

Crop experts look for a bumper crop of wheat in Nebraska this year. And at \$2 the bushel, it ought to be just about top of the state's prosperity right.

The Germans tried to hold an election in Bohemia, with the result that might have been anticipated. The Czechs reminded them it was no longer German territory.

A little self-restraint might not go bad with the senators who are investigating state institutions. Display of temper does not carry conviction with thinking people.

The bolshevik idea of stamping out an epidemic by killing all who become infected puts the medical practice of the cult on a par with its notions of politics and business.

The Manchester Guardian says the Irish resolution adopted by the house is a "friendly warning" to Great Britain, and the Sinn Fein leaders denounce Mr. Wilson as a dodger. Take your choice.

The New York World, dismissing the Sixty-fifth congress, says a third-rate lawyer will still be a third-rate lawyer after he is sent to congress. No allusion, we hope, to the gentleman from Scotland Neck?

The Germans still see a way to starve Central Europe by refusing to allow their ships to be used to carry food across to the hungry. In time, if they keep on, a German ship will be a most unwelcome sight in any port.

Foreign war decorations to the number of 9,383 will come home with the boys who went over "over there," but this does not mean that every lad who deserved one got one. Among so many heroes it was hard to make a choice.

Idaho is hunting for trouble. The same day the legislature went on record against a league of nations, one of the big towns of the state offered a purse of \$100,000 for a prize fight. Senator Borah probably knows his constituents' collective mind.

Medical Views of Objectors

After being under the observation of psychiatrists of the medical department of the army the 3,000 prisoners in the disciplinary barracks at Leavenworth who recently went on strike have been duly classified and ticketed. Most of these men called themselves "conscientious objectors" with the purpose of escaping military service. Relatively only a few pleaded religious scruples.

Virtually all of these military offenders, from the viewpoint of medical experts, were of exceptional types. After their mental condition had been studied they were divided into three groups. First came those—nearly two-thirds of the whole number—who defied the law "from an excessively eccentric personality" in other words, men who were "individualistic, opinionated, self-willed or vain to an extreme degree." Presumably in any circumstances where they were subjected to discipline or authority they would be found in conflict with those about them and justifying themselves as of superior intelligence. They are at a type of which our parlor bolshevik and soap-box school of orators furnish many examples.

The two minor groups among the prisoners at Leavenworth comprised men of "extreme emotional instability" and others of "inadequate intelligence." The medical examiners of the coast boards and the army doctors at the camps rejected hundreds of men for these very reasons. In the main they were unfit for military service because of psychopathic conditions.

Upon the "conscientious objector," in the honest sense, much sympathy has been expended since the beginning of the draft, as the victim of a harsh and cruel system. In the light of the investigation made at Leavenworth by the medical department of the army, it might seem that false sentimentalism has played too large a part in the campaign. "New York World."

CONCESSION OR RECESSION.

Senator Hitchcock, according to the Chicago Tribune, has approached Senator Knox with a proposal that the republican senators formulate the amendments they would have made in the League of Nations constitution and forward them to the president at Paris. When pressed as to whether he spoke with consent of the president, the late chairman of the senate committee on foreign relations declined to give a satisfactory answer. The incident is significant, in that it shows that the single-track mind of the president is probably seeking a terminal. His petulance has passed, and he would probably be glad of an opportunity to compromise on some line that will preserve for him the prestige he has risked in a controversy with the body he deliberately ignored.

The senate is part of the treaty making power of the United States, and must pass on any document coming from Paris. Mr. Wilson was well aware of this, and also was well advised that the senate to which the treaty must go would be controlled by the republicans. He chose to ignore the plain situation, and asked endorsement for a document that leaves too much to implication that should be plainly expressed. In simple words, he failed to note the difference between stating aspirations and making a contract. He did not receive the support he asked, because he did not state the terms on which the bargain is to rest.

It is not opposition to his hopes or his plan to ask that Mr. Wilson make his proposal definite and specific. The senators of the United States are quite as high-minded, as patriotic and as devoted to liberty as the president. They have equally a duty to perform. Is he now ready to make concession to them, or to recede from his position of dominance?

The New Grand Army.

One of the young men who served well and faithfully in the army has written a suggestion that will quite likely find many echoes in the hearts of the boys who wore the khaki, and in not a great while will be crystallized into being. It is that an association, nation-wide, be formed of the soldiers. In his letter the writer refers to the associations of camp and cantonment, of field and trench, of friendships formed and brotherhood born under such conditions as promise permanence. To give this expression, he would have the national army men formed into another great body for peace-time perpetuation of the ties that bound them in war. No one who is familiar with the story of the Grand Army of the Republic will question the feasibility or desirability of this movement. It will supplement the Grand Army, now passing to the close of its career, and the Spanish-American War Veterans will welcome it as well. We may be very sure that the general organization will come, and Omaha is a mighty good place to start it.

Another Crisis With Germany.

Germany has broken off negotiations for the use of German merchant ships by the Allies, demands for 2,500,000 tons of food stuffs to be delivered between now and the next German harvest having been declined. In other words, because the victors will not agree to feed the vanquished on a scale the latter deem adequate, the bargain fails. While any intent to starve Germany has been disclaimed, the fact remains that other countries come first and must be served before the inhabitants of kaiserland can receive supplies sufficient to content them. Millions in the regions ravished by the German armies are starving, and the ships that are idle at Bremen, Wilhelmshaven and other German ports are needed to carry food to these hungry. This stirred the delegates from Hunland to demand more than the Allies could see their way clear to giving. Without the German ships, succor for suffering Europe will be delayed, and the return of American troops will be hampered, but in some way the emergency can be met. It will not help the German cause, however.

Postal Receipts and Business.

Postmaster General Burleson points to the increased receipts of the postoffices as an unerring indication of improvement in business conditions. He is justified in this, for when the public begins to use the mails it is a sign of interest in affairs, of commercial activity, and all that that means. After we have congratulated the head of this great governmental department on his acumen, may we not venture a suggestion? If he were to try to improve the service of the department along with the increase in the public's use of it, the effort would win approbation. It might be possible to establish such conditions as would insure the delivery of a letter from one part of the city of Omaha to another in not less than 24 hours; sometimes it takes 48 or even longer now. Also, we might get back to the old days when mail came through from Chicago in one or two days at the outside, although now letters are frequently six days on the journey. Air mail routes, and all that sort of thing are fine for advertising purposes, but many of the plain people of the United States would rather see efforts directed to the expedition of the mass of mail than to the fancy frills that secure illustrated publicity.

Brigadier General Ansell gets back to his status as a lieutenant colonel in the army, but retains his position as chairman of the committee to review courts-martial sentences. This may or may not end the row he precipitated by his attack on General Crowder, but it shows that discipline still prevails in the army.

The Omaha Hyphenated persistently overlooks the fact that a very considerable "bloc" of democratic senators also are unwilling to take the League of Nations as the president proposed it, so that the group consists of 32 instead of 39, as it would have its readers believe.

Lloyd George's admonition to British labor deserves an echo here. No class can permanently prosper at expense of another, and if the world is ever going to get ahead, it will be when folks are willing to look at things now and then through the other fellow's eyes.

General Sam Hughes made a mighty good record as minister of militia, and he will not add to its luster by attempting to tarnish the names of the generals who led the Canadian army he did so much to raise and equip for overseas service.

A "League of Mayors" ought to help some, but it may check the present practice of one city exiling its undesirables to another.

Next Speaker of the House

Washington Letter in Brooklyn Eagle (dem.) Frederick H. Gillett of Massachusetts, the next speaker of the house of representatives, is known as the "fairest man in congress." He has not an enemy within his own party nor that of the opposition. His personal popularity is largely responsible for his securing the lead over Representative James R. Mann for the highest gift within the power of the house to bestow and his personal popularity is due to the fact that he has always been fair-minded in dealing with matters in congress.

But few people believed in December, 1917, when the republican steering committee selected Mr. Gillett to act as floor leader of the minority during the absence of Mr. Mann, because of illness, that he would a little more than a year later be the leading candidate of the republicans for speaker. Any number of persons would have at once declared that Mr. Gillett was not aggressive enough. But the reverse has occurred, and all because Mr. Gillett, while acting as minority leader, conducted himself so that he made no enemies, but, on the other hand, made many friends.

Mr. Gillett is a partisan, but a first class American. The history of his leadership in the house during the period of the war is one of which not only his party may be proud, but his country as well. Partisananship disappeared in the house under his direction in all measures relating to the war. He co-operated harmoniously with Claude Kitchin of North Carolina, the democratic leader, in arranging for the speedy enactment of all war measures. He was a member of that small but responsible subcommittee which formulated the great bulk of the appropriations for all branches of the government during the war.

These great war budgets, which ordinarily would have gone to the military and naval committees, came in deficiencies from the committee on appropriations, of which Mr. Gillett is the ranking republican member. The war was done without partisan feeling or display. Mr. Gillett voted "right" on all issues affecting the war and co-operated loyally at every point with an administration controlled by the opposing party.

Being a modest man and never spectacular, it is hard to realize that Mr. Gillett has been a member of the house for 26 years. He came to Washington as a member of the Fifty-third congress and has been here ever since. He rarely makes a speech. But when he does he always prepares his remarks in advance and has come to be known as one of the best analytical speakers of the house.

Tall, slender, with clear blue eyes and a short-cropped beard now rather gray, the smiling face of a pleasant figure on the floor and a welcome one throughout Washington society, Mr. Gillett was a bachelor until a little more than three years ago. During his early career as a congressman he became the intimate personal associate of the late William H. Moody. He was one of the members of the party which Mr. Taft piloted to the Philippines. Three years ago he married the widow of Congressman Rockwood Hoar of Massachusetts.

A view of the man among his friends gives one a glimpse of the congressman among his colleagues. In the days when Roosevelt was president, Root was secretary of state and Taft was secretary of war, they were known to Washington as the "Three Musketeers." In the same days there lived in a house across from the Department of Justice another trio of friends—"The Three Bachelors," as they were known. One was the chief of ordnance, Maj. Gen. William A. Crozier; another was successively a member of the house, secretary of the navy, attorney general and associate justice of the supreme court, William H. Moody, while the third was Mr. Gillett.

Representative Gillett was the oldest of the three, General Crozier next and the many-titled Mr. Moody was the junior. There was no table in Washington where day in and day out more questions involving all branches of the government were threshed out than around the hospitable Gillett-Crozier-Moody board. Then, as now, Mr. Gillett was known as a wise counselor.

In the days of the Roosevelt administration "The Three Musketeers" rode or walked for exercise, and in addition, Roosevelt played tennis and boxed, and Taft played golf. Of "The Three Bachelors," General Crozier and Mr. Moody rode horseback, while Mr. Gillett played golf and tennis. In recent years he has played more golf than tennis, and is often to be found on one of the several golf links about the capital.

He is a believer in protective tariff, but not a rampant protectionist. There are more aggressive men on the floor, there are harder workers in committee; there are more brilliant debaters and more gifted orators, but there is not a man in the present congress today with a more influential personality.

During his early days in the house, Mr. Gillett gained the enmity of many government employees in Washington by requiring them to work every day until 4:30 o'clock, instead of 4, as had been the custom from time immemorial. The clerks have never quite forgiven him for this, although he has gained many friends among the governmental workers, because he later drafted a workable bill for the retirement of aged clerks on a pension, and has been its strongest advocate in the house, although not successful in having it adopted.

Mr. Gillett, during most of his service in Washington, has served on a committee that does not receive much recognition for the work it does, yet it is the busiest committee in congress. Many years ago he was made a member of the appropriations committee and has maintained this membership up to the present.

A Beer and a Sandwich

When Bismarck enunciated the principle that the best place to have a war was in somebody else's territory he said a sage and far-sighted mouthful. And in recent years and far-sighted did it best to follow that principle. From 1914 to 1918, with the result that only its fringes have been touched—amid the smoking ruins of its neighbors, its own hearth, for all its sorrow, is clean-swept and unblemished. The Chemin des Dames is gutted and black with the ugly aftermath of war; the Rheinstrasse is as near as ever.

In Coblenz you will walk along a clean street (that was never splattered by a Bertha's iron scales) into a neat cafe (that never shook from a Gotha's bomb) and drink a tall one from a brewery which has been assaulted by nothing worse than a war tax. It is good. It is comfortable. It is clean.

With its roofs and walls intact, why shouldn't it be?—Stars and Stripes, France.

THE DAY WE CELEBRATE.

H. C. Brome, attorney, born 1856.
Oliver Wendell Holmes, associate justice of the supreme court of the United States, born in Boston, 78 years ago.

General Bramwell Booth, world head of the Salvation Army, born at Halifax, England, 63 years ago.

In Omaha 30 Years Ago.
Rev. F. Fitzgerald of Fremont and Rev. W. Wolf of Grand Island are here conferring with Rev. John Jensen, the three constituting the board charged with caring for Catholic priests who may be sick or supernumerary.

Christie & Lowe, Omaha contractors, are constructing nine and a half miles of cable railway in Denver.

Chief Seavey has issued an order declaring the playing of marbles on the public streets a nuisance and commanding the police to stop it.

The Union Pacific has put on a train that runs through without change of cars from Omaha to Mankato, Kan.

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.

(Questions concerning soldiers should be sent by mail, and will be answered in order of receipt. Please do not call for information over the telephone.)

Many Questions Answered.

Mrs. M. M. S.—Can give you no information respecting the unit you inquire for. Would suggest you write to the Navy department, Washington, D. C.

Worried Mother—The 38th company, transportation corps, is stationed at Givres (Loire-et-Cher), southwest of Paris; A. P. O. 718; no orders for its early return.

Mrs. D. M. R.—The 14th balloon company is assigned to early convoy home.

Miss K. M. M.—The 21st engineers' regiment is in the army of occupation; headquarters, both regimental and battalion, headquarters company and Companies A, B, C, D, E and F are at Commercy (Meuse), A. P. O. 747; Companies G, H, I, K, L and M are at Gondrecourt (Meuse), via A. P. O. 703. This regiment is in the light railway service.

Mrs. M. C.—Sanitary train \$15, field hospital \$60, is part of the 91st division, scheduled to return some time in June; headquarters of the division are at Beltembourg.

Mrs. M. R.—The 86th pioneer infantry is at Toul (Meurthe-et-Meuse), in the army of occupation; A. P. O. 734; no date set for its return.

L. J.—The machine gun company of the 160th infantry is still in France, no date set for its sailing; part of the 40th division has already started for home. The 349th infantry is in the 92d division, A. P. O. 766, and is in the army of occupation; no date set for its return.

Mrs. M. J.—Can not tell you location of motor section you ask for; if your brother was transferred into it, he would probably be very likely sent home with the artillery company he went over with.

Mrs. F. M. V.—On February 22 30 officers and 1,980 men of the 47th artillery landed in the United States.

M. C.—The 24th balloon company is in the Second Army, A. P. O. 784; it will sail with the 1st division in May; the 31st machine gun battalion is part of the 184th brigade, 92d division, Sixth corps, Third army; A. P. O. 766. The 351st infantry is in the 88th division; A. P. O. 795. No date fixed for its return.

Mrs. S. B. G.—The 336th supply company is in the service, supply at headquarters of the First army; A. P. O. 774; no date set for its return.

L. S.—O. P. M. C. 340 is in the service of supply, Third division; A. P. O. 740. The 102d field artillery is in the 26th division, A. P. O. 709; under schedule to sail for home in April.

P. J. 552—The 132d infantry is part of the 24th division, yet remaining in France; address, A. P. O. 812.

A. R.—The 47th aero squadron is in the service of supply of the army; address, A. P. O. 731, which is at Colombey-les-Belles (Meurthe-et-Meuse). No orders for its early arrival.

M. H. Grand Island—We have no record of the landing of the Touraine on February 27. The first division of the 10th army will be held in Germany indefinitely.

A Soldier's Sister—The 13th veterinary hospital unit is addressed via A. P. O. 747, which is at Commercy (Meurthe-et-Meuse). Then, as now, Mr. Gillett was known as a wise counselor.

A Subscriber—The field quartermaster service is part of the quartermaster's corps and is not attached to any particular division. A. P. O. 701 is at St. Nazaire.

Mrs. H. H. R.—Mare Island hospital unit, San Francisco, can not tell you when soldiers' attendances will be released. No orders for return of coast artillery units from Philippines.

E.—The 48th coast artillery is part of the 38th brigade, C. A. C., and its address is A. P. O. 708, which is at Noyers (Nièvre), south of Paris.

Soldier's Wife—The address for the 338th machine gun battalion is A. P. O. 795, which is stationary with the 88th division. Sailing date for this unit not yet announced.

Mrs. O. S.—The 4th service company, signal corps, is in the service of supply; not attached to any division; A. P. O. 718 is at Givres (Loire-et-Cher), southwest of Paris.

M. V. L.—Advance overhaul unit 310 is at headquarters of the Third army, at Bitburg, and is not attached to any division.

Mrs. M. P.—"Provisional base hospital unit" listed in army record of February 1, 1919; base hospital No. 8 is addressed Savonny, A. P. O. 701. This position is at St. Nazaire; no word as to when it will be returned.

A Mother—The 130th machine gun battalion is part of the 16th division, under schedule to sail in April; address, A. P. O. 743.

G. J.—The 355th infantry is part of the 17th brigade, 89th division, Seventh corps; headquarters, address, A. P. O. 761. This unit is slated for early return. For information concerning wounded soldiers write to Camp Director, Office, Department-Cher, Bourges, France.

W. H. C.—Company B, 26th engineers, is under orders for early conveyance home; account for your son's not writing.

Nebraska—Base hospital No. 81, at Basoille, France, is not attached to any division; its address is via A. P. O. 721, which is at Neuchateau (Voignes). The return of quartermaster corps units will not depend on the return of hospital units.

DAILY CARTOONETTE

WATCH ME SCARE THE DAYLIGHTS OUT OF THAT DUCK!

AND HE DID!

Little Folks' Corner

DAILY DOT PUZZLE

By DADDY

DREAMLAND ADVENTURE

By DADDY

FUNLAND.

(Peggy and Billy, dropping into Funland, find that mean sprites have hidden King Fun, a joke. Billy looks up the mean sprites in a tar pot to force them to tell where the King is.)

CHAPTER VI.

King Fun Is Found.

"YOU'RE a wise boy to keep these Good-Time-Spoilers in the tar pot until they tell the truth about King Fun's hiding place," said Policeman Sense to Billy. And Billy just grinned. Jokers' idea was having the mean sprites more than it was him.

As they returned to the tar pot they heard groans and yells from within. The heat was driving the mean sprites wild, as Laugh had said it would. Billy didn't say a word, but threw open the firebox door, shoved in more coal and opened the drafts.

"Here, what are you doing?" shrieked Mock.

"Making the fire hotter to thaw King Fun hopped up jovially."

out your brains so you can remember where King Fun is," answered Billy, calmly.

"He is in the new baking dish Peggy's mother got for Christmas," yelled the mean sprites in a chorus.

"Is that true, Jokers?" asked Billy, stirring up the fire.

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