

THE OMAHA BEE

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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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LET US CONCENTRATE OUR EFFORTS.

Omaha is entertaining a number of projects just at the present time, some of them quite nebulous, none of them very far advanced, and a few at least of doubtful character as to feasibility or desirability.

The growth of the city is faster than most of its inhabitants can appreciate or understand. Provisions that were considered ample a few years ago have been outgrown, and those of the moment are being strained every day to meet requirements.

Instead of scattering around with a multiplicity of alluring projects and getting nothing done on any, would it not be wise to carefully consider all, determine what are most needed, what will be most useful and what we can best afford, and finally to decide on something and do it?

For illustration, the enthusiasm for a soldiers' memorial a little while back was so general that almost any sort of a plan would have had support had it been presented in a concrete form.

Would it not be well for our expensive city planning board, the city commissioners, the Chamber of Commerce and other public and quasi-public agencies to get together, unite on some program and set the wheels in motion to accomplish something other than inconsequential debate?

Peace conference delays are accepted as a matter of diplomacy, the processes of which are generally those of delay. The naked women and children of the devastated districts of Europe are not clothed by fine words and ringing preclamations from Paris.

The purpose of this is obvious. Its effect as well as its intent is made the plainer on reading the article it captions. This says: "There is no shortage in the funds for allotments, since this is deducted from the soldiers' pay, but the funds available for allowances added to the allotments are limited."

How is it possible to put on republicans the blame for this colossal exhibit of democratic incapacity? Courtesy and the Man Below. You recall the old story of the grizzled sea dog, who pulled his foretop and answered the captain's question as to what was wanted with the statement: "Just a little common courtesy, and the commonest blankety-blank kind of courtesy will do."

It was quite complimentary to the Irish to remind them on St. Patrick's day that a lot of prize fighters and pugilists had worn good old Irish names when carrying on their questionable trades. It recalls to old-timers the occasion when the same paper referred to the A. O. H. convention as a gathering of "Old terriers."

The Postoffice department calls attention to the amount of work the dead letter office has to do, but says nothing of delay in delivering letters that are plainly and correctly addressed. It is this that most aggravates the public.

Insured by Uncle Sam

When Secretary McAdoo said in his bulletin of January 1, 1918, entitled "Uncle Sam's Insurance for Soldiers and Sailors," that "the government is making a liberal, an unprecedented offer to the fighting forces," he may be said to have spoken with great moderation.

In the old days the dependent relatives of a soldier killed in battle might have to beg their bread, and a soldier mutilated might exhibit his injuries to collect pennies in a tin cup. His grateful country in course of time provided a pension for him if his case were presented in the proper form by a lawyer who very often was not altruistic.

In June, 1918, 70 marines fell in battle in an attack somewhere near the Marne. All had taken out the insurance provided by the law of October 6, 1917. Fifty-seven of them had carried the maximum, \$10,000; one was insured for \$8,000 and 12 for \$5,000.

There were two reasons for the insurance legislation adopted early in the war—the non-insurability of risks incurred by soldiers and sailors, and the forestalling of service pensions. Up to the end of 1918 the United States government had paid out to veterans of the war of the Revolution, the war of 1812, the Mexican war, the Mexican war, the civil war and the war with Spain the vast sum of \$5,215,528,780 in pensions.

The government pays all expenses of insurance administration. Insurance is creditor-proof; it cannot be attached. It is not the only protection provided by the government in the act of October 6, 1917. There is besides monthly compensation for death or injuries or disease "suffered in the line of duty."

As long ago as April, 1918, the insurance on the books of the war risk bureau "was nearly four times as great as that of the largest commercial life insurance company in the world" and more than half the total amount of life insurance carried by private companies in the United States.

Substantial popular support will be given to the appeal of the National Association of Railway and Public Utilities commissioners that the telegraphs and telephones be restored to their owners.

Under private management the telephone in New York is a failure. In the hands of the Postoffice department it has become in many cases an exasperating nuisance. Judging public operation by its own performance for six months past, it is a failure and furthermore it furnishes the worst possible recommendation for Postmaster General Burlison's grand scheme of public ownership.

James G. Martin, live stock commissioner, born 1864. William J. Bryan, born at Salem, Ill., 59 years ago. Duke of Westminster, the wealthiest peer in the United Kingdom, born 40 years ago.

Rear Admiral W. McElroy, U. S. N., born in Illinois, 61 years ago. Debate over the new postoffice location discloses that the lots finally bought constituting the square between Sixteenth and Seventeenth and Dodge and Capitol avenue were owned by the Folsom estate (Mrs. George Cleveland), Dennis Cunningham, G. M. Hitchcock, William Fleming, Brown, Union National bank, Byron Reed, Mrs. Z. B. Knight.

Our Free Legal Aid

State your case clearly but briefly and a reliable lawyer will furnish the answer or advice in this column. Your name will not be printed. Let The Bee Advise You

Descent and Distribution. P. K. B.—A man dies leaving a boy 10 years of age by a former marriage, also a widow with no children of a second marriage. What is widow's share of estate there being no will?

Insurance. Decedent's life insurance is made payable to the estate. Should debts be paid out of insurance money before a division of the estate is made?

Iowa Law Distribution. F. M. J.—If a resident of Iowa dies, leaving a widow and five children, three children by a former marriage and two by the second marriage, how is the estate to be divided between the widow and the children, the property all being located in Iowa?

Guardianship. J. T. W.—I am guardian for a boy and girl 14 and 16 years of age. Their parents bought a lot on payments which is not all paid for. I want to pay out on the lot to save the debt, but the father and mother would not consent. How should the deed be made out?

Lotteries. Postmaster—I understand that there is a law in this state against the operation of slot machines and punching boards. In spite of this law there is a pool table proprietor here who operates both and the city council refuses to make him quit.

Partnerships. Council Bluffs, Ia., March 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: Prudent business men are cautious about partnerships. And it is well. This is especially true with successful men who have established large and prosperous institutions.

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Albert Cahn For Shirts New Silks Are In

Little Folks' Corner

DREAMLAND ADVENTURE

By DADDY

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