

THE OMAHA BEE

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For once the robin seemed to have the right hunch.
Coal miners ask shorter hours of labor and higher wages.

Well, who wants to be commander of the Grand Island soldiers' home? Do not all speak at once.

See old John Barleycorn perk up and "smile a sort of 'sickly smile' over the news from New Jersey.

Calling it "encephalitis" does not lift any of the mystery from the "sleeping sickness," but it sounds a lot wiser.

Ransack your closets and see if you can not produce one or two more garments the Red Cross can send to Europe.

The reading clerk of the senate got a real opportunity to earn his pay when the code bill came on. It is only 512 pages long.

No sign of weakening in the tug of war between the realtors and the lumbermen, but one side must give in pretty soon, for Omaha needs the delayed dwellings.

Members of the cabinet express views holding that an extra session of congress is imperative, showing that they are not always in harmony with their chief.

Revival by the house of interest in the Capital National bank failure in which the state lost \$240,000, may be the means of stirring up quite a bit of history in Nebraska.

"Nick" Longworth and "Jim" Mann are adding to the gaiety of the quiet season by telling each other to keep still. The epistolary duel is interesting to the bystanders.

The new cigarette law contains some provisions likely to be more honored in the breach than the observance, but it is in the right direction, and will therefore be welcomed.

"No final decisions have been taken," continues to be the daily announcement from the secret conferences of the peacemakers, but soon they will have to come out into the open and show their hands.

The high cost of living in Des Moines is to be investigated by the legislature. Something like that happened in Omaha, oh, a long time ago, but nothing followed, save that the cost of living went higher.

After all the investigations get under way, we may look for a commission to investigate the investigators. Our national habit of starting many things and never finishing anything is stronger now than ever.

France will get some real bargains from Uncle Sam in the way of docks, railroads and other elements of a new transportation system. If this does not give French commerce a real boost, we will lose faith in American efficiency.

Child labor is reported to be on the increase in eleven states, principally in the south, where the day of toil for the children has been lengthened to 11 hours. State's rights cover a multitude of crimes against humanity, but nothing worse than this.

Secretary Baker says we will not be able to get into another war for a long time, as it will take a century to pay this one. Herr Kuehlmann says Germany will be ready to do a "come back" in twenty-five years. Which knows the more about war?

New Jersey's union men decline to be tangled up with the "no beer no work" movement. They have the right hunch, and the sooner the beer advocates wake up to the fact that they will not help their cause by agitating for a strike, the quicker they will be in the way of gaining converts for their cause.

The Kaiser's Moral Guilt

It has been a foregone conclusion that the commission in Paris that has been passing on the responsibility for the war of the kaiser and the chiefs of the central empires would hardly recommend that the political leaders could be brought to trial or be physically punished. No matter what the facts are, and what these facts seem to be no doubt, the difficulties of legal indictment, trial and punishment have been apparent. But there is no difficulty in framing a moral indictment of the kaiser and his war lords, and it is certainly the duty of this commission to set out beyond all controversy the heinous character of the plot and the part the plotters in Germany and Austria played in bringing on the world war when they felt "the day" when they could crush civilization had arrived. This is a solemn and sacred duty and it must be performed. If the indictment be clean-cut and is made part of the peace treaty, the conscience of America and that of the world will be satisfied, since there can be no greater punishment for the kaiser than that he and his abhorred line shall live on to see the appalling results of their own acts. But if it be possible through local laws to hang some of the minor instruments, such as the murderers of Edith Cavell and Captain Fryatt, justice will be done. It was the incredibly individual brutality of these men, who acted on their own responsibility in carrying out the general policy of "frightfulness," that shocked the world and brought all civilized peoples to the rescue of the allies struggling with monsters of savagery, dead to all instincts of common humanity. If these men can be physically punished, it will not be an unsatisfactory thing for the kaiser to live on as the "imperial Cain," an object of loathing to the whole world and the sign and symbol of hideous conspiracy against the nations that failed. Death just now would be too good for him; and an official execution might martyrize one from whom the whole world shrinks. No; let him live on!—Philadelphia Ledger.

LOOK OUT FOR PROPAGANDISTS.

The war is not over yet. No treaty of peace has been signed, nor have the terms on which peace is to be made been formulated. Many people forget this. The German propagandists do not, however, and therein lies a grave danger. Various agencies are contributing, some of them unwittingly, and others innocently enough, to the movement set on foot months ago to excite sympathy for the defeated Germans. All the changes on the plea for the under dog are being rung, and the crafty schemers and plotters who were boring from within prior to the war have resumed their activity. Their efforts are the more of a menace, because they are more insidious.

What Americans must not forget is that we were forced into a war by the brutal actions of the German government, supported by the German people. We were put to an enormous expense of men and money to defend our country and flag, and all they stand for, against the German idea of aggression and domination. Unless it is finally defeated, the boys who died in France, and in the army camps at home, have died in vain, and the billions of treasure we have expended, the superhuman efforts we have made to raise and equip an army for defense, have been wasted.

Germany in defeat is the same Germany that outraged every sense of right and decency, of honor and humanity; that deluged the world with blood for four years; that deliberately committed unspeakable horrors in pursuit of a war of conquest. These things can not be forgotten. Until the Germans have made restitution and reparation as far as possible for the great wrongs done in their name, they will not be forgiven.

It is up to the German people to so conduct themselves that they may win back the respect of the world, which they have forfeited. This they are not doing yet. Until they do, look out for the man who has an apology or an excuse to offer for the Huns.

Is American Citizenship Worthless?

Another ultimatum has gone forth from Washington Mexico City, of tenor and purpose similar to those which have preceded it. We have lost track of the serial number, but the government down there must have a file of them sufficient to form a library. W. J. Bryan began the series, back in 1913, and they have gone forward periodically ever since. Each solemnly and formally demands of the Mexican authorities that American citizens be respected in their rights of person and property, under penalty of our extreme displeasure. And each has met an unvarying response. Whenever a bandit needs a little ready money, he raids an American ranch or mine, imprisons an American citizen and demands a ransom, or in one of a number of ways peculiar to his kind, gets what he needs from an American. Immediately the administration at Washington bestirs itself, and sends forth another ultimatum, which is added to the steadily growing pile at the Mexican capital. These imposing documents afford excellent models of style, when circumspection is chiefly considered. We would like to refer our State department to a message sent from Washington to a foreign government in the early years of the century. It reads: "Perdicaris alive, or Raisuli dead." Something like that sent to Mexico just now might end the annoyance; at least it would impress the followers of Venustiano Carranza with the idea that American citizenship has not become entirely worthless.

Iowa's Anti-Tipping Law Dead.

The supreme court of Iowa has knocked out the anti-tipping law of the state, and leaves the old and more or less obnoxious system of giving gratuities just where it was. That the practice is an evil none will deny. In anticipation of a "tip" produces servility, in realization dissatisfaction, and frequently in failure insolence. It never did, and never can in this country, occasion the correct feeling between him who gives and him who receives. The customer frequently pays with pleasure for extra service, but quite as often he realizes he is merely being mulcted to the extent of a small coin for something he did not get. The principal objection is that tipsters can never escape the thought that they are paying for something that the employer of the servant who waits on them should provide and, therefore, are paying double. This does not take into account the scientifically developed piracy that exists in many places of public resort, where check stand privileges or other like accommodations become the source of enormous revenues compiled from small amounts, all given for something the proprietor should provide without extra charge. In all its aspects the tip is un-American, but, unfortunately, in its very worst form the custom of tipping is widespread throughout the land. And, now that the courts have solemnly declared it to be a transaction between tipper and tippee, in which the public is not concerned, the connection between the "mit" and the "thin dime" will be interrupted in Iowa as elsewhere.

No Place for Doctors.

The little island of St. Kilda, the most remote of the Hebrides—attacked by a German submarine last May—is one of the healthiest of all the British Isles. It is only when the supply ship arrives there, as it does two or three times in the summer, that anything happens. Then the whole population catches cold and are ill for about four days.

Head of the League of Nations.

The name of Herbert Asquith is suggested in connection with the place at the head of the proposed League of Nations. The character of the great British statesman is such as would commend him to the place, if the league is to be what we are led to expect by its prospectus. He served his country indifferently well as premier, but his lack of aggressiveness made Lloyd George's job of toppling him from power comparatively easy. Mr. Asquith's chief weakness in this respect was his effort to make the conflict a party affair, in which he failed. While he is listed as a liberal, as contradistinguished from the conservative or Tory, but he is far from being as radical in his leanings as his able successor. However, it is a bit early to receive nominations for the presidency of the world, as the chick has not yet pipped the shell. As soon as the affair is definitely settled as to form and powers, it will be time enough to choose its presiding and other officers.

Notice to Americans: If you would enjoy your rights and privileges as citizens, stay at home.

Do not try to spread civilization, religion or commerce in foreign lands. It is embarrassing to the State department to have to write notes to foreign governments on account of folk who thoughtlessly wander away from our boundaries, under the impression that the plank in the Baltimore platform meant what it said.

The New York World sees in the Pennsylvania election a rebuke for Senator Knox and a vindication for Woodrow Wilson.

It doesn't take much to console a democrat at times.

Caroline Islands and Japan

Brooklyn Eagle. Of supreme importance to the United States is the contention of Japan that she should control the Caroline islands and others in the same group that formerly belonged to Germany and are now the subject of much discussion in the Paris peace conference. It is probable that a league of nations will be formed and that an international naval force will be one of its provisions, but interested countries on the Pacific seem to feel that the world should be made safe for themselves first; therefore Japan is hurriedly advancing new reasons why she should have all the South Sea islands lying north of the equator. Australia is just as determined to control those to the south, and the United States is not far behind.

The South Sea islands are made up of several groups, known as the Carolines, the Marshall islands, and the Marianes group, a total of some 500 small islets with a population of about 39,000 people, and an area of less than 1,000 miles. Of this group the island of Guam belongs to the United States, it being ceded by Spain in 1899, when she was forced to surrender to us seriously. With the United States controlling the Hawaiian islands, Guam, and the Philippines, her naval supremacy on the Pacific would seem secure. Japan, however, wants a foothold in the Carolines for a naval base, then if the international naval police force fails in becoming a reality, she has a considerable enough to serious.

Capt. A. P. Niblack of the United States navy in a paper read before the Naval Architects and Engineers early in 1917 emphasized the value of naval bases by saying: "It is an historical fact that no great naval battle has ever been fought in midocean, but always near the bases of one or the other powers, and the ports of supply, or naval bases, indicate the direction of the line which operations must take in time of war and which become lines of communications once the fleet has advanced beyond any available base on the route. We already have in the Pacific the heart's desire in strategic positions, and we seem to lack only the knowledge and nerve to strengthen such of them as will permit us to take the initiative and thereby forestall and even prevent war by making it too hopeless for anyone else to take the chances."

It is certain that were Japan to gain control of the Carolines she could so fortify them as to nullify all our advantages in holding Guam. Then she is but three days steaming time from our Philippines while we are twenty or more, so the possibilities of a great war, first on the ground and well supported by several bases in a fifteen hundred mile radius would place the United States at a disadvantage in the Pacific. "Any consideration of the strategy of the Pacific is utterly futile which leaves out the erection of Guam into a great naval base as our key to it for all time," says Captain Niblack. "Other possessions which we now own are questions of definite offensive or defensive areas, or of short-range lines of communication, and as such are worthy of consideration as strategic points, but our first necessity is consideration of Guam."

Naval experts have agreed that nothing, not even numerical battleship superiority, is equal to one first-class naval base. If Japan should gain her present ideals in the Pacific it would be these and not the number of battleships in the direction of naval supremacy on the greatest ocean, and means that one little mistake in time of war, one single slip or apparently minor setback would wreat the advantage from our hands, so nearly would the power be divided.

Whatever the political future of the Caroline islands, they are and will be objects of scientific interest for generations to come, says the National Geographic society. Who built the massive stone structures which give evidence of a high degree of civilization at some prehistoric time? What was the origin of the stone currency, some "coins" of which weigh five tons? These are but two of the many questions which these Pacific islands of mystery present. The stone ruins extend from Ponape, an island toward the east of the group to Yap, on the west. On Yap are great stone terraces, embankments and roads, composed of neatly laid stone blocks, stone graves, stone platforms and enormous chambers resembling vaulted arches with gables and frequently a central niche. Ponape discloses the "Pacific Venice." There the ruins are partly submerged. Apparently they once stood on an island city, unless their site was connected with other islands before a terrific upheaval inundated them.

"What remains today is more than half a hundred rectangular walls, projecting above the waters of a lagoon. There is an outer lagoon, separated from breaker three miles long. In all this construction huge basalt blocks were used. Apparently they were untouched by iron tools. Recent study has confirmed the belief that these mighty megalithic monuments antedate the present native population of the Carolines."

"Origin of the unique stone coinage is not known. Shell money seems to have supplanted the unwieldy stone discs for 'small change' long before the white man arrived. The stone 'money' is made from limestone or calcite. It probably was employed for primitive banking rather than for general circulation. Its security from theft was assured by its weight. Specimens are found piled about the homes of native chieftains. Including reefs not inhabited, the Caroline islands number more than 500. Of the total land area of 390 square miles, Ponape, Yap, Kusaie and Hogolu, or Truk. In 1911 the total population was about 35,000, and of these fewer than 400 were Europeans. The islands extend for about 1,000 miles, east and west. They lie more than 1,500 miles to the east of the Philippines, and about 1,000 miles north of New Guinea."

Today

The Day We Celebrate. J. P. Miller, manager Wellington Inn, born 1884. Charles L. Dundey, lawyer, born 1872. Dr. Charles W. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard university, born in Boston 85 years ago. Rt. Rev. David H. Greer, Episcopal bishop of New York, born in Wheeling, W. Va., 75 years ago. Sir Edward J. Poynter, famous British artist, late president of the Royal Academy, born in Paris 83 years ago. Maj. Gen. Charles T. Menoher, U. S. A., who commanded the Rainbow division in France, born in Pennsylvania 57 years ago.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.

Ben Barrows is quoted as "the chief descriptive writer of the Union Pacific." A party of Japanese nobility going through Omaha attracted quite a crowd to the railway station. There were a Japanese count and countess, marquis and marchioness, the mikado's master of ceremonies and his wife and a naval commander and his wife. The men all smoked cigars, but only one of them could speak English. Their destination was Paris via Washington and New York. Tom Hayes and John Doll, recently appointed to the police force, have donned uniforms. Jack Morrison sold his three-story brick and stone building at 1407 Douglas to Dennis Leary of Butte, Mont., for \$36,000. Mrs. F. D. Mead is visiting her daughter, Mrs. E. N. Erickson, in West Point, Neb. A. C. Wakelley celebrated his birthday by giving a dinner to a number of friends.

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.

Many Questions Answered.

Soldier's Sister—The 31st machine gun battalion is part of the 17th brigade of the 89th division; its address is A. P. 781. This division is scheduled to sail for home in June. Soldier's Sister—The 31st machine gun battalion is part of the 17th brigade of the 89th division; its address is A. P. 781. This division is scheduled to sail for home in June.

Mrs. W. W. M.—The 10th signal battery is under orders for early return. American units serving with the British army have been ordered to return, but many are delayed, waiting for transport. A. P. O. 729 at Meun (Meurthe-et-Moselle) has no allowance is made by the government to the wife or children of a commissioned officer. Mrs. H. S.—The 19th aer squadron is in the service of supply, and is not attached to a division; its present postoffice address is Aulnat, via A. P. O. 723, located at Clermont-Ferrand (Puy de Dome). It has not yet been assigned to convoy home.

Mrs. V. A. M.—The 115th signal battalion is part of the army of occupation. It is attached to the second army and its address is A. P. O. 784, at Toul, (Meurthe-et-Moselle). Miss H. M. K.—The 45th coast artillery regiment is in the service of supply, and its address is A. P. O. 754, at Toul, (Meurthe-et-Moselle). Mrs. C. H. G.—No orders have yet been issued for the return of the 5th engineers. Its address is A. P. O. 514A, located at Langres (Haute Marne).

A Soldier's Wife—No orders have been issued for the return of any units of the 85th division. C. M.—Members of the S. A. T. C. are not entitled to the \$60 bonus. Mrs. E. C.—The 91st division is scheduled to sail in March; its headquarters are at Dourmorhem, Belgium; A. P. O. 776.

Inquisitive—Motor Truck company 456 is attached to headquarters third army corps, and is not a part of the 17th brigade of the 89th division. Its present address is A. P. O. 754. Company I of the 34th engineers is in the service of supply, and its present address is A. P. O. 712, which is at Meun (Meurthe-et-Moselle). G. W. C.—Company B, heavy tank corps, battalion 303, is assigned to convoy; no postoffice address given.

N. G.—The 121st field artillery is assigned to early convoy home; its headquarters are at Troneher, A. P. O. 753. A letter to private in the organization should be addressed to him there. An Anxious Mother—Company A, 72d engineers, is stationed at St. Vast, and is not attached to a division; no orders out yet for its return.

Mrs. H. J. H.—The 223d aer squadron is part of the second army, and is not under orders for early return home; its address is A. P. O. 731A, which is at Colombey-les-Belles (Meurthe-et-Moselle). The allotment is for a stipulated amount, and the place of the soldier's making it, making a new one to replace the old. A Brother—No orders have been issued for the return of company E, 6th engineers.

Mrs. E. D.—The 4th and 5th balloon companies are down for early return, and probably will soon be over here; the 6th, 7th and 8th balloon companies are with the 15th army corps in the army of occupation; A. P. O. 769. H. F. T.—The initials "S. O. S." stand for service of supply.

Mrs. H. D.—The headquarters detachment of the 154th aer squadron is not part of a division; at last reports it was training at Langres, (Haute Marne). Its address is A. P. O. 714. Carrie—The address given for the 154th aer squadron is February 1919, Chelles, via A. P. O. 702, which is located at Paris. The larger part of the 40th division has already been returned to the United States, and the time for sailing of the units left behind.

Soldier's Cousin—No word as to when any of the army postoffice units will be returned. A. P. O. 709 is at Bordeaux. Mrs. M.—The 91st division is scheduled to sail in March; this is understood here to include all its units. And—how did you entreat! But the robins that I heard last week Between the rains that poured I betcha they ain't been tamperin' with An outja board.

DAILY CARTOONETTE

MY-MY! THIS STEAK IS AWFUL! I'LL THROW IT OUT OF THE WINDOW AND HE DID.



Little Folks' Corner

DREAMLAND ADVENTURE

By DADDY

CHAPTER IV. Peggy's Wits Find a Way. "NOW we'll show you how to smash that trap," brayed Bally Sam, galloping up to the entrance of the cave, where Lonesome Bear was imprisoned. Whirling around, Sam sent his powerful hoofs banging against the stakes that barred the entrance. Slam, bang, slam went his heels, and Bally Sam turned to see the effect. But the stakes stood as solidly as ever.



He was dancing gaily around through the smoke. Bally Sam sat down and scratched one ear with his hoof while he studied the situation. "This is different from the German traps," he declared. "This must be an American trap." "Of course," replied Peggy. "The Ogre is an American realist." "That explains it," brayed Bally Sam. "I'm a terror on Hun traps, but an American trap—that's different."

The Bee's Letter Box

The One Language Fallacy. Plainview, Neb., March 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: In America's positive effort to show patriotism, it is seeking to enforce the "one language" plan. "Talk United States or get out" seems to be the placard that is applauded everywhere. The world has shrunk into a single province, for the telephone and telegraph with their cables and wireless apparatus place all mankind in a single forum, and as there are 3,064 languages and well defined dialects, where would a nation be if the one-language propaganda would be maintained but for a single decade?

Musie has an international notation; the metric system is rapidly taking the place of the incongruous system of weights and measures; the marine code is understood the world over. Then why not be liberal enough to accept the necessary neutral, auxiliary, international language, Esperanto, which is the digest of the world's 15 leading languages, of which the average student can gain a working knowledge in several hours, for he possesses 70 per cent of the roots to begin with, and the system is as logical as the multiplication table.

On the other hand, the United States must remember that if it wishes commercial relations with South America that it must have a working knowledge of Spanish, no doubt the easiest of the national languages to learn. "Prove all things and hold to that which is good." CHARLES P. LANG.

OFFICIAL

I heard my first spring robin On the tenth of March, by fling! And it made my pulse beat faster. When I heard that robin sing Of Von Winter's armies routed— / And that Frost-kaiser doomed—the wind blew its stren whistles, / Hall crashed and thunder boomed.

Some said they heard spring robins Proclaim the self-same news / Way back in January. And—how they did entreat! But the robins that I heard last week Between the rains that poured I betcha they ain't been tamperin' with An outja board.

RAYOLE N. TREBLE.

and in addition he got his horns tangled up in them so that Billy Belgium and Peggy had a lively time untangling him. "Woof! I'll bite them in two," growled Johnny Bull, tearing at the stakes with his teeth. But the wood was hard and Johnny Bull's teeth couldn't dent it. "Well, I guess you'll have to stay in there and be stuffed by that Ogre," brayed Bally Sam. "I don't want to be stuffed—unless I do the stuffing myself," wailed Lonesome Bear.

"It will not be so bad," brayed Bally Sam in an attempt to comfort him. "I've seen lots of stuffed bears in museums and some of them looked real nice and natural." "Lonesome Bear is not going to be stuffed," spoke up Peggy indignantly. "We are going to get him out of there. Have you any matches, Billy?" "Lots of them," answered Billy. "We will just make a fire under the stakes and burn them away," said Peggy.

"Wise Princess Peggy! I knew you'd think of a way," brayed Bally Sam. Billy gathered up bits of dried wood and soon had a fire blazing merrily under the stakes. But quickly an unforeseen danger arose. Lonesome Bear began to cough, to splutter and to gasp for breath. The smoke from the fire was pouring into the cave and smothering him.

"Save him! He is choking to death!" brayed Bally Sam. "Give him a good kick," ordered Johnny Bull. Billy Belgium began to throw earth on the fire, but that only made the smudge all the heavier. "Peggy, give me a good kick, and you'll get the right thing to do. She snatched the gas mask from Bally Sam's neck, put it on the end of a stick and poked it through the stakes into the cave.

"Put on the gas mask," she cried. "Then the smoke can't hurt you." "Lonesome Bear was nearly smothered, but he obeyed, and in a minute he was over his gasping and spluttering. In another minute he was dancing gaily around through the smoke while the fire ate away the bars. Suddenly Johnny Bull growled a warning. "Hide! Here comes the Ogre!" Instantly Billy, Peggy, Bally Sam, Johnny Bull and Billy Goat vanished among the bushes.

(In tomorrow's chapter the Ogre makes another discovery.)

EDITORIAL SNAPSHOTS

Washington Post: Members of the Anti-Saloon league ought to make it a patriotic duty to take up the entire issue of the next Liberty loan.

Minneapolis Tribune: Patriot Villa has not been heard from for some time. He must have made a good haul on his last plundering expedition.

Baltimore American: How strange the world will look when the last uniform has vanished from the streets, and the existence of the mere civilian begins to be recognized.

Detroit Free Press: The bolsheviks say they will acknowledge the financial obligations of Russia toward entente creditors. But how much will their acknowledgment be worth in dollars and cents?

Brooklyn Eagle: Prof. Edward de Valera, M. P., and escaped prisoner, advises Sinn Feiners to speak soft of President Wilson, in whom De Valera has full confidence. Evidently the professor is a strategist whom Machiavelli would have delighted to honor.

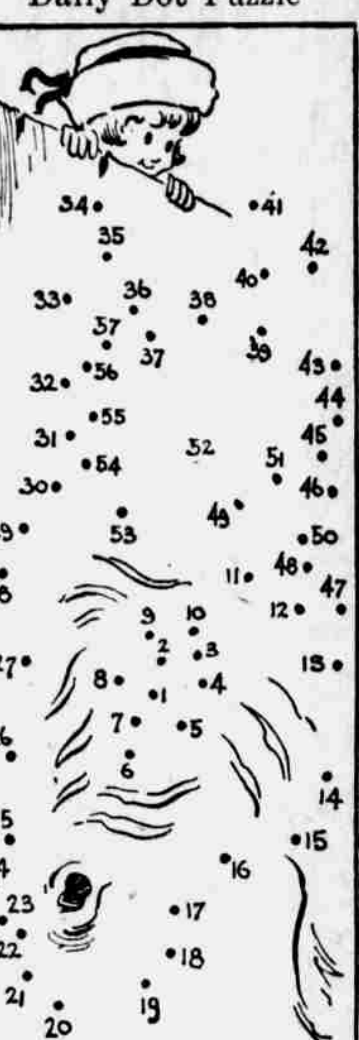
New York World: Free speech, says the supreme court of the United States, does not imply the right of a person in a crowded theater to shout a fire alarm falsely, and so it does not confer upon anybody the privilege of decrying government in time of war. The right of speech, therefore, resembles the right to vote. First of all, it must be lawful.

"BUSINESS IS GOOD, THANK YOU"

WHY NOT NICHOLAS OILS? L.V. NICHOLAS OIL COMPANY



Daily Dot Puzzle



From Africa the ——— hails, They're full of ——— and have long tails. Draw from one to two and so on and

MIRTHFUL REMARKS.

"Congress may complete it by work, but its members have no big advantage over other working people."

"It can raise its own salary without having to ask the boss."—Baltimore American.

Mrs. Gadabout—Are you still bothered with the awful Boreum family coming to dine with you every few evenings? Mrs. Gadabout—Oh, no; they finally took the hint.

Mrs. Gadabout—What did you say to them? Mrs. Gadabout—Oh, nothing was said. But we served sponge cake every time they came.—Indianapolis Star.



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DIRECTIONS: Wrapped around every jar of Resinol Ointment and cake of Resinol Soap is a booklet of explanations and directions. Read the contents thoroughly, and follow the instructions carefully.