

THE OMAHA BEE

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"America first" is not a bad motto.

Michiganers stick to all or nothing on prohibition. It is just as well.

"Johnny" Maher is coming home, if proof that the war is over were really wanted.

Let the eagle scream again—an American army officer has won a tennis match in Lunnon!

It may be a little early to start, but the government again advises the people to "swat the fly."

"League or war" would sound better if the public had not heard democratic promises before.

If the Victory loan does not go through with a whoop, it will not be for lack of whooping it up.

City employees who went to war ought to have the old job or a better one as soon as they show up for work.

"Jimmy" Gerard proposes that the kaiser be exiled to some nice "lonesome" town. Nominations are now in order.

France is now said to be fighting both friend and foe, but this is probably a libel on France. All the French want is security.

A correspondent wants to know why Secretary Baker should go to France again at this time. We confess inability to answer this.

When the innocent farmer brings the city siren into court to recover the money he spent on her, it is time for movie-men to change reels.

Our affairs are rapidly getting back to normal, the announcement being made that the Georgia peach crop is killed by the cold snap.

Bavarian bolsheviks plan to go the limit in their program. If they succeed, sunny southern Germany will be quite as happy and prosperous as Russia.

Ninety Omaha boys in one bunch make quite a showing, even where Yankee soldiers are as plentiful as they are in French back areas now. They will get a cordial welcome home some day.

Now that everybody has endorsed the "Argonne Drive" along the river bank as an appropriate memorial to our soldiers, what about building it? Omaha has enough such projects up in the air to keep all hands at work for a generation.

With the railroad operating deficit increasing each day, the public may be pardoned for expressing astonishment at the announcement from the office of Walker D. Hines that another increase in wages is coming soon. This is the real beauty of having Uncle Sam foot the bill.

Mayor Smith still clings to the belief that one way to bring down the cost of brick in Omaha is to make more brick, to which purpose he devotes a lot of otherwise useless and unsightly claybanks. If the high banks along some of the streets can be converted into skyscrapers by the simple process the mayor suggests, it would seem worth trying.

The secretary of war "passed the buck" as usual on his departure for Europe, writing a letter to Senator "Jimmy" Reed, giving his excuses for failure to immediately demobilize the army. If Mr. Baker had been frank at the outset, instead of needlessly raising expectations by his statements that led folks to think that the boys would soon be home, he would not now be forced to seek refuge behind statements that the British refused to furnish us needed ships.

"Local Jobs for Local Men"

The War department has called on the commercial organizations of the country through the National Chamber of Commerce to aid in securing jobs for the returning soldiers. One feature of this new movement which is worthy of every attention is that all organizations that get in touch with a soldier out of a job are asked to notify the home organization, so that the soldier in turn may be put in touch with his old associations and, if possible, with his old employers. As the committee which has been co-operating with the National Chamber of Commerce puts it:

"Local jobs for local men" should be the slogan used with and by the employers in order that the returning soldiers may be impelled to redistribute themselves throughout the country in the ratio in which the man-power was withdrawn for military purposes, thus bringing into immediate operation the maximum reabsorbing capacity of the whole nation."

This is all very well, but the astonishing thing is that this policy should be suggested now after the employment service of the United States Department of Labor, partly through the failure of congress to support it and partly through its own methods, has had to call in the aid of outside organizations to remedy the muddle the employment problem has got into. It is to be remembered that the leading workers in the draft boards here and elsewhere suggested that, whatever else the War department did, final demobilization should bring the soldier back to his home draft board, and thus pass him back to civil and industrial life through those who know him. This was not done, and, in certain large centers, the soldiers who were helped to "local jobs" were men who belonged thousands of miles away from the places where they received employment. Consequently, this was confusion and distress when the local men turned up later demobilized but jobless. That the Chamber of Commerce has adopted the new slogan proves that the way in which the bureau handled matters was not the part of wisdom. The thing to do now, however, is not to cry over spilt milk, but to follow out the suggestions of the National Chamber of Commerce and get the men back to home and to work at once.—Philadelphia Ledger.

THE PEACE OF JUSTICE.

A lot of weak sentimentality is being hawked about the purport that we and our allies in the war should be generous and compassionate with the late enemy in the terms imposed in the treaty of peace. According to this talk, we must not load vanquished Germany with too great a burden of reparation, and we must not set up obstacles to its unlimited future industrial expansion. We should help Germany get on its feet again as a great nation and we should open the door and offer the hand of welcome to the new Germany, to an equal place at the world's council table.

People who are talking in this fashion should be reminded that it is the peace of justice which was promised to Germany and that while justice should always be tempered with mercy, we are not called on to treat Germany as if it were an innocent victim and we the accidental victors. All we have to do is to picture the conditions reversed, and try to imagine what terms the kaiser would be imposing on us if he were dictating the words of the peace treaty. We have it from official spokesmen close to the imperial throne at the time Germany believed it was about to win out, that no concessions were to be made to France or Italy or Great Britain. How much territory Germany would have annexed, how great the indemnities it would have exacted, what punishment it would have meted out to those who had stood in the way of its ambition, no one can tell. We may be sure, however, that exultant, victorious Germany, would have consulted its own interests exclusively.

When the terms of the peace treaty are made public, particularly the provisions embodying the demands to be enforced upon Germany and Austria and their partners, let us then weigh them, not in rancor, not in bitterness, not in revenge nor yet in forgetfulness, but on the scale of even-handed justice that makes sure that all those lives of loved ones were not sacrificed vainly.

Seven-Day Service on Necessaries.

Mayor Smith's statement that the police should vigorously enforce the ordinance prohibiting the delivery of ice on Sunday is worth while noting. If his suggestion is strictly carried out, it may have the effect of securing the repeal of an ordinance against which The Bee protested at the beginning. Six days of continuous work is enough for any man, and especially for the man who delivers ice on hot summer days. One complete day's rest in seven is a wise regulation.

But Omaha is a seven-day town. Life goes on continuously, and must be provided for. In many lines seven-day service exist, with a simple adjustment of working forces on a six-day schedule. Such a rule is not impossible for the ice companies. To shut off Sunday deliveries does not materially affect the big consumers, for they easily can store a two-day supply. In the small homes this is not possible in the extremely hot weather, when the rest day is most needed by the workmen.

The situation in the small home is already bad enough because of the city ordinance that forbids the opening of grocery stores or meat markets on Sunday, thus forcing the householder to carry his own provisions, where formerly he left them in the dealer's cooler over Saturday night. Now to deprive him of ice or force him to enlarge his ice box is hitting him a double blow. Give the small home some consideration. Ice men should have their rest day, but the people also should have their ice. The problem is merely one of adjustment of working forces by the companies.

Politics in the Peace Drive.

Some assertions made in contention for the League of Nations have a strangely familiar sound. The advocates of the "swallow it whole" policy remind us that unless the league is formed, another war is right at hand. Such statements must bring to the minds similar pleas made not so many months ago.

In 1914 the pacificatory elements of the democratic party began a steady propaganda, in which they were ably seconded, if not systematically directed, by the agents of Germany, the purpose of which was to keep us out of war. In 1916 their rallying cry was "He Kept Us Out of War."

It required no especial penetration of vision then to discover the imminence of either war or ignominy. Germany had murdered our citizens, destroyed our property, invaded our rights, and sneered at our protests. War could only be avoided by completely submitting to dictation from Berlin. Democratic leaders knew this, and they also knew that if they told the truth, they would be swept from office. Therefore, they deliberately deceived the people as to the exact situation, and won continuance in office through the desire of Americans for a peace they could not have.

Another national election is coming on, and we find these same unscrupulous political tricksters tuning up to play on the same string again. Our people do not want war; they yearn for peace sincerely and with all their hearts. But they have learned that there can be conditions worse than righteous war. It remains to be determined if the siren of the democratic party can lull the public into forgetfulness of the blunders of the last three years by singing a sweet song of universal peace.

A League of Nations probably will come out of the peace negotiations, but such an issue will not free the democratic party from its record of incompetency, extravagance and mismanagement of national affairs.

Mail Service Under Burleson.

A Montgomery man a few days ago received a letter from his brother, written and mailed in New York June 20, 1914. It took both a republican and democratic administration six years to get the letter here, but Mr. Burleson clearly has the best of it. The letter was not delivered while Mr. Hitchcock had it; Mr. Burleson did actually deliver the letter.—Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser.

The Advertiser's joke would be a good one if it were based on facts; it is an even better one because of the blunder it contains. Albert E. Burleson was appointed postmaster general in March, 1913, and has served continuously since then. Therefore this long-delayed letter was under his care and keeping from the time the writer dropped it in the mail box in New York until the carrier delivered it to the proper party in Montgomery, years later. The whole affair is typical of the democratic shiftiness, however.

If President Wilson is not blushing, and the stories from Paris are substantially correct, we may hear that the Peace conference is about to cease conferring, and get down to brass tacks.

The Conference and the Peace

London Times, March 17.

The Germans, as was inevitable, have agreed to the surrender of their merchant shipping and the allied have undertaken to allow them a supply of foodstuffs, and even to resume their foreign trade under certain limitations. While humanitarian considerations enter largely into the first of these concessions, both are made on solid grounds of self-interest for the allies. This is the more satisfactory as competent observers, like Lord Frothingham and others today, are not all agreed that Germany is so near starvation as its representatives assert and as the allies appear willing to believe. A large amount of new tonnage—it is stated to be 3,500,000 tons—will become available for the urgent business of feeding all the hungry people, and if the blockade is to be partly raised, and the wholly agreed that Germany is so near starvation as its representatives assert and as the allies appear willing to believe.

What is the legal share of a wife in Nebraska? Answer—By this question I assume that you mean what share she has in the property of her husband. This would depend entirely upon whether or not there were any children or whether she was the mother of all the children of the deceased. In the event that there were no children her interest would be one-half and from a fourth if there were one or more children and what her relation is to them.

Owner's Liability. M. Y.—I live in an apartment house. When I rented the apartment it was with the understanding that I should have the first one I wanted that became vacant as the one I took was undesirable. A desirable apartment has become vacant and the agent informed me that I could have it in the presence of witnesses and asked me to find a substitute tenant for the apartment I now occupy, which I did. The agent sent me a contract to sign for the new apartment, but I refused. I procured to take the apartment I now occupy saw the vacant apartment in the meantime and rented it of the agent before I returned to return the signed contract, and the agent refuses to let me have the apartment. I wish to take another one I wish to see some extent of trouble in my arrangement to take the apartment he promised me. Have I no recourse?

RIGHT TO THE POINT. Kansas City Star: Mr. Debs evidently made the mistake of his life by not doing what he did under the guise of a conscientious objector.

MOMENTS OF MIRTH. We wasted nothing of a pic except the equal. (Gillie) I understand now that they are even calling the equal and putting it on the market in the form of grand opera "homograph records.—Life.

DAILY CARTOONETTE. HERE, SPORT COME HERE! AND HE DID!

THE DAY WE CELEBRATE. Rev. Robert L. Wheeler, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, South Side, born 1851. Hon. Walter E. Foster, premier of New Brunswick, born at St. Martin, N. B., 45 years ago. Dr. Raymond A. Pearson, president of Iowa State College of Agriculture, born at Evansville, Ind., 46 years ago. Park Trammell, junior United States senator from Florida, born in Polk county, Fla., 43 years ago.

IN OMAHA THIRTY YEARS AGO. Boyd's opera house has been incorporated with these incorporators: James E. Boyd, E. L. Bierbower, Charles Ogden, Thomas F. Boyd and D. W. Haynes.

THE OMAHA BEE. The Omaha Bee ball team beat Kansas City, pounding them up to a score of 4 to 2.

THE CRITICISM OF THE ALBANI. The criticism of the Albani concert ranks that artist as second only to Patti in the realms of music.

MRS. G. W. CLARK. Mrs. G. W. Clark went to Blair to attend the district convention of the W. C. T. U.

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

CONTRACT FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE. S. E. B.—Is a contract legal where a husband signs a lease to a tract of land to a party to improve and have all crops from same with the privilege of buying it at a stated price when conditions of the lease are completed. The lessor agreeing to give a deed but his wife does not sign the contract or lease?

ANSWER—A contract for the sale or lease of land does not have to be signed by the lessor or vendor's wife, and the contract of equity will decree specific performance where the contract was otherwise valid.

ANSWER—Texas is the only state I know of, although there may be others.

CONTRACT. L. L.—I ordered a piece of furniture made by a contractor or carpenter and it was to cost me \$12.00. He made it different than I wanted and asked more money for it now. Can he collect the price he wants for it and can he make me take it, which I have refused to do?

ANSWER—On the facts stated you have a perfect right to refuse acceptance of the piece of furniture if it is not what you ordered or if the price is more than you agreed to pay.

DOWN INTO ANOTHER POULTRY-YARD SETTLED THE MOB. Several times to swoop down on poultry yards and steal the food of startled chickens. Once, even, they swept over a field where a farmer was planting his seed, and right before his eyes they grabbed up the seed he had sowed and sped away with taunting cries.

FROM NEAR AND FAR.

Natives of the Sudan are raising money for the erection of a medical college at Khartoum as a memorial to Lord Kitchener.

Chinese merchants in Tahiti have subscribed a fund for establishing an orphan asylum for the children whose parents were influenza victims.

One of the encouraging signs of the times in Mexico today is the interest in physical education, as manifested in the promotion of foot ball, base ball and tennis clubs throughout the country.

San Jose, principal city of Costa Rica, possesses one of the finest opera houses in the western world, a structure which cost \$1,500,000 to build and equip.

During the middle ages the Venetians controlled the sugar trade, bringing the product from Egypt, Syria and India. So important was the industry considered that when in 1420 a Venetian invented a new process of refining sugar he was presented by the government with a sum of money representing an enormous fortune in those days.

Patent Process "BUNK"

It is just as impossible to increase by a PATENT PROCESS, the amount of butter fat in milk as straight run gasolene in crude oil.

In the one case you simply add milk to the cream—in the other, kerosene to gasolene.

Our gasolenes are straight run homogeneous cuts from the "top" of the best crude oil.

THINK IT OVER

Two good gasolenes: CRYSTAL BLITZEN (high test), 27c. VULCAN (dry test), 24c.

L. V. NICHOLAS OIL CO.

FILLING STATIONS: 38th and Farnam. 29th and Leavenworth. 12th and Harney. 17th and Davenport. 24th and H. South Side.

Little Folks' Corner

DREAMLAND ADVENTURE

By DADDY

THE MYSTERIOUS KNIGHT

CHAPTER III In Pursuit of the Mob.

PEGGY couldn't believe her eyes. Never before had she seen a knight and she didn't know that one existed outside of story books. Yet here this champion had come unexpectedly to her rescue. And he was such a splendid knight too! All covered with armor and with a helmet on his head. The visor of the helmet was down and she couldn't see his face, but she was sure that he was handsome and brave-looking.

"Don't let them get away," shrilled General Swallow. "They intend to wall Judge Owl, Blue Jay and Reddy Woodpecker up in a hollow tree and let them starve!"

"Hi! Hi! After them fast!" shouted the knight. The gallant steed responded, but so swiftly as he galloped the mob flew faster and this time it didn't stop to steal or eat. It flew straight for Birdland and disappeared into the depths of the forest.

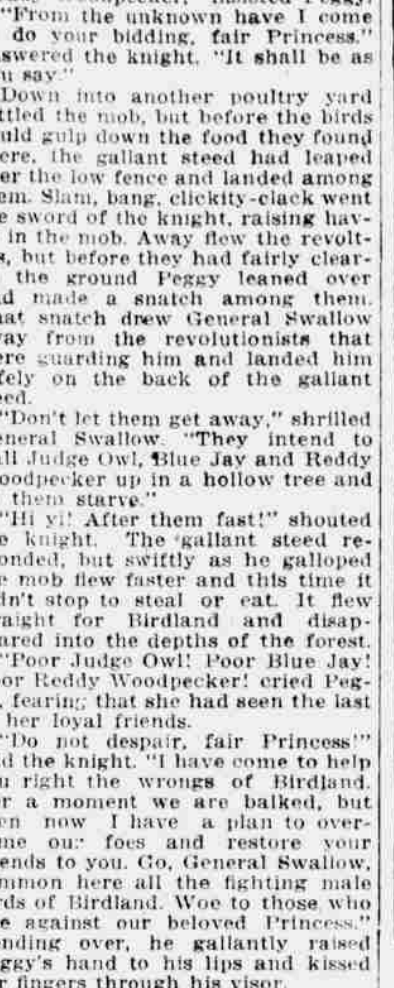
"Poor Judge Owl! Poor Blue Jay! Poor Reddy Woodpecker!" cried Peggy, fearing that she had seen the last of her loyal friends.

"Do not despair, fair Princess!" said the knight. "I have come to help you right the wrongs of Birdland. For a moment we are balked, but even now I have a plan to overcome our foes and restore your friends to you, Go, General Swallow, summon here all the fighting male birds of Birdland. Woo to those who rise against our beloved Princess!"

Bending over, he gallantly raised Peggy's hand to his lips and kissed her fingers through his visor.

(Tomorrow will be told how the revolutionists gain unexpected recruits.)

Daily Dot Puzzle



Trace around with careful line. You'll be through at fifty-nine.

Draw from one to two and so on to end



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