THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING) — EVENING — SUNDAY

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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"Sure, we'll finish the job!"

Watch the price of steel now for a tip on the market.

Come on with your warmer weather; the fields are waiting.

Silver is gradually crawling up to 16 to 1 mark, but the gold standard is not thereby abolished.

If the police have time to spare from the pursuit of bootleggers, it might be devoted to the gun-toters.

A French aviator almost reached the top of the high cost of living, but he had to go up five miles to do it.

Attorney General Palmer finds the price fixing board to be illegal, but not until Secretary Redfield had found it to be futile.

The governor calls the arguments of Fred Ayers against the code bill "piffle," which well describes the whole anti-movement.

With the "grandmother of the revolution" in Omaha and the mother of the late czar in London, a certain balance is established.

Prussians are shouting "To arms," but Bavaria, Saxony and the rest of the Teutonic states have had enough of Prussia's leadership.

Von Brockdorff-Rantzau's effort to gain audience with the president shows that German effrontery and impudence has not changed much.

An "avalanche" of Victory loan subscriptions on Saturday sustains the suspicion that somebody was holding back, waiting for the finish.

The Gould family row has been coming on for a long time, and might as well be settled now as later. It may provide some interesting reading.

Peter the Great decided one lawyer was enough to serve Russia; Lenine and Trotzky have determined that Russia can get along without any law.

Omaha's Liberty bond salesmen may now lay aside their armor and go back to peaceful pursuits, taking with them the knowledge that they did their work well.

The St. Louis caucus of veterans was not meally mouthed on the topic of pardons for slackers. This ought to be a pointer for our pacifist secretary of war.

Holland will surrender the Hohenzollern, and the victors will pass on his fate. His own views as to the mutability of human fortune might be interesting to the curious.

A "week of mourning" has been decreed in Germany. It will be well, for the experience may in a measure offset the week of rejoicing that followed the sinking of the Lusitania four years ago.

The Saturday half-holiday at the state house is encouraging to the employes, for it follows a practice that is becoming general in the land. Shorter hours and better pay do not exclusively follow bolshevism.

May we not express the hope that the president's new world, to come through the League of Nations, will succeed better than did his "New Democracy," that was to flow from his election to his present exalted position?

Sale of Hamilton county land at $175 an acre not only affords a new view of Nebraska's growth, but provides another basis for the calculation of farm costs. It means high prices and maximum production if the venture is to be profitable.

Organized society rests on law, and American liberties are safeguarded by law; and experiments that look to the substitution of a new foundation for the whole fabric of our social existence are not to be undertaken in a light mood.

No Place for Partisanship

There is reassurance in the intimation that has been permitted to go abroad that the republican leaders of the senate will make no attempt to bind republican senators to a specific course of action with respect to the league of nations. To do so would be a serious mistake, and if any caucus or conference is deemed advisable it should be understood definitely in advance that those who attend are not committed thereby to vote either for or against the league.

As The Post has upon several occasions emphasized, the league of nations is not a party question, and no attempt should be made to give it a partisan tinge. It is purely a question for individual judgment. If ever there was an issue before the senate which demanded careful and individual consideration, wholly aloof from partisan influence, this is the one.

There are many party questions regarding which a senator is justified in yielding his personal preferences or judgment to that of his party caucus upon the theory that the collective opinion is safer than that of the individual. The league of nations is not one of those questions. No vote should be influenced by party politics, by friendship for or prejudice against the president or by any ulterior fact. It is among the most important measures ever presented to the United States senate, holding for all the people of America a portion of good or evil. It is not even a domestic question solely, much less a party question. It is in essence a war and peace question, to be dealt with strictly from the standpoint of patriotism. No party can have a monopoly of patriotism.—Washington Post.

INTERNATIONAL LAW.

Mr. Wilson's tribute to international law, expressed in his words to a group of lawyers, may serve to reassure those who had almost been driven to the conclusion that the president had decided to do away with the institution. His references to its growth and application were not especially happy. To speak of law as being left too much in the hands of lawyers, who fear to venture on uncharted courses, is not fair to the studious men who gives to law its vitality and make it serviceable to humanity.

All will agree with him that "the heart of the world is under very plain jackets," and that "unless you know the pressure of life of the humbler classes you know nothing of life whatever. "These, though, are but beautiful generalities, and mean little in concrete application. It is not supposed that Mr. Wilson will leave either the framing or the interpretation of international law to the uninformed, but that he will continue to insist that the impulses of the humble hearts be in some measure controlled by the thought of well trained and balanced minds.

To allege that national systems of law are outworn will convince only those who have little or no knowledge of the law, of its origin, growth and symmetry. Law is crystallized human experience; some of the law we follow was laid down an hundred centuries or longer ago. The very "law of love" on which Mr. Wilson lays his greatest stress, was enunciated by K'ung-fu-tsu 2,500 years ago, and teachers antedating him by many certuries are accredited with similar utterances. The fabric of national law is not rigid, as might be surmised from a reading of the president's speech, but is elastic and grows as the "minds of men are broadened."

Elihu Root called attention to the fact that the first draft of the league of nations, which the president brought home as a perfect production and on which he asked only favoring comment, made no provision in any way for the growth and development of international law, or for the settlement of disputes according to law. If Mr. Wilson has felt the prick of Mr. Root's criticism, and it appears he has, it will be accepted as a sign of advance. However, the institution that has grown with the human race is not to be discarded at this time, when its protective guidance is more needed than ever in all human experience. The bolsheviki found the law outworn and abandoned it, but the civilized people will not.

Back to Competitive Basis.

Director Hines' refusal to accept fixed prices on steel has put an end to Secretary Redfield's effort to adjust prices to facilitate the return from war to peace levels. The head of the railroad administration announces he will buy the 200,000-odd tons of steel immediately required in the open market on competitive basis. On this, the price-fixing board created by the secretary of commerce dissolves, and the basic industries of the country go at once under the law of supply and demand. How this will operate can not be foretold. It may mean a higher and it may bring a lower price level. No great concessions are to be anticipated, although the underlying commodities may follow the course of a few of the specialties. At the beginning of the year certain of the leading groups of manufactured articles announced prices that showed reductions of 25 per cent or more from war figures. This was not sufficient to stimulate general buying, because other prices were kept up. Stagnation has followed, and relief has lingered, waiting the outcome of Secretary Redfield's efforts to help the country back from war to peace. Now that this is over, and without beneficial result, we may see what business can do for itself.

Are Creeds Credentials?

The critical comment of Rev. Mr. Kuykendall on the newly formed ministerial association in Omaha must challenge the attention of thoughtful persons, regardless of denomination or religious affiliation. He raises no objection whatever to ministers forming themselves into any sort of organization for the perpetuation of a particular kind of religion. That privilege is admitted. He does properly object to an association with restricted qualifications for membership assuming to be the head and front of religious undertakings for the community. The imptopriety of the situation should have occurred to the organizers of the movement. On this point Mr. Kuykendall tersely sums up: "It practically declares that there is no room in the religious life of Omaha for those who are thinking, religiously, in terms of the Twentieth century." Dr. T. DeWitt Talmadge, many years ago, explaining why he could not adhere to the Westminster Confession of Faith, said he could not reconcile himself to the thought of the Nineteenth century sitting at the feet of the Seventeenth. This does not mean that the fundamentals of religion are to change; it does not raise sharply the question whether the thought of the day, so infinitely expanded in other dircetions, is to be narrowed down on the one vital point to the standards of 400 years ago. Can our conception of God increase as we gain in understanding of His works, or are we to accept creeds as credentials?

Ireland and the Peace Conference.

Our irascible correspondent, who challenges The Bee's sympathy with Ireland and the Irish, puts an unwarranted interpretation on the paragraph he quotes. What was aimed at was to give the thoughtful Irish an idea of the hopelessness of their appeal to the conference at Paris. From the very outset it was plain even to casual observers that Great Britain had no thought of relinquishing any of its possessions, least of all Ireland. American opinion on this point was discounted long ago, and is of very little weight now. The article in the league pact that fixes forever the political boundaries to be established in Paris disposes of Ireland so far as outside interference is concerned, and leaves with England the decision as to whether complete autonomy will be granted the Irish. If the United States ratifies the treaty and enters the League of Nations, it will be bound by this provision, and agitation of the question in this country will not only be of no avail, but even may subject us to some sort of penalty for failure to abide by the terms of covenant. This is what The Bee had in mind when it advised the Irish to take a squint at what was going on in Paris.

Nebraska school districts are being consolidated at a rate that must convince the objectors of the fact that the idea is growing. It means better schools for the state.

Burleson and Burlesonism.

From the Philadelphia Ledger.

Postmaster General Burleson has responded to an offer of the New York World to open its columns to him for a reply to the widespread criticisms of his administration and of himself as a public official, and his defense is quite as interesting for what it omits as for what it contains. In reviewing his reply, it is only just to the accused that the indictment shall be confined to the truth, as his accusers see the truth, and that the ground shall be cleared of all extraneous and confusing issues. Mr. Burleson has just ground for complaint in that some of his critics repeat charges which have been publicly proved as without foundation, as for instance the allegations that he was the hirer of convict labor, that he was an active instrument in "fastening prohibition on the country," that he interfered in congress to prevent an appropriation for a certain channel improvement at New York and that he was personally responsible for the super-serviceable and over-zealous action of certain telegraph officials in New York City in refusing transmission over the wires of an article criticizing him and his administration.

All these things may be dismissed as in the main groundless and irrelevant for the popular dissatisfaction with the Burleson regime is based on other and more substantial complaints. Mr. Burleson is obessed by the notion that that wide-spread dissatisfaction has its origin solely in the resentment of periodical and newspaper publishers because of his advocacy of the zone system and increased postage for their publications, in the enmity of the railroads because of his action in reducing the compensation for the carrying of the mails, and in the opposition of the express companies to the growth and efficiency of the parcel post. All these things the undoubtedly factors in the popular estimate of Burlesonism, but it is puerile for Mr. Burleson to pretend that the entire business community of the United States has been influenced by these specific grievances and that the almost universal condemnation of the mail and wire services under his management has no other basis.

If Mr. Burleson's experts, who reported to him "that by every test by which the postal service could be measured a high standard of efficiency was disclosed," had only resorted to the simple and obvious expedient of consulting the users of the mails they would have had a different story to tell. It is the everyday experience in business circles, and in private use of the mails as well, that deliveries are slow and uncertain and that the facilities afforded have been notoriously curtailed. Every one will be willing to admit that the exigencies of the war threw new duties upon the postoffice, that its labors were enormously increased, but Mr. Burleson was apparently more concerned to make a favorable statistical showing than to secure efficiency, and the results were that might have been expected. The changes in the railway mail service alone were all in the direction of delay and a lowered efficiency, which no "economies" can justify. Moreover, the destruction of the tube service in several of the principal cities of the country was accomplished in the face of the unanimous protests of the business communities they served, and no mere repetition by Mr. Burleson of his characterization of the service as an "incubus" will serve as a satisfactory explanation or justification of his arbitrary and autocratic method of dealing with this question. Nor will his parrot-like reiteration of the charge, based on figures long since proved to have been the wildest guesswork that the users of the second class mails have been "subsidized" to the extent of millions by the government, carry conviction to the minds of the people who have been benefited by a policy which has yielded results of incalculable value in the creation of a national unity of thought and action.

Mr. Burleson's personality is the least important feature of Burlesonism. He may be the disinterested patriot he imagines himself to be, but his influence as a politician upon the postal service has been distinctly deleterious. It has broken down the morale of that service to a marked degree. It has led to the use of the communications of the country for the purposes of a propaganda for government ownership, the results of which have been to convert the people to the futility of that policy. Mr. Burleson's contention that the conditions of the present government control of the wires have made a fair test of government ownership impossible will not be convincing to a people who are suffering under a rule which has imposed new burdens of inconvenience and cost, and which has failed utterly to show any of the benefits of co-ordination and economy claimed for it. Mr. Burleson's defense, so far as concerns the main points of the popular indictment, is no defense at all.

The Figurehead

Such a spectacle as the ex-kaiser arraigned before an international court to answer the charge of "a supreme offense against international morality and the sanctity of treaties" has been beheld rarely, if ever, before. Tamerlane led Bajazet, the proud leader of the great Turk armies, off the field at Angora chained to the wheels of his chariot. Henry IV humiliated himself to the earth before Hildebrand's castle at Canossa. But William II of Hohenzollern, stripped of the regalia representing the Teutonic imperialism is to be judged by the opinion of a world which has felt the full weight of the machinations of a class of which he was little more than the tool.

The proposed trial is, however, not an unmixed good. It will, to be sure, make known to all ages this generation's condemnation of ruthless aggression. Yet such a trial will degenerate into a colossal hypocrisy unless it is borne in mind that the kaiser was not so much the cause as the effect of German imperial ambition. For it to deal merely in personality would rob the court of the dignity rightly its own.

To try the kaiser, richly merited as that trial may be, will not compensate the peoples who have suffered in the war nor wrest indemnities from an all-but-bankrupt Germany. It is well understood that the kaiser was a political figurehead in the former German empire. It is known that the revolution has done away with virtually all desire on the part of Germany for the kaiser's return.—Boston Globe.

TODAY

The Day We Celebrate.

R. W. Moore of F. P. Kirkendall & Co., born 1874.

Gurdon W. Wattles, born 1855.

William Alden Smith, late United States senator from Michigan, born at Dowagiac, Mich., 60 years ago.

Rev. W. H. S. Damarest, president of Rutgers college, born at Hudson, N. Y., 56 years ago.

John Henry Watson, chief justice of the Vermont supreme court, born at Jamaica, Vt., 68 years ago.

Joseph K. Toole, first state governor of Montana, born at Savannah, Mo., 68 years ago.

Cleo Ridgely, widely known as a motion picture actress, born in New York City 26 years ago.

Thirty Years Ago In Omaha.

The Swedish singers, who appeared at Washington hall, were entertained by leading Swedish citizens with a drive over the city, a visit to Lininger are gallery and a reception at the home of Mr. Bedell, 1128 North Sixteenth. Mr. Gustave Andreen spoke and Julius Festner gave zither selections.

A syndicate has been formed in the east for the purchase of the beautiful tract of land known as Seymour park.

Major Butler has returned to Bellevue after spending Sunday here with his family.

Miss Alice Foster won second price for a rhyme about the Ragan lectures.

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.

Dorthy Dalton's Address.

Wilcox, Neb.,—"Please give me the address of Miss Dorothy Dalton." Interested.

Miss Dalton's address is 1209 Fourth avenue, Los Angeles, California. Miss Dalton was born September 22, 1893, is 5 feet 3 inches in height and weighs 127 pounds.

Senate Floor Leader.

Who will be floor leader in the United States Senate during the coming session?—M. J.

This matter has not been formally decided, but it is conceded that Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts, as chairman of the foreign relations committee, will be one of the most, if not the most, influential member of that body, and will doubtless occupy the position about which you inquire. On this very day, Senator Lodge enters upon his seventieth year. He has been a member of the upper house of Congress since 1893, is a Harvard graduate and an author of eminence. Just now he is conspicuous as a leader in the opposition to the league of nations plan.

Origin of the Boy Scouts

Can you tell me anything about the origin of the Boy Scout movement? A Social Service Worker.

The boy scout movement was founded by Lieut. Gen. Sir Robert Baden Powell in England in 1908 and has since spread practically all over the world. Sir Robert Baden Powell is now in America to further a plan for solidfying the movement into an international organization. He himself, is one of England's greatest military men. Joining the Hussars in 1876, he saw service in India, Afghanistan and South Africa, and in 1890 became assistant military secretary at Malta. He was in command of the special native levies during the Ashanti campaign of 1895, and held the position of chief staff officer in the Matabele campaign the next year. The most famous incident in his military career, however, was his heroic defense of Mafeking during the Boer war.

ODDS AND ENDS.

Sale of British national war bonds brought $8,002,960,275.

The first woman electric welder, so far as known, is Miss Sara A. Erwin, of Philadelphia, employed at Hog Island.

Meat, milk, eggs, fish, cheese, beans, peas, nuts and cereals are the foods which furnish protein in quantity for the human body.

Every farmer should be his own fire inspector rather than his own fire chief, says a Department of Agriculture bulletin on fire prevention.

Louisiana has appointed a state commission to study the labor of women and children, with a view to maximum hour and minimum wage laws.

From the best information obtainable, it is believed that the construction of 5,000 working-class houses will be undertaken in the near future by English municipalities, apportioned among them as follows: Nottingham, 1,000; Leicester, 1,000; Derby, 500; Lincoln, 500; Mansfield, 200; Newark-on-Trent, 100; Boston, 100; Granthom, 100; other towns and villages, 1,500; total, 5,000.

SAID TO BE FUNNY.

"I see some scientist is trying to perfect an edible cactus."

"These scientists mean well, but they are always in the clouds."

"Huh?"

"Now, an edible ham sandwich would mean much to mankind."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Henry—I've just finished my day's work.

John—How so?

Henry—I set the calendar ahead to tomorrow.—Stamford Chaparral.

Mrs. Man—Stupid! Why in the world did you get seats for "Madame Butterfly," when I distinctly told you I wanted to hear "Pagliacci?"

Mr. Man—To preserve my dignity, woman! When I reached the ticket window I forgot how to pronounce that thing.—Buffalo Express.

Barber—More soap, sir?

Victim—Give me a chance to digest this first, please!—Answers.

Cop (to homing clubman)—Where you going at this time of the night?

Clubman—I'm—hic—going to a lecture.—Boston Transcript.

Suitor—Sir, I ask for your daughter Imogen's hand.

Her Father—Certainly, my boy, certainly—take the one that's always in my pocket.—The Passing Show.

THE HOME COMING.

They come, they come in brave array,
With pomp and panoply of war;
These warriors who amid the fray,
The flag of Freedom proudly bore.
Now mothers their young heroes meet
And wives salute their soldier mates,
While kinsmen, reunited, greet—
Yet, pale and pensive, some one waits.

A paean now the people sing,
As tales of victory unfold,
And plaudits to the welkin ring
In honor of these spirits bold.
The cup of joy filled to the brim,
Is quaffed on this triumphant day,
Yet from the vessel's golden rim
Someone in sadness turns to pray.

Recedes the awful battle wrath
Before the glory and acclaim
That mark each young crusader's path
Along the corridors of fame;
Yet one who kept the torch ablaze,
In poppy fields far distant sleeps;
Now someone walks the lonely ways,
And broken-hearted, softly weeps.

Yet through the heavy clouds of gloom
That grief assembles o'er a soul
Whose joys seem buried in a tomb
Enshrined on some embattled knoll,
The light of hope shall burst and gleam
Like sun-gold dropped from heaven's dome,
For just beyond the Stygian stream,
That soldier-saint at last is Home!
—Louis M. Grice in Baltimore American.

DAILY CARTOONETTE

Little Folks' Corner

DREAMLAND ADVENTURE

By DADDY.

(Peggy and Billy go with Smiling Teacher on a trip to the Sahara Desert, aboard a geography-plane. When above the desert their engine becomes overheated and stops.)

CHAPTER II.

The Runaway Camel.

THE geography-plane sailed along so swiftly, even though the engine had stopped, that the lion was soon left far in the rear. Peggy was glad of this, for she didn't a bit like his looks. A lion behind the bars of a circus cage was one thing, and a lion running loose in the desert seeking his dinner was another. She had no desire for a closer acquaintance.

Billy turned closer to Smiling Teacher: "We can't glide as far as the oasis," he said. "We are dropping fast."

"Pick out a level place to land," she advised.

This warning seemed queer, for from above the desert looked as

"Huh! Whoever heard of a wild camel?" grunted the stranger.

smooth as a floor, but when they got close to the sand, Billy and Peggy saw that it was broken up into ridges, hills, and hollows, much like the sand dunes at home. Billy brought the airplane down to the most level stretch he could find, but even at that the plane finally came to rest in a great pit of sand.

"I wonder how far away that lion is," said Peggy glancing back.

"I guess he is at a safe distance," answered Smiling Teacher. "How long will it take your engine to get cool, Billy?"

"It's so hot here the engine may not get cool until the sun goes down," he replied. "Whew! This place certainly is warm!"

Peggy had never been in such a hot place. It was like an oven. Even the wind was as torrid as the breath of a furnace.

Smiling teacher glanced up toward the sun and gave an exclamation of surprise.

"Why, the sun is sinking toward the west," she said. "It will be dusk in an hour or two. I had forgotten that we were traveling toward the east and that the sun goes down in Africa while it is still early afternoon in the United States. We might have time to walk to the oasis for a drink and get back before dark."

"Let's do it," urged Peggy, "I'm nearly dying of thirst."

Smiling Teacher opened the cabin door and stepped out on what appeared to be a sand hummock. As her foot sank down, she gave a quick shriek of alarm and jumped back. At the same time a long, snaky neck arose from the sand. At the top of the neck was an ugly, bumpy head. The head gave them a startled look, and then a big, awkward body heaved up almost from beneath the plane.

"A camel!" shouted Billy. "A real live, wild camel!"

"Huh! Who ever heard of a wild camel," grunted the stranger. "I'm just a runaway camel."

"What did you run away from, a circus?" asked Peggy.

"A circus? I never heard of such a thing. I ran away from a caravan that was attacked by Bedouins. And if you take my advice you'll run away too. Goodby."

"Hold on!" cried Billy. "Can't you carry us to the oasis?"

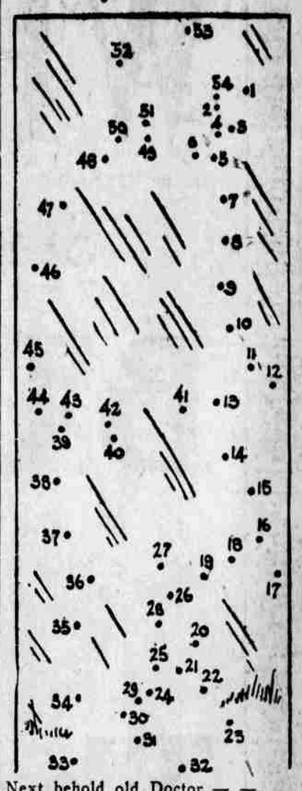
"Well, wouldn't that blister your feet," exclaimed the camel disgustedly. "I just told you I'm a runaway camel and now you are ordering me around. And the worst of it is that I am so well trained that I have to obey. Pile on, and in a hurry, too, because unless I am mistaken, those specks in the distance mean danger."

The camel knelt down, permitting Billy, Peggy and Smiling Teacher to mount his back. Then with violent lurches he staggered to his feet. He lifted them so high they could see the specks that he had said meant danger. The specks looked like horsemen riding toward them.

"Bedouins!" grunted the camel. "If they catch you they will make you slaves." and away he started at a queer, shambling run."

(Tomorrow will be told what they see at the oasis.)

Daily Dot Puzzle



Next behold old Doctor — —, Mother Goose says he's in Gloster.

Draw from one to two and so on to the end.

The Bee's Letter Box

So, Then, Now.

York, Neb., May 6.—To the Editor of The Bee: "Ireland still wants all or nothing, but if its enthusiasts will take a squint at what was handed to Italy, China and Belgium, they may get a notion of what is likely to come to them."

Just what object the editor of The Bee had in printing the above squib in today's paper, or just what connection the question of "all or nothing" for Ireland has with the question of the claims of Italy, China or Belgium is not apparent in the editorial, and the wish seems to be father to the thought that this oldest and longest oppressed, robbed, persecuted and crucified nation in Europe in the eyes of The Bee editor, should receive the same treatment in the peace conference as the other countries named by The Bee.

Ireland is not asking the land or ports or people of any country, but her own, and such being the case why "squint" at any country of people for a comparison and especially Italy? True Ireland will ask at the peace conference reparation in the sum of about $4,000,000,000 for damages done Ireland by England, and why not? Robbing Ireland has for centuries been looked upon by England as legitimate, and if Germany is made to pay, and she will be made to pay, why should England, who has committed every crime against Ireland and more and worse than Germany committed against Belgium, not be made to pay for her wanton and murderous crimes against Ireland?

By the way, is your cartoonist, Powell, acquainted with history? Especially acquainted a litle teenie weenie bit with Irish history? I think not or in line with the policy of The Bee and some other pro-British papers in lampooning Ireland, he would have left out the cartoon in today's Bee. Maybe the editor overlooked it, or maybe the editor was and is as ignorant of Louvain's history as Powell is, but it does not matter, the cartoon served as an indictment of England's rule of hellfire in Ireland for centuries and Louvain was a result of that hideous rule.

Three hundred and three years ago the foundation of Louvain was laid, not by Belgium or Belgians, but by Irish Catholics because the penal laws of England in force in Ireland would not permit a Catholic school in all the land, and the history of the reason for Ireland having to go in her poverty to a foreign country to plead for a bit of ground on which to erect a school in which her young men might be educated in a history of the more than seven centuries of brute rule in Ireland.

I would recommend that The Bee, all hands, read up a little on Irish history before attempting to belittle her. It will save their friend, England, from having her crimes more exposed to the public.

J. E. CARLIN.

Good Road Suggestions.

Florence, Neb., April 30.—To the Editor of The Bee: In regard to good roads for Douglas county and the $3,000,000 bonds soon to be voted on, I have this to say, viz: There are several points to consider in the bond proclamation, if our good road enthusiasts wish for them to carry by three-fifths majority. In the first place, the proclamation must be unrestricted, so if they carry, the abutting property owners can be assessed a certain amount in the payment of said roads aside from his annual taxes under the bond issue which we all have to pay. The farmers of this county should know that about nine-tenths of the voters live in Omaha and country towns and do not own a farm and do not get the direct benefit out of said roads or any unearned increment as the land owners will who is going to be lucky to have the road pass by his farm, which makes it more valuable.

Senate File 68, 1919 Session provides for paving districts which carry the assessments two miles back on the graduated scale, but the per cent which the farmer and the state is to pay is not specified by the law, but is left to be worked out by the county commissioners and the state highway department and the parties who create the district and when all agree the county commissioners have the authority to create the district, whether or not our bond proclamation calls for this support. I am quite certain it will have to call fo the land owner's support up to a certain per cent in some manner before the city voters will approve of its adoption.

In regard to the material to be used, the proclamation must call for both brick and concrete, so as not to give any manufacturer of each a chance to hold us up on the material. I was in hopes our state convicts or county prisoners could be placed to work to manufacture said brick, if there is clay in Nebraska that would make vitrified brick. This would solve the question of hold-ups and sale rebates, etc., and cut out the much-talked-of graft to a minimum that many voters fear in this kind of an undertaking.

That the Lincoln and Washington highways to be first completed and other roads to get a proportional share each year thereafter which will be fair to all concerned.

The proclamation should call for a 20-foot road, including the curb or shoulder, as this is narrow enough for a county that has the travel of Douglas county. A 16-foot road would be a makeshift and as big a mistake as our county dads made when our macadamized roads were laid a few years ago.

All bridges should call for from 22 to 24 feet in width and made of concrete so two autos traveling in different directions can easily pass each other without stopping and having to shift into low.

The curb or shoulder to hold the brick or concrete is the one thing I have never seen to suit my fancy. I do not think the shoulder that will be of concrete should be flush with the pavement, but should taper to the outside so as to be partially covered with earth so when the autoists get off the pavement he can get back on said road very easily without having to climb over the sharp edge of the shoulder.

In regard to the concrete base, I note our proclamation is only calling for a six-inch base. This will never be satisfactory for the heavy loads that are to travel over these roads in the next decade. I suggest at least a nine-inch concrete base for our Douglas county roads, so if the slogan is "Let's Do It Right" we must not be afraid to give each their say by calling another Douglas county good roads meeting and invite delegates to be present from each precinct. We will then get all the good points in our bond proclamation and it will carry by a large majority. C. L. NETHAWAY.

"Consistency."

Omaha, May 5. To the Editor of The Bee: In Sunday's paper you briefly allude to an address by Senator Johnson of California, wherein he "expresses astonishment that Mr. Wilson should have turned down the secret treaty that gave Italy what it asked, and then assented to Japan having what its secret treaty awarded." And you conclude with the laconic and rather bitter comment: "Evidently Hiram looks for consistency where others expect only arbitrary action."

The serious fault of inconsistency, which has seemed to display itself more conspicuously than any other as a trait of Mr. Wilson's character during his entire career as chief magistrate, has doubtless been a source of constant regret to all right-spirited citizens. It is asserted without the slightest fear of successful contradiction that no former incumbent of the presidential chair ever approached him in the matter of prolixity of fair promises of undeviating adherence to right principles of conduct in the performance of official obligations; nor, on the other hand, is the assertion made with less confidence of its impregnability, that no one of his predecessors was ever less fortunate than he in respect to the fulfillment of such promises.

CYRUS D. BELL.

Gains Due to War.

Only under the stress of war did we undertake to make good from domestic supplies our shortage of potash or to follow the example of others in producing nitrates from the air to make us independent of foreign sources.

Penalty of Greatness.

Brooklyn Eagle: Nebraska sold more war savings stamps, per capita, than any other state. How many Mr. Bryan bought we do not know. The world naturally credits him with all the good and ill that Nebraska does. Such is the penalty of greatness.