THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING) — EVENING—SUNDAY

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETOR

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Invest a dollar in boyhood, to build up manhood.

Looks as if those Mexican bad boys were aching for another spanking.

While here Mr. Hines please size up our awkward passenger stations and the need for their consolidation.

What hurts Austria most is to have the Czechs in position to look down on their former lords and masters.

Just to be in style, the Portuguese cabinet has resigned with notice that it will stay on if the people only insist.

No great excitement as yet over the impending road bond election. Voting a $3,000,000 loan is just a passing incident.

But what would the bone-heads directing our police department do if they had a really baffing crime mystery to unravel?

Curiosity for a glimpse of the summer season's feminine fashions, if nothing else, ought to induce the weather man to let the sun shine a little while.

The essence of "equal suffrage" is equal participation in both the privileges and the responsibilities and burdens of voting, and voting begins with primaries and party organization.

"The police would have had no more right to have acted as they did, even if their victim had been a man or a woman, without a shred of reputation." Stick a pin there.

Summer fiction is trying hard to break away from war subjects, but not with complete success. The war background will furnish scenery for the story writers for a long time to come.

An Ohio solon has been indicted for soliciting bribes in connection with legislation. It would not be a bad idea to have a grand jury sit once in Lincoln while a Nebraska legislature is in session.

While Dr. Bernard Dernburg is again exercising his voice so freely, he might explain for us what he did with those checks for German Red Cross contributions sent on from numerous Nebraska communities just prior to our entering the world war.

Soldiers' letters from overseas are still being censored as if for fear they might contain information helpful to the enemy—or is it lest they might convey information about conditions abroad not intended to be known at home? Why the censorship at this late day any way?

Postmaster General Burleson will not find the committees of the present congress as complacent a bunch to be kept quiet with patronage as in previous sessions. He will have to make a showing before he can have his demands met. To use a slang phrase, Mr. Burleson will have to come off his perch.

Jazz

Howard Brockway in The Review.

This word, so compact in form, yet with a world of suggestion held within its four letters, has but recently been admitted to full membership in our language. The events of the last two years have given so great an introduction and impetus to the little symbol that it has won its way to almost universal recognition by the sheer force of its expressive quality.

Just what is jazz? In striving to answer this query, I cannot hope to imitate the admirable brevity of the word. Jazz is ordered and calculated noise. It is a compound of qualities, both rhythmic and melodic. It seeks and with absolute success be it said, to sweep from our minds all simultaneous consideration of other things, and to focus our attention upon its own mad, whirling, involved self. Herein lies a large part of its compelling force and appeal.

The component elements of jazz are rhythm, melody, and a certain modicum of contrapuntal inner voices. But the greatest of these is rhythm. The right jazz band starts out to "get you" and leaves nothing to chance. It is fairly well established that only an oyster can resist the appeal of syncopated rhythm when it is performed with wonderful abandon—abandon which absolutely controls dynamic gradations and vital accents.

The howitzers of the jazz band's artillery are stations in the "traps." Under this heading we find all the instruments of percussion, such as the big drum, the snare drum, cymbals, triangle, wooden blocks played upon with drumsticks, xylophone, cowbells, rattles, whistles for the production of various weird noises, and a host of other implements, often the personal conceptions of individual players of the traps. The trombones may represent field guns, while the clarinets, oboes, saxophones, alto horns, and cornets furnish the rapid-fire batteries. The range being point-blank it is easy to see why the effect of the "drum-fire" is complete!

The melody will always be borne by sufficient instruments to insure its "getting over." Then, in the inner voices of the band, will take place a combination of effects which adds enormously to the total drive of the number. Here are certain of the contrapuntal features which are mentioned above. They consist of a variety of hilarious effects, produced by trombones or saxophones, attained by a curious sliding from note to note. This creates an extremely comical result. This characteristic and droll portamento has become so well known and so popular that it has achieved a specific name—"blues," a humorously apt designation. A striking contrast is made by the mournful soughing of the trombones in the midst of the joyous riot of the rest of the band. Sharp rhythmic ejaculations arise from out of the welter of sound, and over the whole tumult the traps-player spreads his array of dazzling accents, brought forth with absolute virtuosity from his motley army of noise producers. It almost seems, at times, like a case of "each for himself and the devil take the hindmost." But it is not so, and there is definite purpose and ordered means in it all.

LOCATING THE TREATY LEAK.

Latest developments in the senate make it fairly certain that the treaty leak that let the big interests have advance copies of the text of the peace terms will be located. The advance copy of the treaty is not only located, but has been presented to the senate and ordered printed as part of the rceord without waiting for the president to communicate it through the usual channel.

By this indisputable proof Senators Lodge and Borah have made good on the assertion that the treaty text had reached this country and had been seen by them in New York, an assertion that was challenged by the presidential spokesmen in the senate. That the precious document should be too sacred and confidential to permit of perusal by the senate endowed with co-ordinate treaty-making power, but not confidential enough to keep it from private individuals whose personal interests might be affected by it, is not calculated to improve popular opinion of the secret methods employed for arriving at those open covenants.

It is to be hoped the senate committee will make a thorough job of it when it takes up its inquiry, stopping to shield no one high or low. So far as possible damage or bad faith by reason of premature publicity of the treaty is concerned, that danger is past, for the damage, if any, is already done, and the way to repair the damage is now to let in the full light of publicity on every part of it.

Will Profit Sharing Stop Strikes?

Perhaps the most commonly proposed remedy for labor troubles is the suggestion that labor be taken into partnership with capital by being put on a profit-sharing basis. The argument is plausible and attractive that if the employe of an industrial concern is to receive a dividend out of the product in some proportion to his wages and length of service, he will consider very seriously the demands of agitators that he quit his job and forfeit his prospects for a share of the profits.

Upon first presentation, the logic of this argument seems wholly sound and irrefutable. The only objection raised to it turns on the point that the workers are not required also to share in the losses. But if profit sharing would operate successfully to prevent strikes and labor difficulties, it might offset this disadvantage.

With so much expected from the profit-sharing idea, it is disappointing to find that it does not always prove to be a stabilizing element. A statement by the Willis-Overland company, whose automobile factory in Toledo was a center of strike turbulence last month, sets forth the fact, which has not been denied, that a quarterly 50-50 profit-sharing plan for all employes with six months' continuous service, had been inaugurated, under which a half a million dollars had been distributed, amounting to from 8 to 11 per cent of the wages, which had also been rapidly increased and were equal to or better than those of other establishments, and yet a dispute over the arrangement of the hours per week brought on a strike, throwing into idleness nearly 7,000 men and women. In this case at least, profit-sharing has not proved the panacea as against labor troubles nor served to give immunity from strikes.

The problem of industrial peace is broader and deeper and more complicated than ever and not to be solved by adjustment of a single factor.

Exaggerated Apprehensions.

It is stated that Omaha will furnish at least 10,000 of the something less than 25,000 votes needed to launch the referendum on the code bill, the primary law, etc. Here then is something for thoughtful men to cogitate upon, for the fact shows that the referendum is a dangerous weapon which may be used to veto a government of the people, etc., etc. It is doubtless easy enough to get 10,000 signatures to any sort of petition in Omaha, and to set at naught the thoughtful judgment of a considerable majority of the people of the state.—Kearney Hub.

Without laying claim to special virtues for the average of Omaha citizenship, these apprehensions may be set aside as exaggerated and undue. In the first place, if the petition circulators are depending upon 10,000 signatures from Omaha to make their demand for referendum effective, they will have to get mighty busy or be disappointed because autograph collecting here comes proportionately no easier than it does in other cities and towns of the state.

The only reason Omaha is represented by large numbers of signers on these documents is the denser population. If we have one-seventh of the inhabitants of the state, we should naturally have one-seventh voice for setting in motion the machinery of the initiative or referendum, which is no greater than our participation in the enactment of laws by the legislature. When it comes to thoughtful judgment and sober consideration of the subject matter of such petitions, Omaha signers will be found on at least as high level as the rest, and in no way disposed to set aside the wishes of the majority.

The fact is that most people, who sign such papers, either in Omaha or in other parts of the state, do so only in response to persuasion by persons circulating the petitions. The rare exception is on occasion when they are aroused by some burning issue directly affecting them. If the referendum is a dangerous weapon—and we are not arguing that question—it would be no less dangerous if Omaha were located on the Iowa side of the river.

Those dental students, no doubt, could have passed other examinations successfully without cribbing the stolen examination questions. That is not the serious side of the affair, but rather the proof it furnishes that they lack the sense of professional honor that they ought to possess and without which they cannot be the kind of dentists creditable to a community.

While the president says that any one in possession of an official copy of the peace treaty "has what he clearly has no right to have," the senate receives an unofficial copy and orders it printed as an official document. Officious is the only word properly describing it.

The outbreak of bomb-throwing has started a flood of immigration restriction bills in congress. The urgent need, however, is to catch and punish the terrorists already here, many of them native born. Posting "No Admittance" signs on Castle Garden won't do it.

Most significant of all is the dense silence hovering over the spot where William, the has-been, is hiding. No one in or out of Germany asks to know what he thinks of the peace terms.

Reviling and Defending the Stage

Literary Digest.

The stage seems like the irrepressible bad boy who finds it hard to be good very long at a time. So it has to be chided by the constituted guardians of morals, and as often as not it hits back. Such a passage of arms occurred not long before the war, when the theater went slumming among themes of low life. Again it has drawn the attention of at least two clergymen—a Jewish rabbi and a Presbyterian divine—who chiefly object to what is dubbed "bed-room plays" or "lingerie drama." The latter is Rabbi Wise's term for the thing which he denounces as "annexes to the brothel," and, when offered as entertainment for the returning soldiers, impresses him as in "pitiful, glaring, defiling contrast" to what they fought for in France. In a recent sermon before the Free Synagogue in Carnegie hall, he said, according to the New York Tribune's report:

"It's blasphemy to take clean-limbed, upstanding youth to some of the revolting, nauseating plays now running in New York. It is an intolerable insult to expose them to that, in return for their work in France.

"I carry in mind one show in particular that I saw only last week in one of the leading theaters of the city. Mose of the audience were soldiers and sailors. I am told there are a dozen shows equally bad in the city.

"If many shows in New York are like this one, then American drama is being written by the hosiery buyers of department stores. The average petticoat buyer of Sioux City or Tulsa would write the sort of show I saw the other night—if he should stoop to write a play.

"It was nothing less than the work of moral scavengers and filth producers. It was the product of moral leprosy. The stage was filled with half-dressed women—though no more so than the boxes of the theater itself or the lobbies of the average hotel. It was the vulgar incarnation of impurity, spun about a display of hosiery and underwear."

Dr. Wise distributed his blame among the actors, managers, newspaper critics and the public who patronize plays, seemingly implying a large conspiracy. "The profession" is not tenderly dealt with:

"The theater of today is cluttered with uneducated male and female loafers. I do not say that all plays are bad or that all actors are uneducated, but many are, and they exhibit standards that cultivated men and women can not accept. So long as actors are hired and fired like clerks, so long will there be a poor class of stage people.

"They are at the mercy of the cruel, hard-hearted creatures who dominate and control the theater. No such great organization in life today is in such unworthy hands as the theater. Producers apparently consider drama not as an art, but an opportunity for the exposure of half-dressed women. As a business the business of the theater is the dirtiest business in America today."

In spite of the many critics who have bewailed the monotony and stupidity, if not the evil, of bed-room plays, they are held accountable here:

"Why can't critics say, 'This is a disgusting, foul, salacious play?' Why should people permit newspapers to lie to them about amusements? Are the newspapers of New York going to let two or three or four men dictate what is said about the greatest of arts—men without the remotest idea of responsibility? I wish we could put some of these 'chain-theater' men in chains."

But "F. P. A.," who boasts the same racial strains as the reverend rabbi, shakes his fist from the "conning tower," and denies the allegations:

"Rabbi Wise's utterances about the theater and the stage are based on the postulate, apparently, that managers and actors have only one aim—to corrupt the public taste. 'As a business,' he says, 'the business of the theater is the dirtiest business in America.' By the 11,000 virgins of Cologna, it is nothing of the kind. As a business—though our knowledge of the business may be even less than Dr. Wise's—the business of the theater is probably as clean as the automobile business, the law, medicine, the newspaper business, the theological profession, the brokerage business, or the book publishing business. There are a good many poor plays produced, but not one of them is produced because the producer tries to bunk the public. The manager and the producer, our guess is, do their best; when a play is bad, the best is bad. So it is with books. The average book, we believe, is no better than the average play. But even the average book and the average play have something on the average sermon.

"'I some times think,' Dr. Wise said, 'that there are more Jews in the theaters than in synagogues.' And multiplying both sides of the equation by X, there may be more people in the theaters than in churches. And if both of these things are so, it may be the fault of the synagogues and the churches."

Fit and Unfit Men

Washington Post.

A somewhat unusual yet certainly sound argument is advanced in a survey of the public health of the United Kingdom, to the effect that the deplorable percentage of unfit men in Great Britain, estimated at considerably more than 50 per cent, is an injustice to the fit men. On behalf of the minority of fit men, it is demanded that steps be taken to prevent men from permitting themselves to become unfit, and thus relieve the fit men of some of the extra burden they have to bear.

Not only have the fit men through all these years of war had to die for the unfit, but they have also had to work, to make sacrifices of comfort, of home, of pleasure, of business, for the unfit. And now the fit must shoulder the heavy burden of reconstruction.

Such a presentation of the case is a rude contradiction of the usual assumption that mental and physical unfitness in a man is a misfortune which he cannot prevent. The British review of the situation does not thus relieve the individual of responsibility, but divides it between him and the state. Exempting, of course, those unfortunates who are rendered unfit by accident or nature, it is pointed out that unfitness in the majority of cases may represent only slacker selfishness, the refusal of the individual to take such care of himself as to enable him to shoulder the responsibility that properly rests upon him.

TODAY

The Day We Celebrate.

John S. Little, fire insurance adjuster, born 1879.

George P. Stebbins, with Clowry & Estabrook, born 1850.

Frederick H. Davis, president of the First National bank of Omaha, born 1850.

Elmer S. Redick, attorney-at-law, born 1887.

Paul S. Reinsch, United States minister to China, born in Milwaukee 50 years ago.

Charles A. Culberson, senior United States senator from Texas, born at Dadeville, Ala., 64 years ago.

Francis X. Bushman, widely known as an actor in motion pictures, born at Norfolk, Va., 34 years ago.

Thirty Years Ago in Omaha.

Elmer Frank, Henry Sharp and H. J. Davis have returned from a fishing trip near West Point, bringing two fine catfish, one weighing 50 pounds.

The James W. Thatcher Coal company and the Redfield Printing company have filed articles of incorporation with the county clerk.

The office of The Omaha Bee has been removed to the new Bee building.

Nearly $7,000 has been contributed to the Johnstown relief fund.

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.

Inducements For Soldiers To Retain Insurance.

The Bureau of War Risk Insurance is working out more liberal provisions for inclusion in term policies taken out by men in military service, in an effort to induce them to retain their insurance after returning to civilian life.

The term policies may be continued for five years after discharge from service, and at any time during that period may be converted into ordinary life, endowment, or 20-year policies, the premiums on which will be considerably higher. The privilege of paying premiums at postoffices probably will be one feature.

Opportunity to make the policies payable in a lump sum to the beneficiaries, instead of extending the payment over a term of years, may not be granted, despite the general approval which greeted a previous announcement that such a feature would be incorporated into the policies. The annuity system of payments was written into the war policies as a substitute for pensions, and especially as a mean of safeguarding inexperienced widows from promoters of doubtful get-rich-quick chemes.

The task of getting into touch with the holders of war risk insurance is one of the biggest ever undertaken by the government. With 4,000,000 policyholders the expense of reaching each one with an argument as to the value of keeping out his insurance will reach several million dollars.

Army Caualties.

DeWitt: The latest report of army casualties, of date June 6, is as follows:

Summary of Army Casualties to Date.

	Prev. Reported	Re- June 6	Total
Killed in action	32,827	8	32,835
Lost at sea.....	733	..	733
Died of wounds	13,536	6	13,542
Died of accid't	4,633	21	4,654
Died of disease	23,218	26	23,244
Total	74,947	61	75,008
Wounded (85 per cent returned to duty.....	207,023	447	207,470
Missing and prisoners (not incl. prisoners released and ret'rned)	2,978	7	2,985
Prisoners released and returned ...	4,534	..	4,534
Total	289,482	515	289,997

A soldier's sister: Eleven vessels reached the United States on June 6, bringing 18,599 soldiers, chiefly men of the 30th and 90th divisions, made up of Texas and Oklahoma troops. We will advise you of the balloon company later.

B. A. C.: In our opinion, the records you mention ought to be available to you. We suggest that you write to the Judge Advocate General's office at Washington regarding the same.

A town major is an officer (at present most of them are in French towns), who has charge of all accounts and billeting. Adjustments between civilians and his men for various costs, are adjusted by him.

Disabled Soldier: The senate adopted on June 6, a bill by Senator Kenyon of Iowa, under which about 4,000 men disabled while in the military service will receive vocational rehabilitation. The bill has yet to pass the house.

Anxious Wife: Detachments of the 89th division began coming in the latter part of May and on May 20 announcement was made that the last units of that division had left France. Your husband would have to be mustered out before being at liberty to return to you, but could telegraph or write you upon arrival in this country. If you do not hear from him within the next few weeks, write to the Adjutant General of the army at Wahington, asking for information. In the meantime, remember that a soldier does not always return with his company, particularly if he has been a casual.

MUCH IN LITTLE.

Consul Felix S. S. Johnson of Kingston, Ont., reports that the wet spinning of linen yarns up to 60 lea has been begun in that Canadian province, and that both wet and dry spun tow yarns are expected to be turnd out in a short time. As flax fiber is raised in Canada and linen cloth woven there, this manufacture of yarn gives to the dominion a self-contained linen industry.

A Pittsfield young man started to fight the battle of his country, didn't get out of New England before the armistice was signed, was back home within 24 hours and received in state and federal bounty $150, as the law prescribes.

Many ancient families in England have stored away life-sized figures in wax of their ancestors made at the time of the original's death. The duke of Norfolk has the figures of three wives of one of his ancestors, which are kept in a glass case at one of his country seats.

The United States Postal Bulletin for May 2 says that articles of mail conforming to the Postal Union rates, conditions and classification will be accepted for registration when addressed to any place in Turkey in Europe or in Turkey in Asia.

DAILY CARTOONETTE

Little Folks' Corner

DREAMLAND ADVENTURE

By DADDY.

"Blue Beard's Brother"

(Peggy is carried by the Mighty Bronze Genie into Story-Book Land, where she finds herself an unwilling member of Red Beard's wedding party.)

Red Beard's Magic.

Shrieks arose as the wild horsemen reined up their steeds before Red Beard and swung the beautiful captives to the ground.

But Red Beard sat unmoving, while his fat, sleepy eyes squinted at the damsels as they had squinted at Peggy.

Peggy, leaning eagerly from the casement window, felt strangely puzzled as she looked upon the brides-to-be. It seemed as though she knew them and ought to be able to call them by name, and yet she couldn't remember that she had ever really seen them before. Two were dressed as princesses of ancient times, wearing long trains and glittering crowns; two were girls of her own age, one covered with a crimson cape and hood, and the other with golden hair; two were smart young women arrayed in the fashions of long ago.

The captain of the horsemen salaamed before Red Beard and introduced the captives. Peggy as she heard his words, was struck almost breathless by surprise, but then she uunderstood why they appeared so familiar.

"Most Powerful Master, we have brought six of the most charming heroines of Story-Book Land to be your brides," said the captain. "Our seventh band, with other captives, follows close behind us." Here the captain drew forward one of the princesses.

"This is Beauty," he explained. "We captured her only after the Beast, her husband, had killed five of our men. And here is Red Riding Hood, whom we found hiding in a closet. It wasn't true that the wolf gobbled her up. And here are Sleeping Beauty and Goldie Locks."

"Oh, take me back to the forest," sobbed Goldie Locks, shrinking from Red Beard. "I'd rather be eaten by the bears than to become the bride of this monster."

But Red Beard and the captain paid no attention to her. They were looking at the fifth captive, one of the smart young women, who was struggling with the horseman who held her. Now, for the first time Red Beard spoke.

"Ah, my fair sister-in-law, dear Blue Beard's widow. I welcome you back into the family."

"I'll not come back into the family. My brothers will cut off your head," shrieked Mrs. Blue Beard defiantly. "Can you see them coming, Sister Anne?"

"I see a great cloud of dust moving this way," answered the sixth captive gazing toward the hills.

Red Beard looked nervous, then grunted sneeringly:

"'Tis only a flock of sheep."

"Anne, Sister Anne, dost thou not see anything coming?" repeated Mrs. Blue Beard.

"I see more dust," answered Sister Anne. "Yes, and I see horsemen riding fast."

It was true. Horsemen were coming down the hills at a furious gallop.

In their midst was a handsome coach drawn by six splendid steeds and driven by a huge gray coachman. Racing along beside the steeds were liveried footmen. For a moment Red Beard's eyes narrowed with fear. Then as the horsemen drew near he grunted with relief. They were his own followers.

The leader of this new band leaped from his horse and salaamed.

"Most Powerful Master, here is Cinderella to be your fair bride. And with her are her proud sisters for you to tame."

Within the coach Peggy could see three young women, one sweet and charming, the others cold and haughty. Suddenly as the horsemen dismounted to salaam, Cinderella screamed an order to the coachman. He lashed out with his whip and the six splendid steeds leaped forward into a wild gallop, heading for the forrest.

For a moment it seemed that they might escape. Red Beard's men sprang for their horses, but Red Beard stopped them with a wave of his hand.

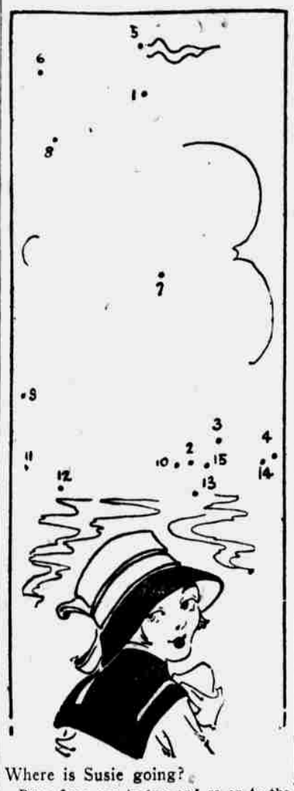
"Presto! Chango!" he grunted, and lo and behold, the coach suddenly tumbled to pieces, the steeds turned into mice, the coachman became a great rat, the footmen shrank into lizards, and there were Cinderella and her sisters sitting amid the pieces of a smashed pumpkin.

Red Beard's followers fell on their faces before him.

"Great is Red Beard!" they shouted. "Most powerful in his magic."

(Tomorrow will be told how Peggy finds herself in a serious situation.)

DAILY DOT PUZZLE



Where is Susie going?

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

The Bee's Letter Box

"Oh, Consistency!"

Louisville, Ky., June 9.—To the Editor of The Bee: On the grounds that liquor is "damnable stuff," or as some of the other reformers call it, "liquid hell fire," and that it is responsible for nearly all of our crime, and that it steals away our brains, state after state has adopted prohbition, and 40 odd states have ratified an amendment in favor of prohibition.

In various states automobiles, suit cases, berths on Pullman cars and occasionally residences are being searched for liquor that it may be confiscated and the holders fined and imprisoned.

Down in Tennessee, which is being made a veritable desert of thirst, Uncle Sam's sleuths have been very active of late and thousands of quarts, and pints and half-pints have been seized and the owners probably have been fined and sent to the federal prison at Atlanta, Ga. And what did Uncle Sam do with this vast amount of liquor—this "damnable stuff" that no man should be permitted to use? Was it destroyed as it should have been? On the contrary, it was shipped up to Louisville and advertised and sold at public auction at the custom house. Men and women were invited to come and buy this liquor, and its virtues were extolled by the good-natured auctioneer to such an extent that it realized extraordinary prices.

The contention of the prohibitionists is that liquor belongs in the category of drugs such as cocaine, morphine and the like, and what would be thought of Uncle Sam if he should confiscate a shipment of such drugs and then bring them to Louisville and sell them at public auction to all who cared to purchase.

I present this particular instance to the press as one of the thousand inconsistencies that make national and state-wide prohibition look more like a farce than a serious effort to bring about a reform.

T. M. GILMORE,
President National Model License League.

Legislative Member Speaks Out.

Fairmont, Neb., June 6.—To the Editor of The Bee: Answering attacks on the new primary law passed by the legislature, let me denounce the charge that there was a conspiracy to defraud the people. Neither the corporate interests nor the "broken down politicians who cannot get nominated if the people have any say in the matter," had the least thing to do with the passage of the new primary law, and the extravagant statements sent out broadcast over the state to poison the minds of the people are an insult of the most despicable character to the members of the legislature who for three months put forth the most honest and faithful service of which they were capable.

There had been a demand from every corner of the state for a revision or amendment of the old primary law, as almost every member of the legislature will testify. The best that could be constructed has been offered the people. If it is not satisfactory, the people are most certainly within their rights in invoking the referendum, and I would be the last man in the state to criticize them for so doing. The law of the referendum is one of the best of Nebraska's laws and a most potent safeguard of the rights of the people. I am free to say also that a campaign of falsehood and misrepresentation to persuade the voters to invoke the referendum is not only unnecessary and uncalled for, but it is as wicked as the crime with which the supporters of the primary bill are charged.

As I view the convention clause of the new primary law it is not calculated to deprive the people of their rights. Neither is it in any sense a return to the old political convention system. The old political convention did not come under the jurisdiction of the law, but was entirely in the hands of a few politicians and the people had nothing to say. The new law provides that the people shall choose at the primary election a certain number of persons to represent the people at the county and state conventions. None but those elected by the people have any voice at the conventions, and it is for the people to say who shall attend the conventions. This is but a further application of the principle of representative government, which is ours, and of which we boast that it is the best on the face of the earth. I do not see how anyone can object to this provision in the law and be consistent in his support of our form of government, especially as right at this point has been found the weak place in the old primary law.

If the principle of our representative form of government is good and safeguards the rights of the people, then certainly it is both logical and consistent to extend and apply that principle all along the line. To contend that men and women cannot be trusted to represent the people in nominating conventions, and that the same men and women chosen in exactly the same manner by the people can be trusted to represent the people in the legislature, in congress and in the thousands of other representative positions is about as illogical and inconsistent as can well be. Men are either honest or dishonest as the case may be, irrespective of the position they may occupy. People may be, and undoubtedly are, honest in their objections to the provisions of the law because of the representative principle in place of the principle of direct nomination such as is contained in the old law. I would not question their honesty, but I certainly take exception to their logic.

GEORGE A. WILLIAMS.