

THE OMAHA BEE

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APRIL CIRCULATION
Daily 65,830—Sunday 63,444

Subscribers leaving the city should have The Bee mailed to them. Address changed as often as required.

Today at 3 o'clock! All right.

Why not fix it so everybody can have "munny" ice?

If the mayor will only arrange to have the sun lay off on Sunday, it will help some.

Resolutions offered in congress denouncing the Toledo prize fight are coming rather late.

The "lynching was conducted in an orderly manner," so why bother the law to try the culprit?

If all the plans laid for Monday night are carried out, the bromoseltzer market ought to boom on Tuesday.

New York's preparations for Monday night bear out the belief that the Gothamites really think the world is going dry.

The president says he feels deep pain at leaving France, but wait until he comes into contact with the home folks.

Even Turkey has turned against Germany, but that plea ought to have little weight when Armenia and Syria are considered.

"It is a pleasure," said a business man as he made his contribution to the ice and milk fund. Try it, and learn that he is right.

Returns from North Dakota are incomplete, but indicate that the town and country voters are not agreed as to certain principles.

The first victory medal will go to the president, the second to the secretary of war, and in time the "conscobs" may be reached.

If "two and three-quarter" beer is non-intoxicating, why fuss about it? The same result may be obtained from good, clear water.

Now comes the word that the younger Hohenzollern did not fly from Holland. Why should he? Home is nothing like the place he is occupying.

War-time prohibition is coming nearer, and the bibulous anxiously wait for word from Paris that does not come. "Passing the buck" did not work this time.

A real naval battle is said to be imminent off the coast of Omaha, when the boozehound fleet encounters the booze runners' craft. It will be fine for the boozers.

Uncle Sam is withdrawing his offer of a trip to the Rhine with all expenses paid, the change being due to the fact that the Huns found some one who is willing to sign the treaty.

About the only thing that may be said in favor of the wrestlers who are vying with the prize fighters for public attention is that they really wore the uniform of their country, while the pugilists held back.

Bela Kun sticks his head out of the wreckage long enough to announce that the signing of peace will be the signal for class war throughout the world. Having lost his own, he wants company.

Mr. Burleson makes a great display of turning in a \$17,000,000 surplus, but neglects to state it was earned at the expense of postoffice employees, whose pay has been held down, and patrons, who did not get what they paid for.

Cupid does not mind the hot weather in the least, so the marriage license record at Omaha has mounted even higher than in the days of June, 1917, when something stronger than the urge to found a family was back of the movement.

Herr Mueller has the chance given to few men, that of writing down a signature that will turn the course of history in his own country. He will clear the way for a really free Germany, whose sons, if they are true to themselves, will bless him through the future ages.

New Hope for Russia

A ray of sunlight which should materially encourage those longing for the dissipation of the horrible nightmare of Bolshevik tyranny in Russia comes in the announcement that General Semenov, commander of the Cossack forces in Siberia, has sworn allegiance to the Omsk government headed by Admiral Kolchak. These two men are at present the most capable military leaders in Russia. If they can submerge personal ambition in the desire to rehabilitate their outraged country, there is reason to expect a speedy end of Lenin and his murderous following.

The great middle class in Russia will support almost any government offering protection to life and property, and the peasants, too ignorant to weigh intelligently the claims of rival chieftains, ask only an opportunity to husband their small crops without fear of having a season's yield ruthlessly confiscated by marauding bands of Bolshevik ruffians. Great Reliance will not be placed on the intentions of the former nobility. True enough, those who have so far escaped with their lives will assist in ridding Russia of Lenin and his crew, but it is doubtful if they will rally whole-heartedly behind a strong democratic government. Class privilege has become so firmly imbedded in the hearts of the titled families that they scarcely can be expected to respond to the great wave of democracy that is sweeping over the world.—Indianapolis News.

WHY NOT WEBSTER?

Omaha, June 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am surprised that you did not include the name of John Lee Webster in your list of constitutional convention delegates. Mr. Webster's name tops the signatures to the present constitution as president of the convention that framed it, and he is one of the very few men still living whose names are very few. His help in the coming convention would be most valuable. A LAWYER.

The Bee agrees with this statement that it would be most fitting to have the president of the last constitutional convention again in the next constitutional convention. We carefully explained that the names mentioned by us were by way of suggestion only of the sort of men whose services we should have for the important work of revising the state constitution. While we are not always in political accord with Mr. Webster, or in agreement with his views on many questions, everyone recognizes his exceptional qualifications as a constitutional lawyer and a deep student of government, and his rare ability to present and analyze complicated questions in issue. Mr. Webster's draw-back, as he himself will doubtless admit, is that he has seldom been successful in riding the popular wave and as a candidate for a contested place would doubtless draw much fire. If all concerned could agree to put him at the head of the Douglas county delegation as a recognition of his services in framing the present constitution and a tribute to him as one of the great lawyers of the state, the people of this county would be doing credit to themselves as well as paying him a deserved honor.

Municipal Ice Supply.

Actual experience is demonstrating that the municipal ice plant, even with its limited range of operation, is not of sufficient capacity to meet popular demands. If the extension proposed, that of delivery by means of a traveling station, is put into operation, the surplus of ice in storage will probably be exhausted much sooner than is now calculated. Here is one element of municipal service that is really making good. To appreciate it, one must see the line-up of customers around the delivery stations. With all other things that enter into the housekeeping budget soaring almost beyond reach, and with private concerns putting up the price of ice to consumers, the citizens who are within reach of the "munny" stations can get their "jitney" price at a rate denied the less fortunate who still must depend on other sources. If the installation of another plant for making ice is found necessary to meet public requirements, it will encounter objections only from those who are concerned in private enterprise. As far as it has gone, the municipal ice plant appears to be a success, and if it can be made to serve a greater number of the citizens, it will be all the better.

Germany's Ability to Deliver.

Careful attention has been given to Germany's economic power by the peace conferees, and terms have been arranged according to the material resources of the empire. If these are properly conserved and industriously employed, the requirements of the treaty may be met. Just now some thought is given to another phase of the situation: Political conditions in the vanquished empire have been tentatively studied, but not accorded much weight in the deliberations of the council at Paris.

Proceedings at Weimar, cabinet disturbances, difficulty in securing responsible delegates to formally sign the treaty on behalf of Germany, and the steady persistence of rioting in different communities, all tend to expose the inherent weakness of the so-called German republic.

The question is, Has Germany a government sufficiently stable to give life to the treaty?

It has been suggested that the farce of Brest-Litovsk may be repeated because of the inability of the cabinet, backed by the Weimar assembly, to make the terms operative. Such an outcome will be unfortunate. At Weimar, when the vote to accept treaty conditions was taken, Herr Haase, independent socialist leader, shouted: "What do the starving people care who started the war? They want the blockade to end, so they can have food." And the blockade will end only when the German people, starving or otherwise, seriously enter upon the discharge of the obligations laid upon them by the representatives of an outraged world.

Revolution and counter-revolution may rack the land; sooner or later, the government must settle down to a basis of responsibility, and then the requirements of justice will have to be met. Germany's future is now more than ever in the hands of the people.

Jobs for Discharged Soldiers.

Seventy per cent of the men discharged from the United States army have jobs waiting for them, reports the assistant secretary of war, who is in charge of this division of the government's service. Most of the remaining 30 per cent might have employment if the men were willing to accept the places offered. Not enough clerical jobs are open, and many of the men object to farm work. This statement from an authoritative source ought to do away with the assertions that a serious menace of unemployment has followed demobilization. American industry has not been sufficiently readjusted to entirely assimilate all the workers who have been forced to turn from war to peace employment, but even without the assistance of any well devised program for the purpose, the shock has been well met. Unless calamity in some form overtakes the country, the normal course of business will soon absorb all the idle labor in the land. Nothing could more effectively illustrate the resilience of American life than the way the soldiers have been caught up again into the orderly current.

Thanks to "watchful waiting," the United States has been forced to set up one fortified international boundary. This ought to be ample notice to the ebullient Mexicans that patience is nearly exhausted on this side of the line.

"Two out of every three American soldiers who reached France took part in battle," says the official report, indicating that one out of every three was sorely disappointed that he did not get to deliver his personal wallop to the foe.

"As usual, the pulmotor was out of order," is the comment on another tragedy. If the police department were less totally demoralized, the means provided for saving life might be ready when emergency arises.

Congress has cut the salary of one war-time supernumerary from \$25,000 to \$13,000 a year. This is real economy.

The Inevitable Surrender

From the New York Times.

The Germans will sign. They have acquiesced, as it was plain they must acquiesce, in the terms dictated by the western nations. They are now after another were forced to take up arms to defend themselves against German aggression. Truthful for once, they say that they are yielding to force to escape a worse fate; and this is exactly what they are doing. So long as the Germans had the superior force, the world had no chance of getting a peace that would have suited the elementary demands of justice. That such a peace is now written down, that the Germans sign it, we owe to the utilization of force without stint or limit.

But nobody should, probably few will, attach too much importance to the German decision to accept the inevitable. This undignified yielding after repeated vows never, never to yield is only one incident in the long series which began with the French, American and British offensives of July 18 and August 1918, and came to its culmination in the German submission to armistice terms which took away for the time being Germany's power to do harm. The formal ceremony of signature, which will take place some time this week in the Hall of Mirrors, will be an impressive demonstration of historical justice, an exhibition which can stand in history for all time as a warning to young and ambitious military empires; but it, too, will be only an incident in the series which began nearly a year ago, and which will not end for many years to come. The peace has been accepted; it will soon be signed; it remains to be enforced.

Much that is characteristic of the German mind may be found in the final efforts to obtain favor or mitigation of the terms. These efforts the Germans have repeatedly asserted, are unendurable, literally impossible of fulfillment. Germany now undertakes, under duress, to fulfill them. Is it a change of opinion as to the possibility of compliance, or does Germany hope that the Allies may ascribe too much merit to the mere German signature to a document? The Germans insisted that they would not acknowledge the guilt of the war, if it is in the document which their envoys are about to sign—under duress, to be sure. But they knew they would have to sign it. Did their tumult and shoutings up to the very last moment serve the purpose of calling their protestations of innocence to the attention of history, or will history merely note that once again the Germans are obstinately denying what all the world knows to be true? In a recent note the German government solemnly "declines all responsibility as regards the consequences which may be threatened against Germany when, as is bound to happen, the impossibility of carrying out the conditions" becomes apparent; and by way of specific declaration it declines responsibility for "any difficulty which may result from the resistance of the inhabitants in the districts to be cut off in the East against their separation from Germany."

If any but Germans had written those lines, we should take it as an outright declaration that they did not intend to abide by the treaty; and that in particular they would continue to make trouble for Poland. But the Germans are a strange race; this may be merely their way of calling attention to what they regard as their wrong in the same way that we might regard the solicitude expressed in the notes for the Kaiser and other war offenders. The Germans have driven the Kaiser out into the wilderness with the burden of their sins upon him; the German people, we have been assured, abhorred the war from the outset and would have none of it; if any Germans were guilty in a war, it was the Kaiser and his officials. So many German dignitaries have in the past few months called our attention to the distinction between the old German Government and the German people that one is surprised at finding the people's representatives coming stoutly to the defense of the man whom they condemn.

The incident of Scapa Flow, followed by similar sinkings of German warships at Kiel, comes conveniently to remind us of the difficulties we are likely to have in the enforcement of just reparations and the finding of just guarantees for the future. The Germans are delighted by the sinking of the ships; the Berliner Tageblatt alone regrets it, since the Allies may add to their list of reparations the indemnity, and thinks that this may be too much to pay for "a fine gesture." That is it exactly. To German, the destruction of property to be surrendered in partial reparation, destruction accomplished by taking advantage of the confidence or the laxity of an enemy, is a fine gesture. Unless we want to have intensive sabotage applied to the treaty terms, the allied military commission and Reparations Commission will have to be more alert than were the British naval authorities at Scapa Flow. We have beaten the Germans; they have now promised to pay. But they are the same Germans; the moral reformations which so many of us hoped for two years ago seems no nearer than ever. Until it comes, it is for the Governments and peoples of the allied nations to see that Germany does not evade the demands of justice which she now promises to meet.

Shantung, A Black Mark

In leaving Japan unconditional tenant of Kiau-Chau with much of the Shantung peninsula the peace treaty goes far to diminish the authority of the covenant of nations. Kiau-Chau was one of the few cases before the conference. The German lease was extorted from China on the pretext of compensation for the slaying of the German ambassador by the boxers. Germany capitalized her affront outrageously, and in a region where shaky titles abound, hers was morally and legally the worst. Japan drives out Germany and assumes her rights. The peace conference acquiesces in the iniquity of the official Japanese proposal, smoothly of the compromises inevitable in human affairs. Now, Japan's occupancy of Shantung is not a compromise, but a flagrant breach of the letter and spirit of the covenant. In consenting to it Mr. Wilson has canceled one of the fairest pages in American diplomacy. The only apology made for the surrender is that the Japanese would not have joined the league of nations. As it is, she joins, having first shown that she declines to be bound by one of its constituent principles. An added chagrin to those who hoped most from the league is that the united wisdom of the present world has been less able to moderate Japan's aggressiveness than was John Hay single handed.—The New York Review.

TODAY

The Day We Celebrate.

Frank A. Agnew, South Side attorney, born 1858.

N. H. Byrnes, surety bond man, born 1878.

H. S. Loomis, general solicitor of the Union Pacific railroad, born 1864.

Onis Skinner, one of the foremost actors of the American stage, born at Cambridge, Mass., 61 years ago.

Dr. Alexis Carrel, celebrated American medical scientist, born in France 46 years ago.

Thirty Years Ago in Omaha.

Thomas D. Crane wears a handsome Masonic badge of the Scottish Rite and Shriner degrees, presented to him by friends.

Dr. Miller, Mr. Linger, Mr. Pratt and Fred Millard of the park board, left for Minneapolis, St. Paul and Chicago for the purpose of inspecting the parks of those cities.

The work of tearing up plank sidewalks and putting down stone in their place, has begun.

Articles of incorporation by the American Savings bank, with a capital stock of \$100,000, have been filed in the S. M. O'Connell building, H. H. Gould, O. A. Powell, Lewis H. Groff and Philip Potter.

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.

An Interested Reader—We have no information concerning the "composite regiment" you ask about. It was probably a casual organization, or may have been made up of men from different units assigned to some special duty. Would suggest that you write to the adjutant general of the army for information on this point.

E. S. Kearney—We regret we can not give you any information as to the time any individual soldier will be returned to his country. The quartermaster units will probably be the last out of France.

J. C. W.—The Sixth cavalry is not attached to any division. Its several troops are being sent to different parts of France; no time has been announced for its return, but probably it will soon be on its way home.

W. O. E. A.—We have no information as to the 72nd engineers, either as to the present station of the regiment or the time for its return.

A Soldier's Mother—The 222d military police company is stationed at St. Nazaire, part of the force guarding base section No. 1. No time has been announced for its departure for home.

Constant Reader—Military police companies attached to base sections are just now employed in the important work of maintaining order where great efforts are being made to prepare for transport to the front large bodies of men and immense amounts of supplies. This renders the likelihood of their immediate return improbable. Base section No. 1 is at Bordeaux.

A Friend of the Soldier—See answers immediately foregoing. The 29th military police company is in progress of being shipped, and is therefore busy helping to get the rest of the expeditionary forces out of France.

A Returned Soldier—The 82d division was scheduled to return on the April sailing list. We have no record of the place of demobilization, which was part of this division. Write to the adjutant general of the army for information concerning this unit.

J. M. S.—We can give you only the fact that the 110th infantry was part of the 28th division, which was on the May sailing list. Most of this division has arrived and been demobilized.

Mr. T. J.—No word has been received as to when the 57th signal service company will be released for return home.

Mr. M. E. D.—We have no information as to when the 39th supply train will be released from service. A soldier who has been discharged from the army on application for immediate release, supported by affidavit, is allowed to come home as quickly as he likes. The speed with which demobilization is progressing makes the application for special discharge unnecessary in most cases, for the soldier is apt to get out sooner if the regular course is pursued.

A Soldier's Mother—No time has been announced for the sailing of the 18th transportation company. It is at St. Nazaire.

H.—Evacuation ambulance company No. 1 is at Bordeaux.

P. O. 705. It is not attached to a division, nor is it on the early sailing schedule.

The return of a letter addressed to a soldier abroad means only that you have not the right address. Write to the adjutant general of the army, Washington, D. C., and you will obtain the correct information as to his whereabouts, which we are unable to furnish.

MUCH IN LITTLE.

Experts have estimated for the government that Holland's coal deposits contain more than 5,000,000 tons, but none of it is first-grade fuel.

An Englishman has discovered a process whereby iridescent and allied colors of pearl effect can be given to sheets of gelatine, useful for many purposes.

In Switzerland almost every mountain torrent has its electric plant, the current often being carried for many miles for lighting and power purposes.

For cleaning between the teeth a pocket size container for dental floss has been invented, with a bracket on top to hold the piece of the floss while it is being used.

In experiments with soap bubbles an English scientist developed apparatus that blew them large and substantial enough to be used as a background for photographs.

Utilizing a galvanometer, a French scientist has invented apparatus for measuring vibrations of human bones and tissues, with which, among other things, he reads a person's pulse more accurately than by hand.

A trade association is reported to have been formed, comprising the entire British manufacturing, wholesale and retail industry of machine-made drawing instruments and drafting machines, trade established in Great Britain as a result of the war.

DAILY CARTOONETTE

PHEW! I'M HOT! I'LL HAVE TWO ELECTRIC FANS PUT IN, SO THEY'LL BOTH BLOW ON ME!

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Little Folks' Corner

DREAMLAND ADVENTURE

By DADDY.

"THE QUEST OF JOYOUSNESS."

(In this story Hopeful Smiles leads Peggy and Billy on a happy chase after Joyousness.)

Rain beat against the window panes and dripped, dripped unceasingly from the eaves. It was a dreary Saturday, and all of Peggy's holiday plans had been washed away.

But, still, Peggy did not weep or wail. "Saturday showers bring Sunday flowers," she sang softly to herself, watching the big drops splash in a puddle that had formed in the back yard.

Across the yard, in the window of a neighboring house, was another pair of eyes watching the rain. But these eyes were glowering darkly and the brows above them were drawn up in a heavy, ugly scowl.

"What's the matter, Frowning Phil?" asked Peggy of the scowling lad.

"It's raining and can't play base ball," howled Phil.

"Last night's paper said the crops needed showers badly as they were drying up," replied Peggy. "This will make the farmers glad, and us, too, when the fruits, the grains and the vegetables are harvested."

"I'm not glad! I'm mad! I want to play ball!" insisted Phil, stubbornly.

"Come over and we will play indoor tennis," said Peggy.

"I don't want to play indoor tennis. I don't want to play base ball, repeated Phil, scowling harder than ever at the falling drops. Peggy didn't urge him farther. "How silly

he is, sitting there making himself miserable with his frowns when he might be having fun with something else," she thought to herself. "All his scowling will not drive away the rain."

The attic was always one of Peggy's places of refuge on a rainy summer day. There she was sure to find something with which to amuse herself. In one corner was a toy railroad, with track, engine and cars. With this Peggy had a happy hour. When she grew a bit tired she sat down on an old couch to rest.

"This would be a splendid day for an adventure in some strange wonderland," she sighed to herself. "I wish, I wish, I wish."

"Three wishes, and tag, I'm it," laughed a gay voice, seeming to come from Peggy's own throat. And out of her mouth floated a misty shape like breath on a frosty morning. This misty shape slowly assumed the form of a beautiful fairy.

"Who are you?" exclaimed Peggy.

"I am the spirit of the rain," replied the fairy. "I have a special mission for you today. I wish to see you play indoor tennis."

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