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DAILY (MORNING)-EVENING-SUNDAY

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

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WILD TALK AND ITS RESULTS.

Mr. B. M. Jewell, vice president of the railway department of the American Federation of Labor, may be and probably is right in his statement that any plan to settle the wage controversy by act of congress will fail. Wage scales can not be successfully made the subject of law. But Mr. Jewell is talking wildly when he asserts that the shop hands will, unless their demands are granted, "tie the roads so tight they can not run." Such a threat must inevitably react on the maker and the men he represents.

If Mr. Jewell is sincere in his expressed purpose, he would very much better serve his own ends by keeping still until time comes to act. This is not a good time to try a bluff on the American people. And if he wants to try stopping all industry by a general strike, it might help him if he would prepare by studying the history of the American labor movement as applied to the railroads. Let him begin by looking up the record of the strike of the engineers in 1877; then the fate of the Martin Irons endeavor in the middle eighties might interest him, and the "A. R. U." strike of 1894, when Eugene V. Debs fell into the same hole that engulfed Martin Irons. There is matter enough in the history of the seventeen years here involved to give subject for deep consideration by any labor leader who hopes to tie up the railroads so tight they can not run.

Quite aside from this, Mr. Jewell should keep in mind that in event he were able to carry out his philanthropic purpose, his own people would be the greatest sufferers. They, like all other large groups of workers, are dependent for their daily bread of the steady movement of food supplies to the cities. If this is cut off, starvation faces them. Mr. Jewell's remarks may be set down as the extravagance of a man who is suffering the effects of a hot day, but viewed even from that point, they do not help the cause of labor any.

Sound American Doctrine.

In addressing the grand jury called to inquire into the Chicago race riot, the presiding judge said: "The government that can not protect the humblest citizen can not protect the strongest, and is a weak and inefficient government." That this is pertinent criticism of the local government of Chicago is not of so much importance as its broader application to national affairs. The doctrine is soundly American. Unless the organized forces of law and order can afford protection to all the citizens all the time, equally and certainly, there is a fundamental weakness in the system. All the responsibility does not rest on the government, however. Some part of it must be borne by the individual, who by his own conduct is expected to contribute continually to the maintenance of law and order. When this is understood, and observed accordingly, race riots will cease. Only when people take the law into their own hands is peace disturbed by unseemly proceedings of the sort that disgraced Washington and Chicago recently. Time enough will be had for inquiry into the direct and collateral causes of the outbreaks, but the first business of the courts will be to search out those guilty of the high crimes committed, and see to it that they are adequately punished. Our government owes this much to its own right to exist.

Limiting the Height of Buildings.

An ordinance now before the city council would limit the height of buildings to be erected in the future to 125 feet, or eight stories, generally speaking. This is not a new matter in Omaha, for as long as thirty years ago, when the Bee building and the New York Life represented the acme of local "skyscrapers," the question of limiting the altitude of future buildings was vigorously debated. At that time four stories was seriously put forward as the ideal height for a structure of any kind. The question has at least two sides, and should be carefully considered from all angles before being finally determined. Minneapolis has adopted 175 feet as the standard, thus permitting at least four more stories than Omaha would sanction. We still have plenty of unoccupied ground on the town site to allow the construction of low buildings to accommodate the growing traffic of the city, and we have many more buildings under than over the proposed rule. Will it not be well to allow the city to grow a little longer in its own disorderly way, rather than to undertake to guide and repress its tendencies, lawless though they may seem, and offensive to the exquisite aesthetic taste that reveals in an artistic skyline? Suppose nature had adopted such a scheme in relation to forest trees and other features of the landscape? Social use will still determine business values, and city ordinances are not likely to change the trend of growth very much.

Sunday Ice Delivery.

The Bee has won its fight for Sunday delivery of ice. When the ordinance was passed, this paper protested against it, and steadily since then we have called attention to the absurdity of this law and asked for its repeal. Ostensibly intended to preserve overworked ice wagon men from the necessity of toiling seven days a week throughout the hot summer weather, the ordinance produced the conditions that might have been foreseen from the first. It shut off supplies to humble homes of thousands who need ice on Sunday and yet have no facilities for storing a sufficient supply to last until Monday. Now that the ordinance has been repealed, and the sale and delivery of ice on Sunday is again permitted, it is up to the ice companies to so adjust their working forces that men will not be asked to work longer service steadily, as is done in other industries. Let us have our ice on a common sense basis.

Half the reserve of the "mummy" ice plant is gone, reports the commissioner. The time to complain is when it is all out. Just now it can be used for no better purpose than to supply the citizens. And, by the way, when a limit was set on the amount a patron can buy at the "jitney" stands, was any similar restriction put on the ice cream factories that are being furnished with ice from the city factory?

Argentina is in trouble with Great Britain just now because of inability to refrain from helping Germany while the war was on. The specific item is the purchase of an interned German steamer in the fall of 1918, when the end of the war was in sight. A lesson in behavior may help the Buenos Aires politicians amazingly.

Pay of American Consuls

Richard Spillane in Philadelphia Ledger.

In calling attention to the wretched pay of our consuls, our commercial and diplomatic representatives, the Corn Exchange National bank has done a good work. You cannot expect fine workmanship if you use cheap tools picked up from the bargain counter or at rummage sales. Neither should you expect the best of service from underpaid men.

It is a marvel that we have had good men in our consular service. Some of them have been of very great service. There probably are few more valuable men in the consular work of any nation than George H. Scidmore, who has been in Japan for us for many years, yet he has received only a pittance. One United States consul in a Latin-American port did a work during the war that was of inestimable worth to this country, yet he does not get as much as some Western Union messenger boys who are in the Wall street district in New York city.

Recently when the government was looking for especially high-class men to go into foreign fields and study particular industries a man of unusual ability who had been manager of a great wholesale dry goods establishment and owner of a large department store offered his services. He spoke four languages. He thought he could be of much value in broadening America's cotton and woolen trade. He had a fair income, but when he found that he had to submit to a rigid examination and trot down to Washington at various times and then wait four or six months for a verdict, and if he was successful he might get a job paying \$3,000, or at the extreme \$3,600, he decided he did not care to make the sacrifice, so he resumed business, and now is the head of a considerable establishment.

American consuls are not paid on an average as much per day as plasterers or riveters or locomotive engineers, yet they are expected to live in a style to maintain the dignity of this great nation, be able to look after the commercial and other affairs of their country in the foreign field to which they are assigned and generally be a credit to America.

William C. Redfield, secretary of commerce, is a practical man. He knows business from the manufacturing end as do few persons who have held office in Washington. He has been remarkably efficient in his administration of the Department of Commerce, but he is expected to do too much of consuls and is not doing justice to them when he permits them to struggle along on pay that does not assure to them a decent living.

Mr. Redfield figuratively might camp on the steps of the capitol for a week or a month or two finding diversion now and then by throwing his card or a brickbat at congress and blithely announcing he would continue the pleasing practice until he got enough money to pay decent salaries to Uncle Sam's consular representatives in every part of the world. The foreign trade of this country is \$10,000,000,000 annually. It is difficult for the human mind to grasp the immensity of this sum. It is going to be bigger, much bigger. Its growth depends to a degree upon the class and character of the men who represent us in the fields abroad.

American business cannot afford to have the old stingy system maintained. Good men are worthy of good pay. In the consular service this is especially true at this time when we are entering upon our great enterprise in world trade, for which we are spending in ships alone a colossal sum.

Strength of German Government

The rejection, by a vote of 243 to 53, in the German national assembly, of a motion of lack of confidence in the Bauer government may not fully measure the strength of the opposition. The motion was framed by the Junker Right, and the Extreme Left has more faith in bombs and rioting than in assembly votes. But as this text is followed by an affirmative vote of confidence by a large majority, the cabinet seems firmly seated.

The predictions of some weeks ago that the Welmar system must succumb prove thus far fallacious. There has been much material for discontent. The proposed capital tax has been favorably considered by the council. The dispute over the inheritance tax followed. Herr Erzberger's sensational charge against the former Chancellor Michaelis. Hotheads in Silesia are raising an army for the defense of the empire as it was.

Conditions of life are very hard, as in all Europe, with the growing consciousness, in addition, of German responsibility for the slaughter. Bolshevism in Russia, so-called communism in Budapest and even in Munich, strikes and riots for political ends in many cities, have set a scene for disorder and chaos; yet with many reasons for falling, the government refuses to fall.

This is a fact to be accepted with relief throughout the world. There can be no stability in a peace with Germany if there is no government of sufficient strength to carry out the nation's undertakings. Irrespective of the fate of individual cabinet members, the Welmar experiment is showing a most welcome vitality.—New York World.

What It Costs to Dress

Presumably after much serious thought the experts of the United States industrial board have composed a wardrobe for a workman and another for his wife, with prices showing how much more it costs to dress with economy in March, 1919, than it did in 1914. According to these figures, which indicate that the working man and his wife now pay nearly twice as much to dress themselves as they did five years ago, one is surprised to find that both dress for almost identically the same sum. In 1914 he and she would have dressed, respectively, for \$58.65 and \$58.15; but now they pay \$106.15 and \$101.80. His "three pairs of overalls" for example, have gone from \$2.25 to \$5.55 and his "three aprons" from 90 cents to \$2.25. One is surprised, too, at the discovery that the man of the family spends more for his hats than the woman; and even today an estimate of \$3.60 for any woman's hats, how many is not stated, does not seem exorbitant. One wonders also how the board experts decided on the number of overalls for the workman and the number of aprons for his wife.—Christian Science Monitor.

TODAY

The Day We Celebrate.

Alfred Bloom of Alfred Bloom company, born 1853.

John A. Gentleman, undertaker, born 1881. Abrak L. Elkus, former United States ambassador to Turkey, born in New York City 52 years ago.

Mrs. Edith C. Roosevelt, widow of the late Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, born at Norwich, Conn., 58 years ago.

Phillips Lee Goldsborough, former governor of Maryland, born at Cambridge, Md., 54 years ago.

Earl of Leve and Melville, the first British peer seriously wounded in the late war, born 29 years ago.

Thirty Years Ago in Omaha.

Enclid Martin, president of the Board of Trade, is home from a western trip. The wrestling match between Evan Lewis, the Strangler, and McMillan, the Strong Man, comes off at the Coliseum this evening.

City Attorney Webster has made out bond in the sum of \$50,000 for Foster and Beindorf, architects for the new city hall.

Judge Kelley, assistant general attorney for the Union Pacific, has gone to Salt Lake City, accompanied by his family.

Our Free Legal Aid

State your case clearly but briefly and a reliable lawyer will furnish the answer or advise in this column. Your name will not be printed.

Let The Bee Advise You.

Cigaret Law.

P. W.—When the new cigarette law as passed by the state legislature was soon to go into effect a report was current in your city that it would be illegal to give to another a cigar or cigarette without having a license to sell. Was not this report incorrect? Answer—I do not know anything about the report you refer to, but the law is not subject to such construction, if there was such a report current at the time.

Wages.

F. L. Y.—I am working for a farmer by the month and hear he intends to fire me soon. I have potatoes and other garden truck out. Can he compel me to move if I refuse to sell the potatoes and garden truck to him? Can he compel me to move until my potatoes are ready to dig?

Answer—In answer to your question it depends upon your contract. However, from the manager information contained in your inquiry will say the landlord by proper legal proceedings could dispossess you and your action against him would be for damages sustained for breach of contract. There is no way he can compel you to sell to him your garden product.

Exemption.

E. E. R.—The communication you received from the collection agency need not bother you. There is no way that they can enforce payment that you refer to until you are in a position to pay. If suit is brought against you and a judgment is rendered against you, you will have to pay for exemption as required by law and they cannot take your household furniture.

Wages.

D. L.—I am a stenographer and have been working for my present employers several years. Each year I take a vacation and they deduct my wages. Is there any law justifying my employer from deducting wages for a vacation given me?

Answer—You are not entitled to wages unless your employer voluntarily pays you.

Child's Wages.

A. C. E.—For several years I have been working and earning money. My parents take all my wages. I am 18 years of age and live at home. Am I entitled to my wages and do I have to pay board? Please answer these questions through your Legal Aid column.

Answer—Your wages belong to you parents until you are 21 years of age.

J. E. D.—Can a girl 16 years of age get married without her parents' consent?

Answer—Parents' consent is necessary in order to secure a license.

Stock.

W. M.—I purchased ten shares of stock in — company and at the time of purchase I agreed not to resell it to anyone. Is such contract binding upon me?

Answer—No.

Workmen's Compensation.

C. D. Y.—My employer sent me on a errand and while crossing the street I was struck by a street car. Am I entitled to the wages provided for under the compensation law?

Answer—You are.

Bigamy.

D. A. B.—If I am divorced in Nebraska and marry again before six months in South Dakota and come back to Nebraska to live, and after my six months is up am I still a bigamist, or am I free, or is it that I am always a bigamist? Could the mother of the children get the mother of the children get the children for that if she proves that she is capable of providing and caring for them?

Answer—If you return to Nebraska after six months you could not be guilty of bigamy. The custody of the children would in no way be affected by the fact that the marriage was contracted in another state prior to the six months' period.

Contract.

J. M.—I bought a Case tractor from parties through the mail and paid them the cash and they said it was practically new with the exception of plowing ten acres doing demonstration work, and when I tried to use this machine it would not work and I wrote to them in regard to it and they said it was of inferior by the Case guarantee, and I wrote to the Case Co. and they said they sold this tractor in 1916 to — through the above parties as their agents and their guarantee had run out on it. I have all letters that I received from them.

Answer—If the tractor was misrepresented to you you can sue for damages or rescind the contract and sue for your money back.

IN THE BEST OF HUMOR.

"Has our client a good case?" "Good for several thousand dollars."—Boston Transcript.

Flubdub—How are the life preservers on this boat?" "Guzzler—Fine. I've just had three, as good as I ever drank."—Topsie Journal.

"Been out to visit the Browns at their cottage yet?" "No. They went out there for a rest and we decided to let them have it."—Detroit Free Press.

"She just kissed that tall girl 16 times." "Shows she must love her, eh?" "Shows she must hate her, I think."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

DAILY CARTOONETTE.

AS A BIRTHDAY PRESENT I'M GOING TO GIVE MY WIFE THE MONEY TO BUY A NEW DRESS!



AND HE DID—



Little Folks' Corner

DREAMLAND ADVENTURE

By DADDY.

"THE CIRCUS BIRD."

(Judge Owl grows into the biggest owl in the world when Peggy and Billy plant him in the hollow. He seeks to join a circus, but the manager is afraid to hire him for fear the tiger will be jealous. Peggy and Billy set up a circus of their own. Judge Owl, growing hungry, takes the meat of the circus animals.)

The Tiger Goes Flying.

HOO! HOO! Too! Too! This meal is good!" screamed Judge Owl, gobbling down the supper of the circus animals.

"You! Ow-ow-ow!" howled the tiger from the menagerie tent, "I'm hungry!"

"You! Ow-ow-ow! We're all hungry!" howled the lions, the wolves, the hyenas, the leopards and other animals.

"Judge Owl, you take that meat right back where it belongs," scolded Peggy, frowning very severely at Judge Owl. "Those circus animals need their supper." Judge Owl winked at Peggy and then winked at the audience, which had gathered in Peter's back yard to see him.

"I am putting it where it belongs," he chuckled. "I need my supper more than they do because I am bigger than they are."

The audience laughed and laughed when Judge Owl winked and said this. They couldn't understand his talk, of course, but they understood his wink and his chuckle as he gobbled the meat. They knew he had been in mischief and had run away with some one else's supper.

The cries of the hungry circus animals grew louder and more angry when Judge Owl winked and more angry when Judge Owl winked and more angry when Judge Owl winked.

"I'm not afraid," declared the Manager, stepping forward. Judge Owl stopped eating and cocked his head on one side as he looked at the manager. The manager halted a moment, then took another step forward.

"His-s-s!" went Judge Owl, just like a goose. The manager stopped short. Hoo! Hoo! Too! Too! suddenly screamed Judge Owl, spreading his wings,