

THE OMAHA BEE
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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER
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MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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You should know that

Within a few miles of Omaha is the finest grape producing soil in the world.

It was some rain, all right.

Bulgaria now knows just what it cost to go along with the kaiser.

Veterans of '65 are to get another boost in pensions. They deserve it.

Now man is blamed for woman's dress. Eve is avenged on Adam at last.

Bishop Shaylor will find plenty to occupy his here, and he can make a start almost anywhere.

Nebraskans are asked to contribute to the relief of Corpus Christi. "He gives twice who gives quickly."

Wheat should not be left to rot on the ground in Nebraska now or at any other time. Farmers should see to this.

A French flyer proposes an airplane excursion from Paris to Melbourne, but will go most of the distance by land.

"Encourage your fool friend to hire a hall," the president told the Californians. He ought to know the value of the procedure.

The New England landlord who gave deed to the property to his long-time tenant is the only one of the kind yet discovered.

Horrors! The Minnesota legislature gave attention while "Hi" Johnson ripped up the league! What do you know about that?

The senate proposes to make Enoch H. Crowder a lieutenant general on his retirement. He earned his promotion if any officer did.

One good way not to build up Omaha is to discourage the rearing of families by refusing to rent dwelling places to people with children.

Five thousand well-to-do British women are said to be coming to America for husbands. What's the matter with our home-grown girls?

The "prettiest girl ever arraigned in the Omaha police court" gave her address as Lincoln. She can go right back home, as soon as she pays her fine.

Switzerland has decided to postpone entry into the League of Nations, which probably means the cautious Helvetians are waiting to see what is coming.

From Chicago comes the announcement that the Anti-Saloon league is going into politics "actively." What would you say the brewers called its past efforts?

The only perfect foot among seventy women doctors assembled from all over the world at New York was exhibited by a Japanese. Write your own moral to this.

London newspapers are not greatly excited over the president's explanation of the league as affecting Ireland. For that matter the Irish have not thrown any fits on account of it.

Army surplus food was sold to packers and wholesalers is the charge now made to explain why it was not delivered to purchasers who sent their orders to the postoffice. Oh, very well, as long as it did not break prices, Mr. Baker is content.

The Bee has been on the "wrong track" a great many times during the last forty-eight years, as viewed from the standpoint of somebody who was trying to cover up something. However, it is steadily battling for the people just the same.

Relation of Wine and Song

A speaker at a musical gathering in Pittsburgh, quoted "Musical America," announced his fear that prohibition would increase the demand for light and frivolous music. "Deprived of alcoholic beverages," he said, "intoxication by music will be sought by those whose emotional vibrations attain them to such a stimulus." The result, he concludes, will be much musical composition of an "inebriating" and other undesirable character.

The inference that the age of booze was not productive of the kind of musical composition he deprecates will hardly stand. What produced jazz, we wonder? We won't undertake to say, but it doesn't sound exactly like a W. C. T. U. convention to us. Exactly sort of emotional vibrations were the musical revues of the last 20 years written to catch? But we don't need to be confined to the moderns. What of that Venice that would always leave off talking to hear Galuppi play? Didn't Brown-judge he was equally good at grave and gay? We judge that those balls and masques burning ever to midday, when they made up fresh adventures for the morrow, were not danced to measures entirely wanting in emotional attainments, even though Venice did not lack the stimulant we are now deprived of.

On the whole—bah! Music will continue to be good and bad as it has always been, irrespective of the habits of the age. If the age of alcohol produced a "Salome" so did it a "Messiah." The age of restraint probably will not do worse or better.—Kansas City Times.

AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE.

"Only a Woman" writes to The Bee that she finds in the Declaration of Independence the strongest possible argument against the League of Nations. She advises that this immortal document be republished day after day for a time, until all readers become familiar with it. This may not be complied with, for obvious reasons, but The Bee joins her in recommending that all read the stirring sentences of the Declaration of Independence, and ponder them well.

In setting forth that the United States are and of right ought to be free and independent, the Fathers did not mean it was to lead to any form of "magnificent isolation." They had in mind that Americans should be forever free to manage their own affairs, without interference or dictation from another nation. Intercourse with the world should be unrestricted, save as the growth and welfare of the United States required. Friendly relations should be cultivated and maintained with all, without sacrifice of national dignity and honor or the abatement of home control of domestic concerns.

This was the ideal in 1776, and it was maintained up to 1919. All of a sudden we are told that in order to proceed in harmony and live in amity with the rest of the world, we must give over a considerable part of our national independence into the keeping of a super-nation. Some things we have always done for ourselves, and a few of which involve warmly cherished rights, are to be decided for us in the future by a great body, in which we have but limited rights or voice.

A large and perhaps a preponderant portion of the people are not in favor of surrendering now or any time the rights sanctified to our country by the War of Independence and in the free exercise of which America has grown so wonderfully. At no time has the exercise of those rights, even to their utmost, menaced in any way the peace and happiness of the world, and it strikes a lot of folks as odd, to say no more, that they must now be surrendered in order to secure the stability of human government and the tranquility of nations.

Read the Declaration of Independence, and decide whether it does not yet afford a fairly good starting point for American aspirations.

Strike in the Steel Mills.

Next to a general tieup of the transportation industry of the land, the most serious labor disturbance will be a strike in the steel mills. It will fundamentally affect all other lines of activity, including the railroads. Such a strike is imminent, and at the moment appears to be inescapable. It turns on the elementary difference involved in the policy of employing men.

Judge Gary, as the head of the United States Steel corporation, has refused to meet or treat with a committee claiming to represent employees, his position being that he will deal with a body representing men actually at work in the employ of the concern, but can not meet a body that comes from a labor union. For many months an active campaign of organizing effort has been carried on at the great steel and iron making centers. This has met determined opposition from representatives of the companies concerned, but has persisted. How many of the men have been taken into the unions can not be told by anyone accurately, as they have been received into the forty-four different national or international unions whose crafts or trades are represented in steel mill operations.

This condition makes the question a broader and more important one than if it were confined to a single union composed exclusively of those directly engaged in the industry. The men have set forth their demands, chief of which is the right of collective bargaining, as opposed to "shop unions," followed by a number of points chiefly of interest to the workers and the companies involved. President Wilson asked that the strike be postponed until after the general conference he has called for October 6, but the unions have voted to go ahead. How extensive the walkout and its accompanying shutdown will be can only be told after fact, but the situation is extremely grave.

"Injun Day" for Nebraska.

Governor McKelvie has set apart Friday of next week as a day on which he requests "our people to meet together, and that the public schools take up the subject of the American Indian and in a fitting manner observe the day." The Bee commends his suggestion that the public schools take up the subject of the American Indian, and that the people in general will do well to give it some attention. Not from the standpoint of the "Leatherstocking Tales," the Simon Girty stories, "Hiawatha," "Ramona," the Buffalo Bill yarns, or anything of that sort. Some fairly interesting information may be had in an easily digestible form, so that it may be readily assimilated, in John Fiske's "Discovery of America," volume 1; in Parkman's "Jesuits in America" and "Pontiac's Rebellion." These writers deal authoritatively with a topic on which the density of popular ignorance is appalling. After attaining familiarity with the facts set out in these, the Indian will take on a new interest for many, because he will have been stripped of the glamour thrown about him by romanticists, poets and plain liars, and will appear as a man, facing the problems of primitive existence, slowly struggling up to the light. "Indian Day" will be a good thing for Nebraska or any other state, if it be intelligently directed to getting at the truth with regard to the red man.

What About Fiume?

Opinion as to the action of Gabrielle d'Annunzio and the mutinous Italian troops, who seized Fiume and expelled the allied forces, unites on the foolishness of the project. Generally, it is accepted that on Italy rests the duty of getting the rebellious soldiers out of the city. How this is better to be accomplished is not so clear. At Paris the Peace conference is waiting on word from the United States, which is not as yet forthcoming. Premier Nitti has not been able to present a definite plan for consideration, and that delays action by President Wilson, who is expected to uphold his decision awarding Fiume to the Yugoslavs. The affair presents a very pretty preliminary test for the League of Nations. Although that body is not yet formed and operative, the underlying principles may be applied to this case, and the question of moral obligation as well as the right of self-determination settled. D'Annunzio is determined to hold on; what will Italy or its Allies do with him?

Lloyd George says the demand for surrender of the ex-kaiser will be renewed. This will be sad news in Berlin.

Danger to Age in Exercise

From the London Mail.

The septuagenarians who have written accounts of their cycling feats are obviously men of exceptionally sound constitution. It would not do for every old man, or even for all in the 50's and 60's to imitate them by riding 60 or 70 miles in a day.

It is not easy to prescribe suitable exercise in any variety of men in later life. In the majority of people one or another vital organ has grown weak and there is always danger of putting too much pressure on blood vessels. But exercise is as necessary at this as at any time of life.

Walking, of course, is the ideal form. There should be no haste, no effort that would cause breathlessness and so raise the blood pressure, and the walk should not be continued to the point of weariness. The best plan is to take three or four short walks in the day.

Walking without some object soon palls, and therefore a man should have other forms of exercise available. Up to a late age golf is safe and an excellent reason for walking. Croquet on a fine summer's afternoon is admirable. Every middle-aged man should have a garden to work in, but the more he avoids heavy digging the longer he will live. Pottering about in a greenhouse, however, is not exercise, and it is by no means a healthy occupation. More severe exercises than these can be undertaken by exceptional men who have continued to use their muscles throughout life. But there is no doubt danger when violent exercise is resumed in middle age after a period of sedentary life.

The chief danger of overstrain after 55 is to the blood vessels. Even a minute's quick walking will often do a man of this age serious injury. In nearly all violent exercise one holds the breath now and again, a matter of no importance in youth, but a great danger in late life.

The heart is another danger zone, and unless it is known to be sound any great strain should not be put on it after 50. It is not the risk of sudden death or paralysis alone that confronts the man getting on in years who overstrains himself; lesser injury may be done which leaves him more or less ill for the day or even several days. The basal fact to consider is that every part of the body is less efficient and may be dangerously weak as age comes on.

Some of the need for a quiet, even life may not arise until 60 or later, but in the majority it is well to begin to be cautious when in the fiftieth year. Probably, indeed, men would live longer if they confined themselves to the gentler forms of exercise soon after 40, even when there is no sign of failing power.

A Simple Solution

At last a solution for the cost of living problem has been found and it is seriously set forth by such eminent economic authorities as the Wall Street Journal and the New York Sun. The thing is so remarkably simple that it is remarkable it was not thought of sooner and immediately acted upon.

The first premise is that all food costs are based on the cost of wheat, and comparative tables are set forth showing how the prices for corn, hogs, eggs and even cotton, rise and fall pretty much with the price of wheat.

Therefore, all that is necessary, they say, is first to lower the price of wheat and all these other essential foodstuffs will come tumbling down to a level of prices at which all the people can have all they need. The proposition is for the government to pay the farmer the \$2.26 a bushel as agreed upon, and then sell the wheat to the public for \$1.76 a bushel. The government would, of course, lose by this transaction, but only some \$250,000,000; which, it is pointed out, the people would gladly pay because they would be so greatly benefited by the drop in cost of all other foods.

The only puzzling part of this proposition is why the price of wheat to the public is set at \$1.76. Why not bring it down to \$1.00, or 50 cents, or even give it away free, if the lower the price is made the more wheat will be produced in prices of other foodstuffs? Then this could be made a permanent policy of the government so that from now on all that need be done to secure cheap food will be to artificially lower the price of wheat.

Was there ever a prettier example of the "reductio ad absurdum" argument?—Boston Post.

The Search for Men

The paragraph that follows was written by Mr. Heywood Brown as part of a book review in the New York Tribune:

"It is something of a blot on all forms of art in America that in no profession except base ball is the search for new talent diligent and careful enough to cover every village and hamlet. If Al Simpskins or Joe Spruggles, in the tiniest of upstate towns, can throw a good curve and get it over the corner, John McGraw or Pat Moran or somebody else will give him his chance immediately to prove his worth in fast company. Opera impresarios and book publishers are not so far-reaching in their investigations, nor so quick to act."

Are banks so quick to act? Are the large industrial companies? Are the churches? The search for new talent occupies much of the time of the executives of any large organization. Not McGraw nor Moran alone, but every big league manager combs the country for new players; every club has scouts that watch the games in small cities, and even on sand lots. Men like Cobb and Speaker are discovered as the result of this process; and also these great players only, but also all the other men who have made the standard of ability in base ball so high. No team of a large city, not even the constant tailenders, is obliged to tolerate real incompetency very long at any position. Managers buy a few players from each other, but most of their men come to them as a result of close investigation in small towns. It is a big part of the base ball business and a profitable one for any other business that needs more men or better men. The recruit needs training, of course, but he receives that training when he comes out of his seclusion and goes to work for a first rate boss.—Collier's.

The Bee's Letter Box

Dates in President's Life. Omaha, Sept. 20.—To the Editor of The Bee: How long was President Wilson a widower? C. S. A. answered: Mrs. Wood died on August 6, 1914. The president was remarried on December 18, 1915. He was, therefore, a widower just over 16 months.

It is Worth Reading. Omaha, Sept. 19.—To the Editor of The Bee: The best argument the writer has yet seen against the League of Nations is the Declaration of Independence, and I would suggest that you reserve a good conspicuous space in your paper and run that important document day after day until the people are successful in denouncing and overthrowing the proposed league.

ONLY A WOMAN. "Jerry on the Job."

Omaha, Sept. 18.—To the Editor of The Bee: Thanks for your editorial in today's issue headed, "President and Ireland." I most earnestly recommend a careful study of said editorial, especially by those who refer to in another editorial that says: "If the Irish are fooled by the president's explanations, it is because they want to be." On this occasion I have an idea that the rank and file of the Irish are on the alert concerning the league of nations.

The elite of the Irish, those who have ever and always faithful and true to "liberty's cause" need no tocsin or any other alarm to notify them of their duty. However, it is mighty to witness the noble and the spainpeens of the race paying homage to the House of Morgan, the House of Rockefeller, the House of the Rockers and a swarm of lesser autocrats. Perhaps such slavishness to their ancestors who were accustomed to take off their caubeens to the landlords in Ireland. JERRY HOWARD.

Objection by a Democrat. Omaha, Sept. 16.—To the Editor of The Bee: I have a few objections to the proposed league of nations, which I would like to see printed to merit attention—and being a democrat, I naturally embodied them in a letter to the World-Herald.

First, the league is a mere cloak for the selfish interests of the few, and I therefore appeal to you, I oppose the league because it is guaranteed an unjust peace. Last November we offered and Germany accepted peace on the basis of Wilson's fourteen points, but Mr. Lansing tells us when peace was being made, the "fourteen points" were not so much considered. I can see no difference in principle between the present league and the fourteen points, and I believe it is the duty of all good Americans to try to maintain our honor brighter than Germany's.

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Little Folks' Corner

DREAMLAND ADVENTURE

By DADDY.

THE MERMAID IS KIDNAPED.

(In previous stories the Prince of Dollars has sought to woo Anita, the charming mermaid, to have her run away from him—first after she had saved him from drowning in the lake, and second after he had rescued her from the burning mill.)

CHAPTER I. The Extra.

"EXTRA! Extra! All about the mystery of the charming mermaid and the Prince of Dollars! Extra! Extra!"

Peggy jumped quickly from the hammock when she heard this cry coming through the stillness of the early evening. "Extra! Extra!"

The loud newsboy call would have been exciting enough on the city streets, but here in the woody quiet of her lakeside summer home it was startling. "Extra! Extra!" The cry came nearer and nearer until she was still out of sight among the bushes and trees.

Clumpety-clump! Up galloped Balty Sam, the army mule, to see what the excitement was about. Behind him were Billy Goat and Johnny Bull, the dog.

"Woof! Woof!" snorted Lonesome Bear, rushing from the underbrush. Clatter! Clatter! The birds rustled through the trees—Reddy Woodpecker, Kingfisher, Blue Jay, General Swallow, Mrs. Swallow, Mr. Robin, Mr. Owl, and the others—eager to hear the news.

A Beautiful Maiden Sitting Before a Cottage Door and Singing.

FROM A WINDOW IN FEZ.

Life on Moroccan Housetops Suggests Days of Haroun el Raschid. The motor passed before a green door in Fez, where a cadi in a silk-craftan received us. Across squares of orange trees divided by the bold rose pink arabesque of apartment hung with Moroccan embroideries and lined with wide divans; the hall of reception of the resident general. Through its arches were other tiled distances, fountains, arcades; beyond, in greener depths, the bright blossoms of a flower garden. Such was our first sight of Bou-Jouad, once the summit palace of the wives of Moulay Hafid.

Upstairs, from a room walled and ceiled with cedar, and decorated with the bold roses pink arabesque of Salé and the intricate old needlework of Fez, I looked out over the upper city toward the mauve and tawny mountains.

Just below the windows the flat roofs of a group of little houses descended like the steps of an irregular staircase. Between them rose a few cypresses and a green minaret; on the court of one house an ancient fig tree thrust its twisted arms.

The sun had set, and one after another the bright figures appeared on the roofs. The children came first, hung with silver amulets and amber beads, and pursued by negroes in striped turbans, who bustled up with rugs and matting; then the mothers followed more indolently, released from their ashy mufflings and showing under light veils, long eared scarves and craftans of pale green or peach color.

The houses were humble ones, such as grow up in the cracks of a wealthy quarter, and their inhabitants, as a rule, small folk; but in the enchanted twilight the terraces blossomed like gardens, and when the moon rose and the minarets called from the minaret, the domestic squabbles and the shrill cries from roof to roof became part of a story in Bagdad, overheard a thousand years ago by that poet, Haroun el Raschid.—Edith Wharton in Scribner's Magazine.

SAID TO BE FUNNY.

She Never Knew. She never knew a mother's care; she never had a mother's wing; and so no chance to nestle here, poor thing.

It seems a most unhappy fate, but still we needn't worry when we learn she was an owl. Tor hen—Kansas City Journal.

"My husband anticipates my every wish." "Mine seems to have talent in that direction. At least, when I happen to express a wish, he heads me off with a poverty plea."

Hanks—What do you know about the Japanese question? "Danks—Nothing. I've read both sides.—Life.

"Bill." Everybody knows what a rider is. "St. It is not well for our national honor to promise in 1919 that we will help any particular nation or nations in a war which may not occur until 1950. For one thing is certain: we will not fight where our strong sympathies do not lie. And it may easily happen that when the crisis comes, our sympathies will have to be forced by propaganda, or we will refuse to keep our written promise. We chose the right side in 1917, without any alliance or league; can we not be trusted to do so again?"

1918 Farnam street. E. M. AIKIN.

DOT PUZZLE

"Hee-haw! What's the matter now?" brayed Balty Sam. "Hoo! Hoo! Who is raising this hubbalooboo?" hooted Judge Owl. "Hey! Hey! I want an extra," shouted an anxious voice, and here came rushing the Prince of Dollars himself.

"Extra! Extra!" And into view trotted the newsboy. It was Billy Belgium. "Extra! Extra! edition of the Birdland Gossip. All about why Anita, the charming mermaid, is hiding from the Prince of Dollars."

"Ah! That's just what I want to find out," exclaimed the prince, throwing a 5-cent piece to Billy. "Here it is then," replied Billy, handing him a piece of ordinary wrapping paper on which an item was printed in printed letters. The prince eagerly read the item out loud, and all the birds and animals crowded around so they could hear. Every one of them wanted to know why the charming mermaid had run away from the prince, who loved her so dearly. This is what the prince read:

"Birdland, Summertime, 1912—Carrie and Homer Pigeon, while flying over the Valley of the Woods today, saw a beautiful maiden sitting before a cottage door and singing. They knew at once she was the charming mermaid, for none other could sing so sweetly. And this is what she sang:

"The Prince of Dollars is idle and rich, While I, poor mermaid, have scarcely a stitch; Until he becomes the same as me I cannot be the same as he."

The prince looked up puzzled from the extra. "But I love her and she loves me, that makes me the same as she," he said.

"There's more of the extra on the other side," said Billy. The prince turned the sheet over and read: "My troth has been plighted to Blacksmith Joe; I must wed him tonight! Oh, woe! Oh, woe!"

The prince gave a cry of grief. "Alas, alas, my beloved is to wed another."

"But it isn't tonight yet," cried Peggy. "The sun has just set, and the moon isn't up, if we could only stop the wedding!"

"Hee-haw! I'll stop it!" brayed Balty Sam. "I'm a happy bachelor, and I think if I ever get a lucky not to be married, but if he wants to marry the mermaid, marry her he shall. I say so!"

"So say I, even if I, too, am a contented bachelor," hooted Judge Owl.

"So say we all!" screamed the birds and animals, and away they rushed pell-mell. Peggy, Billy and

Labrador has an area of 200,000 square miles, but the population is only 4,000.

The British House of Commons possesses a postoffice of its own, which handles over 2,500,000 pieces of mail each day, and a tremendous number of telegrams—during a single session.

One of the newest uses of aluminum is its employment in making the soles of shoes to be used by workmen employed in damp and wet places. The aluminum-soled shoe lasts much longer than an ordinary shoe and is said to be impervious to moisture.

Hind children are remarkable for their precocity. Many of them are skillful workmen at an age when the children of other nations are learning the alphabet. A boy of 7 may be a skillful wood carver, while some of the handsomest rugs are woven by children not yet in their teens.

The stork is treated with great respect in Holland. The house selected by the stork for a resting place is considered fortunate, and special facilities are provided by the householders to enable it build a nest comfortably. At The Hague many of these birds are maintained at public expense.

Silk is the most costly of all fibers, and in the raw state represents a value so great as to be guarded in its transportation like a shipment of bullion. It is shipped from coast to coast in special, solid, express trains, under strong guard, the shipments ranging in value from \$5,000,000 to \$25,000,000.

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