THE OMAHA BEE

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, PROPRIETOR MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Private Branch Exchange. Ask for the Tyler 1000 Department or Particular Person Wanted. For Night and Sunday Service Call:

OFFICES OF THE BEE

OCTOBER CIRCULATION:

Daily 66,315—Sunday 63,160

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

You should know that

Within 150 miles of Omaha, in eastern Nebraska, 960,170 people live, two-thirds of the population of the state right at our doors.

What The Bee Stands For:

- 1. Respect for the law and maintenance of
- 2. Speedy and certain punishment of crime through the regular operation of the
- 3. Pitiless publicity and condemnation of inefficiency lawlessness and corrup-
- 4. Frank recognition and commendation honest and efficient public service. 5. Inculcation of Americanism as the true

Happy New Year to you!

basis of good citizenship.

If you made 'em, try to stick to 'em.

For the first time you are dating things 1920.

Well, nobody has tried to steal the city hall. Is it any wonder anti-burglary insurance is

"A cauld blast o' Jan'war wind blew hansel

in on" 1920 also. A correspondent inquires to know if the senate fight is to save America's bacon or Wil-

son's ham. You guess. The scramble for a vacancy on the district

bench indicates appreciation of the dignity and honor that distinguishes a judge. "Cal" Coolidge announces that he is not

looking for a consolation prize. But somebody must be nominated for vice president.

is from Texas, the other from Alabama. A Chicago parson has denounced the "Win-

ter Garden" show as "vulgar, salacious, and indecent." No wonder they can get \$11 a seat.

Canadians are going to try to struggle along without titles of special class or distinction conferred by the king of England. Democracy is taking real root north of the line.

A preacher has been found who resembles is parishioners in one respect-he likes to play poker. It would be interesting to watch him trying to make a bobtail flush "stand up."

Notice is sent out to consumers that producers intend to advance the price of coal. Here is a splendid chance to see of the government can control the operators any better than it did the

Scotch in New York want "Macbeth" abolished, for reasons similar to that set up for putting a ban on "The Merchant of Venice." "Anthony and Cleopatra" and "Julius Caesar" are possibly immune .-

"Pat" Crowe is getting unduly boastful in his old age. He ought to be returning his thanks that a jury thought less of duty for a moment than anything else, and turned him free from deserved punishment.

What Omaha wants is not meek submission to things as they are, but a public sentiment that will promptly jump on to anything that looks wrong. And not star chamber or dark lantern proceedings, but every move of the government out in the open.

The matter of controlling man's appetites by law is not progressing as smoothly as its advocates would like to see. Wood alcohol is to be put on the prohibited list, also, but that is not going to terminate the thirst that only can be assuaged by something more potent than one-half of 1 per cent. Prohibition may prohibit, but it will not prevent men from getting hold of something with a kick in it.

Why the German Mark Has Fallen

One curious result of the depreciation of the German mark in all foreign countries is that Germany by that very fact becomes the cheapest market in which they can purchase, thus showing the tendency of economic laws to correct evils produced by their own operation. The Berlin correspondent of the London Economist estimates that the cost of living in the German capital is less than one-fourth what it is abroad.

The Germans probably will have to work our times as hard, however, to meet this cost. But the fact proves the truth of the old adage that it's an ill wind that blows nobody good. The situation offers an exceptional advantage to foreign purchasers, of which the French and

Belgians have been quick to take advantage. One reason for the rapid fall of the German mark in foreign exchange is said to be the smuggling out of the country by the wealthy classes of their large fortunes, for many German captains of industry have profited enormously by the war. Profiteering is by no means confined to the United States. Transfer of liquid capital from Germany to other countries is proceeding rapidly in order to escape the coming heavy war taxes necessitated by the terms of the treaty of Versailles.—New York DON'T KICK-JUST STAGNATE.

The new commissioner of our Omaha Champer of Commerce marks his advent by publicly calling on every one in Omaha to stop complaining about things that are wrong because it may make other people believe that conditions in our city are worse than they really are. "It does no good," he says, "to talk about such things (as rottenness in the police force or the avalanche of holdups or presumably any other public abuses or deficiencies), but the thing to do is to adjust them. If you can't adjust them, give your officials the best support until you

can adjust them." If the commissioner really said this, as quoted, he has certainly jumped off on the wrong foot. Following his advice, the people of Omaha would stand for any sort of misgovernment, oppression, thievery and lawlessness if only perpetrated by some one wearing the badge of authority, and they would look pleasant and "support their officials" supinely while the damage was being done. On that principle of unresisting submission and "keep it dark" for fear criticism might hurt the town, no reform and no improvement would ever be

No, what is needed is not the covering up of the bad spots but their exposure to the light of day so that they will be cut out. The great propelling force for progress is publicity. It is what The Bee has enumerated in its platform as "pitiless publicity and condemnation of inefficiency, lawlessness and corruption in office," coupled with "frank recognition and commendation of honest and efficient public service." Only through the aid of such publicity can the required "adjustments" be brought about. The best advertisement Omaha can have is the advertisement that will come from notice to the world that it has cleaned up and that it will not stand for rottenness or misuse of power in any branch of its public service-that Omaha is in fact and not by pretense a safe, attractive, comfortable, prosperous place for people to live in and do business in. The Chamber of Commerce would come much nearer fulfilling its mission if it would exert its influence incessantly in this direction.

Omaha's Balance Sheet.

The year 1919 was one of activity in Omaha in all lines. How busy its factories, jobbing houses, banks, mills, elevators and other business houses were may be discovered by an examination of the figures presented by The Bec this morning. This is not a fanciful showing. arranged to delight the eye and delude the reader, but a sober array of totals made up from the carefully revised reports of the various concerns involved. It is a balance sheet such as a customer would submit to his banker

n support of a loan. The growth indicated by the reports is solid and substantial. All through the year it has been apparent that affairs have been moving at high speed in the business world, and the review not only makes this plain, but justifies the confident predictions of greater things for the year just ahead. Plans have been formulated. and many of them are under actual headway, for a campaign of industry in 1920 that will exceed any the city has ever experienced. Exnew, additional buildings down town, continua-Nothing remarkable about Colonel House's | tion of the effort to house the residents here and espousing the cause of Oscar Underwood. One to come, and millions to be spent on public Omaha during the coming months.

The most satisfactory aspect of this prosperity is that it has been shared by all. Employment has been steady and wages have been high, not at any time has any great destitution or suffering been endured. The privations of the fuel shortage fell on all alike, and were sustained with good natured patience, so that when the brakes were let off the forward movement was steady. From every aspect the energetic, enterprising men and women who make up the community have reason to congratulate themselves on the showing made by the inventory, and for confidence in the prospects.

A happy new year is assured because of the good work done in the old, and the bright future is Omaha's because it is alive to its op-

Two Eclipsed Stars.

Removal from the police force of two detectives who disobeyed orders and disregarded instructions from the chief of police may be accepted as evincing a determination on part of the authorities to require better discipline and behavior on part of the police hereafter. This is all The Bee has ever asked. It has vigorously protested against the invasion of homes without warrant of law and the abuse of peaceful citizens by police detectives in total disregard of either right or justice. If the campaign has brought the city commissioners to a point where they can see the nature and danger of the abuse, then it has borne good fruit. The Bee has acted at all times solely in the interest of good government. It is far more pleasant to commend the police for good work than to publish accounts of unlawful acts done by men clothed with authority and charged with the duty of enforcing the law. The Bee congratulated Chief Eberstein when he suspended the detectives just dismissed and filed charges against them. It now commends his action in pushing the case to a conclusion that ought to mean a better controlled and more efficient police force for Omaha.

Thrift Week for Omaha.

A week has been designated to be locally observed as "thrift week." It is set far enough into the future to give us spendthrifts a chance to get used to the idea of saving something. although most of the local wage slaves wonder just what it will be. However, inured as we are to utmost economy, and with most of us this is not a matter of choice but of necessity and that the direst, we will do anything once. This spirit makes us eager for the advent of thrift week, that we may get an example of what we must do on the other fifty-one of the year, or go hungry part of the time. Seriously, if the observation of a seven-day period of genuine thrift will serve to induce any to exfend its teachings over the rest of the year, it is well worth undertaking. A companion piece to it might be a seven-day armistice on part of the price boosters, to give the thrifty a chance to catch their breath and start over.

A Los Angeles woman offers to drown her babies if it will please the landlord. It would be required of her in some parts of Omaha.

When burglars and "highjackers" take to obbing United States battle ships, it is time for something to happen,

Farmers and Government Railways

From the New York Times. The president's decision to return the railroads to their owners on March 1 will be generally approved, not only by those interested in the railroads but by the entire business community. The president has shown himself more acquainted with the needs of the time than Mr. Gompers and some of his unrepresentative

Delegates representing the American Federation of Labor, the four railroad brotherhoods, and certain farm organizations, apparently, in the main, emanations of the Nonpartisan league or skeleton societies of political farmers, gave Secretary Tumulty on December 19 a communication asking President Wilson that the railroads be not returned by the government for at least two years. "As you will doubtless know," Mr. Wilson was told, "an overwhelming majority of the farmers, of the American Federation of Labor, and of the railroad brotherhoods, as well as the general public, favors an extension of the period of gov-ernment operation of the railroads for at least two years," and so on.. Mr. Wilson doubtless knew, as most of the rest of us know, that the great majority of the general public did not pine for longer government control of the railways any more than it pines for the Plumb plan. Doubtless, too, he knew that the overwhelming majority of the farmers were opposed to the nationalization of the railways, just as they are opposed, and have shown in case after case and organization after organization that they are opposed, to accepting the invitation of the great labor unions to make common cause with

It will be remembered that the National Grange enthusiastically refused to form an alliance with organized labor. It demanded the return of the railroads to their owners. Mr. Atkeson, its Washington representative, wrote Mr. Wilson the other day denying that 'organized farmers" want government control of the railroads continued. Persons busily spreading that report were not "representatives of the farmers." "Substantial country people" wanted the railways returned to their owners at the "earliest practicable moment." That was the attitude of the grange, of the agricultural press. with few exceptions. The leaders of most of the great farmers' groups were united in urging immediate return of the roads. The New York State Federation of County Farm Bureau associations called on Mr. Gompers to make clear to the public that he had no authority to speak in behalf of that federation; and it idopted a resolution urging the prompt return of the railroads to their owners "under such conditions as will insure reasonable returns on he value of the properties and reasonable rates

for transportation through the country.' The great majority of agricultural papers supported this view, and declared the opposition of most of the farmers to the radical labor program which they were falsely represented as favoring. Thus, the Pennsylvania Farmer "there is reason to believe that the real motive back of some of the big strikes in this country is the idea of forcing political actions that will result in government ownership of the essential industries." Few people, "except theorists." believe in government ownership. This "is especially true of farmers in spite of the declaration of a few radical, would-be leaders to the contrary." The American Agriculturist speaks of "the so-called Farmers' National Council," whose voice is for government ownership of the railroads, as mainly the mouthpiece of one man and not representative of "the real farmers of the country." mpt to unite the farmers with the Federation of Labor and the railroad brotherhoods, etc., was an absolute failure. "The National Grange, the Federal Board of Farm Organizations, the tensions of established concerns, the coming of Farmers' National Congress, the State Commissioners of Agriculture, also State Federated Farms, are dead set agains this scheme to en-

For all their boasting, the radical labor leaders know very well that the farmer is an American, and cannot be made a convert to exotic, radical and revolutionary policies.

After Cromwell---Charles II.

W. H. Anderson, state superintendent of the Anti-Saloon league in New York, protests against the election of Elihu Root as a delegate to the republican national convention. Mr. Root represented the liquor interests before the supreme court, arguing that the war-time proibition act was unconstitutional.

Therefore Mr. Root is an undesirable citizen. He must be kept from the privileges and rights and honors and responsibilities inherent

American citizenship. Mr. Root might take a glass of wine. Therefore he must not be allowed to function as a citizen. He did, as a lawyer, take a case in the supreme court. Therefore he ought to be

Mr. Anderson is right, but he does not go far enough. The indication that a man would take a drink if he could get one should operate to suspend the bill of rights with regard to him. A suspicion that he might take a drink should be sufficient to taint him. If there were certainty that he would if he could, it should be sufficient to deprive him of the right to vote. to marry, to inherit property or hold it. Further it ought to be recognized that many

citizens unhappy in the United States are seekng to avoid the regulation of habit and custom by the government and are going abroad. Passports ought to be refused such citizens. If the purpose of law can be frustrated by traveling, the benevolence of the law is void

The law is designed to interpose between the itizen's will and his acts. The will is criminal. The act is catastrophic. The intervention is not effective unless it is complete. If it can be evaded by travel, the in-dividual is injured. He should not be permitted o travel. Passports should be issued only to

We are now in the days of Cromwell. They were succeeded by the days of Charles II.

Moderates did not like the rigors of Crom-They did not like the excesses of the restoration. When extremists rule sanity suffers. The restoration may be coming. Gosh. how we dread it .- Chicago Tribune.

The Day We Celebrate.

Hon. John D. Reid, Canadian minister of railways and canals, born at Prescott, Ont., 61

William Fox, one of the leading American roducers of motion pictures, born 41 years ago. George E. Chamberlain, senior United States enator from Oregon, born at Natchez, Miss.,

Brig. Gen. Clarence R. Edwards, U. S. A., commander of the Northeastern department, forn at Cleveland, O., 61 years ago. Dr. Frank W. Gunsaulus, noted Chicago lergyman and educator, born at Chesterville, ill., 64 yeare ago.

Thirty Years Ago in Omaha.

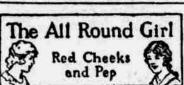
Bishop and Mrs. Newman tendered a reception to the Methodist ministers of this city and their wives at the Paxton hotel. Clement Chase held open house from 3 to

for the young business men of the city. J. M. Barr, the new superintendent of the Nebraska division of the Union Pacific, received intimation that he was to share to the extent of \$500,000 in the \$5,000,000 estate left by A. E. Touzalin. Mr. Barr was formerly private secretary to Mr. Touzalin.

Miss Yost gave a reception at Happy Hollow club in honor of Miss Coleburn of Detroit.

Kiralfy's spectacular show, "Antiopi," was the New Year's attraction at the Boyd

Little Folks' Corner 2



Assets and Liabilities.

By MOLLIE PRICE COOK. By H. O. (PAT) PAGE Daddy, I heard you dictating a letter when I was in your office yesterday and you were talking about assets and liabilities. What did you

"Assets are the good things a



business owns-cash, property, merchandise. Liabilities are things a business doesn't want-debts and incumbrances. If the assets of a man's business do not amount to more than its liabilities it is in a bad

A twinkle appeared in Mr. Clark's eyes. "By the way, Helen," he said, "you have assets and liabilities, too. Why not start the New Year with a list of them?"

Helen thought hard. Her fathe was right. A girl has strong points and weak ones that stand in just as important a relation to her success in life as the property and debts of a business firm.

She took a paper and pencil and egan writing: "Helen Clark, Incorporated. Assets: Good health, Can sew. Know how to study, Can walk farther than any girl in my Admire brainy people who room. Want to be somebody mysucceed. Liabilities: Hate to obey par-Lack cheerfulness when cannot have my own way. Could do more for others. Don't know how to skate or swim. Forget to brush my teeth. Eat too much candy and cake. Wow! That's enough! could go on forever.

girl as Helen will not falter long those liabilities. She will annihilate them. Any girl can profit by her example, beginning the new year. 1920, with as clean a balance sheet as possible, Personality is the greatest asset girl can have. Personality means

It is needless to say that so clever

appearance, generosity and willingness to serve others Poor health, lack of energy, a grouchy, peevish disposition and dowdy looks are habilities that January, 1920, should see paid out in ull and rubbed off the books (Next week, "I Should Worry."

Boys' and Girls' Newspaper Service.

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Making England Attractive. The announcement of 115,000,000 gallons of liquor released in England will also help to stimulate tourist traffic.—Indianapolis Star.

FATHER TIME'S NEW YEAR PART I. December 31.

Spin me a rhyme, Said Father Time And mix it with glad potter Temerrow meru
A child is born,
To give the world new metion.

Make it replete
With merry feet,
In dancing rhythm and measure
Let this last night,
Be gay and bright,
Then off to a new pleasure! PART II. January 1.

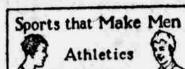
The child is born.
This New Year's morn.
We Christen it, so winson
"Good Fortune," yes.
The world to bless,
It comes so fresh and has

PART III. Evening. The rhyme is spun The day is done. And Father Time again Cries out alou!.
To all the crowd,
This annual sad refram

"My bonnie child,
Though far from mild,
Sweet nineteen, best of all
What pain you bore,
You are no more!"
Then turned and left Night's Hail!
J, M.—K. C.

DOT PUZZLE.

Trace fifty-eight and see who's



The Basket Ball Center.

The center should be both an offensive and defensive player, and in addition, a good floor man. The qualifications of the center are as

The Ability to Get the Ball at the Tossup.

and reach, but sometimes it is the result of jumping ability. The boy who aspires to make center on his team should practice timing his jump so as to hit the ball when he is at the top of his jump and not when he is still going up or has started com-



ing down. He should also practice until he is able to tip the ball on the tossup to any spot he desires. Scrap for the ball on every tossup. Jump for it clean and fair but put all you have into every jump. Work to get the ball, not your opponent or the

After the tossup, it becomes the duty of the center to run the floor and make himself an important factor in team work. As both a defensive and an offensive player, his territory is the whole floor. He must move fast. If he is slow, he slows the whole team. Speed is more essential for him than for almost any other man on the team. To play a fast game as well as cover the entire floor requires endurance and stamina. So if you are trying for center, practice to get the ability to go at top speed for as long a period as nossible.

Clever Foot Work. His position makes him the logical

realth, alertness, cheerfulness, neat man around whom to build the team work. For this he not only needs speed and endurance but cleverness in dodging, pivoting and sidestepping. He should practice in going down under the opponent's basket and by means of his height and jumping ability digging the ball out for his team-mates. Many times of course, the team

the center are changed. Sometimes he plays the game of a stationary forward or defensive guard. But the typical center should have the qualfications outlined and the boy who is out for center will not go far wrong, if he develops himself along

(Newt week: "The Basket Ball

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We suspect that when the hair tonics become nonpotable the indig-Ordinarily this comes from height nant patrons will refuse to give any more testimonials of their efficacy -Houston Post.

IN THE BEST OF HUMOR.

"So that's Di's husban! Is he worth much?"
"Oh, yes. Her father gave a hundred thousand for him!"—Pasing Show. Husband (angrily)—What! Eight guineas for a hat! Wife (seethingly)—Well, dear, just think what I saved you on your income tax!—London Answers.

"He seems very narrow minded in an argument?"
"Not at all. He mays there are two sides to every question, his side and the wrong side!"—Cartoons Magazine.

Waiter—I hope you enjoyed your stor. Diner (savagely)—I did. Walle I i i i I looked at the owner of this joint and imagined I was a cannibal.—Judge. The Judge-You were found under a bed with a bas of tools. Any excuse?

The Prisoner-Force of habit, you washing? I've been a material.—Lorder Opinion.

We Close Our Books January 10, 1920



The end of our fiscal year. Every article we can sell between this date and the 10th will mean that much less.

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