

# THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING) — EVENING—SUNDAY

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY,  
NELSON B. UPDIKE, Publisher.

MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
The Associated Press, of which The Bee is a member, is entitled to the use of publication of all news distributed by it or not otherwise credited in this paper, and also the local news items of The Bee. All rights of publication of our special dispatches are also reserved.

BEE TELEPHONES  
Local Branch Exchange, Ask for  
Department of Person Wanted.  
For Night Calls After 10 P. M.:  
Editorial Department, Tyler 1000;  
Advertisement Department, Tyler 1002;  
Circulation Department, Tyler 1003;  
Offices of The Bee  
Local Bluffs, 15 Rock St., South Side  
Out-of-Town Offices:  
New York, 225 Fifth Ave.; Washington,  
D. C., 1211 G St.; Paris France 420 Rue St. Honore.

## The Bee's Platform

1. New Union Passenger Station.
2. Continued improvement of the Nebraska Highways, including the pavement of Main Thoroughfares leading into Omaha with a Brick Surface.
3. A short, low-rate Waterway from the Corn Belt to the Atlantic Ocean.
4. Home Rule Charter for Omaha, with City Manager form of Government.

## SAVE THE PAROLE LAW.

The very existence of a parole law in Nebraska, with its humanitarian purpose, has been gravely endangered by the unwise acts and utterances accredited to the state officers who have been charged with its administration. For several years, under successive administrations, the dealing out of pardons and paroles has tended to disturb the public conscience, when it did not in fact arouse positive disapproval.

The public has a direct concern in the matter. As The Bee has frequently pointed out, the law does not seek vengeance on a culprit; an offender is not pursued with the single purpose of revenge. He must be punished, because his sin, whatever it is, calls for punishment. This is divine as well as human law. Yet, just as the divine law provides for mercy and forgiveness, when fruits meet for repentance have been brought forth and by penitence and contrition the offender has expiated his sin, so does the human law take into consideration the possibility of reformation and in imitation of the Most High extends clemency to the prisoner who by his acts shows himself worthy of confidence to that extent. Few men have hearts so indurated that they can not conceive of amendment on part of a wrongdoer, and it still is true that earthly power seems likest God's when mercy seasons justice.

This, however, is no excuse for the mauldin, mawkish sentimentality that blinds the reason of some to their obligations to society and leads them to see only an opportunity to help an erring brother. Too often this tender sentiment is abused, both by the administrator and the recipient—the one failing to discriminate between offenses, the other deliberately seeking favor that he may be free to prey on peaceful citizens once more. Medical science, and the law as well, takes cognizance of the fact that there are men whose liberty is as dangerous to social peace as would be a wild beast at large.

When one of these is finally sequestered, the humane application of the law requires that he be held. So it is with other phases of the problem.

Our law as it exists, loosely drawn though it may be, and carelessly administered as it has been, holds the germ of protection, both for the public and the prisoner. Administered with prudence and care, it provides for the rights of both. Proposals such as that said to have been made by Commissioner Oberlitz and Warden Fenton, that future proceedings be surrounded by secrecy, put the whole plan into such jeopardy as its friends hope it will be relieved of promptly and forever.

When a prisoner is released on parole, it should be because his merits such favor, and he should face the world with his head up, in a serious attempt to convince his fellowmen of the sincerity of his reformation, and thereby win again the confidence he forfeited by his crime. To surround his release by secrecy is to make him also a partner to the deceptions of the public, to undermine his moral force at the outset, and to do him a serious wrong at the beginning. Character can not be soundly built on falsehood. Let us save the parole law if we can through seeing that it is not abused by mistaken philanthropists.

## Heroes of Misfortune.

While one has health, hope may well be high, but not even the adversity of physical misfortune and disease is sufficient to conquer some brave spirits. Robert Louis Stevenson, racked with tuberculosis, clung to life and produced novels that continue to delight the world and verses full of a sweet gayety that go right to the heart of the children. In the case of a woman living in Lincoln, not even blindness has proved a bar to a successful business career. In a little grocery store she earns her own living and lays by a profit to provide for her old age.

From New York comes the story of the death of a most remarkable invalid, an actor who lay on a bed of paralysis for thirty years. This cripple wrote lyrics and playlets for vaudeville in astonishing profusion; he edited magazines, wrote a volume of poems, and a series of plays for amateurs.

It is said that this man, for all his suffering, was the most cheerful person among the millions of New York. Some will say that his success made him so, but it may rather be ventured that his good cheer was the secret of his heroic effort. So often a part of the suffering from physical affliction is due to the loss of all aim in life, when, if the spark of creative instinct could be kept alight, the ravages of pain might be minimized. Those who are heavily laden with lack of health are indeed entitled to every form of pity except one—that self-pity which results only in added weakness and despair.

## Her Paradise Even Blanket.

Since Emma Goldman reached Russia her views of the beauties of communism have undergone some modification. The latest accounts of her doings bring word that she escaped into the Ukraine about two jumps ahead of the commissioners sent by Lenin to bring her in. She had had an interview with the man to whom she had turned in this country as a liberator, and following that interview thought a

little bit faster than did Nikolai, for when he decided to send his police to fetch back the strong-minded Emma, she was on her way to a land which is not yet so bolshevistic quite as Russia. The interview she gave out last spring, in which she lamented the fate that had taken her from America, is well supported by this later experience. Emma surely has found her paradise even more of a blank than it has been represented. However, she will not get back to the country whose hospitality she so long abused, and from which she departed with a promise to return later and raise hell.

## The Panama Canal.

Some of our democratic brethren are moving in anticipation of the change in policy concerning the Panama canal, which will come when Senator Harding is inaugurated next March. The New York Times deals with the report published in the Canal Record, which shows a surplus for the year of \$2,000,000 in receipts over expenditures. This is far from meeting the interest on the \$367,151,695 the canal has cost, but it does show an advance and may justify belief that in time the canal will be on a paying basis. However, the Times looks at it from another angle, saying:

Another considerable charge against the method of running the canal is the disturbance to land rates—for the benefit of private shippers and without precautions to make sure that the saving in freight is reflected to some degree in prices to consumers. One reason for building the canal was to force a reduction of railway rates, and in that it has been a success something too complete. The transcontinental rates have been reduced to the degree of abolishing profit on canal and railway transportation alike, and there has been created a problem which remains unsolved—that of the relation of long haul rates to short haul. Westward traffic has been sent eastward to make a combination of rail and water rates cheaper than the all-rail rate over a shorter route, and the corresponding combination has been made in the reverse direction. Moreover, all the territory between the oceans demands a land rate proportioned to some degree to the lower water rate which geography denies to it.

This is fair enough on its face, but carried with it an implication that the republican promise to relieve American vessels using the canal of the tolls now collected is a tendency towards further waste. As a matter of fact, the inland communities have not had any of the benefits they expected from the construction of the canal. A peculiar ruling of the Interstate Commerce commission gave to the coast cities all the advantage of the great waterway, but this may in time be remedied. It may require an entire readjustment of the transportation system of the country, but for the present it must be suspended. Yet, that is no reason for depriving American shippers of a benefit that primarily was intended for them. If the savings in freight are not reflected in the selling price, that may be reached in another way, but the canal ought to be made free to American ships engaged in American commerce.

## American Naval Spirit.

We feel very certain that Commander G. Elyson of the destroyer Brooks will not be reprimanded because of the little incident at Kiel, where he told the officer in command of the German forts to fire if he felt like it and he would take care of himself. We remember that once the present administration reproved the Order of the Carabao for singing a song made famous in 1899 by the American soldiers in the Philippines, but it would astonish even Americans were Josephus Daniels to chide a naval officer of the United States for exhibiting something of the spirit that led John Paul Jones to tell the British officer he had just commenced to fight. That spirit has been kept alive by a long list of heroes, none bumptious, any of them ready to make good, and all jealous of the traditions of the service and the honor of their native country. The American navy is an evangelical of peace, but it will fight.

## Back to Cheaper Bread.

Announcement from many parts of the country of a reduction in the price of bread tells the story once more of the power of the housewife. While slow to be used, this control over the prices of manufactured food is very real. If the woman in the kitchen became outraged by the continued high price of bread while the price of flour slipped off daily, she could assert herself by baking at home.

Flour in the big western milling cities has declined in price nearly \$6 a barrel since June. Wheat is now almost \$1 higher than in 1914, and while the 5-cent loaf of the days before the war is not yet available, it may quite possibly turn in the distance.

The campaign fund probe committee is soon to make its report, but the public already has been heard on Cox's charges.

Another rail board wage decision is expected soon, which ought to answer objectors to the Esch-Cummins law.

"Open covenants, openly arrived at," gets about the same sort of reception at Geneva as it did in Paris.

The "rebs" have been trying for years to uproot Sam Gompers. It looks like his turn now.

It is really comforting to think that the parole board can also back up once in awhile.

Secretary Baker invites inquiry. He needn't worry, for he will get all that is coming to him.

The war must be over. The navy is going to sell its surplus cloth.

Does that gambling order include "pay ball" pool?

Nebraska corn fields call for huskers.

## Discovered by a Pig.

Most copper mine have been found through pure luck. The Calumet lode, the greatest of them all, was discovered by a pig. One day, while vigorously stirring the soil of the back yard of its owner, who kept a boarding house, the pig uncovered a prehistoric Indian cache. This was a pile of buried copper, which was worth a fortune in itself. But it also led to the examination of the rock beneath, in which veins of the metal were found.

The Indians used copper before the days of Columbus, principally for making ornaments. Ancient Indian skeletons have been found wearing copper masks. The aborigines, however, had difficulty in working the metal through the lack of efficient tools. In Michigan they built fires against the rocks containing copper. This sometimes produced huge nuggets, or "mass copper," which the Indians could neither divide nor carry away. —Kansan City Journal.

## A Line O' Type or Two

How to the Line, let the quips fall where they may.

MR. FREDERIC HARRISON at 89 observes: May my end be early, speedy, and peaceful! I regret nothing done or said in my long and busy life. I withdraw nothing, and, as I said before, am not conscious of any change in mind. In youth I was called a revolutionary; in old age I am called a reactionary; both names alike untrue. . . . I ask nothing. I seek nothing. I fear nothing. I have done and said all that I ever could have done and said. There is nothing more. I am ready, and "await the call."

A VERY good prose version of Henley's well-known poem. As for regretting nothing, a man at forty would be glad to unsay and undo many things. At seventy, and decidedly at eighty-nine, these things have so diminished in importance that it is not worth while withdrawing them.

"EST CA EN PLEIN!"  
(From the Oakland, Ill., Messenger.)

"Hypocrites" was the subject of the discourse last Sunday evening. There was a goodly number present.

"JUST before the curtain rises one hears in the distance voices singing, 'God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen.' "The Drama" for November.

As graduates of the school of journalism will have annual occasion to refer to that carol, they should note now that the comma comes after "merry."

Better Than Gold.  
(From the London Nation.)

The psychology dept. reacts that Miss Pearl Button is no longer a student here; on the other hand, there is a confirmed rumor of the continued pertinacity to her studies of Miss Evelyn Leggo. Then I recently sold a Tahiti Toot-Trombone (my dear, you should hear it!) to Miss Mabel Coffey, who during sabbatical summers settled down in her ancestral estate, "Coral Grotto," the picture of a quiet life in a ancient quiet life from a student paper that the purpose of the Egyptian pyramids was "to hold the esophagus of the Pharaoh." These things come to me, sir, as they do to you. "What do you get from writing for the Line—money?" I was asked at a rhetoric tea lately. "No," I replied, "social prestige."

"ONCE and sometimes twice a day," we read, "Mr. Wilson is massaged by a masseur. The very person for the job, we should say."

DOWN TO GEHENNA OR UP TO THE THRONE, HE TRAVELS THE FAST-EST WHO TRAVELS ALONE.  
(From the Rockford Register-Gazette.)

Practical nurse wants to work for someone who is going to a warmer climate. For one.

GEN. WRANGEL seems not to have been able to please many of the people much of the time. That way lies the toboggan.

The Bitter-Endians.  
(From the London Nation.)

If a democracy has to be drilled for the eventual task of one day destroying a dangerous commercial and naval rival, then the relentless cherishing of old memories of wrongs of every kind, old grudges, old animosities, of every outrage and every infraction of the laws of war that can be charged against him, the resistance to every proposal for co-operation and reconciliation in the field of science and scholarship, is reasonable and even necessary, though it may also be outrageously wicked. Our "bitter-endians" are guilty of that wickedness in the name of God. Again, again, and yet they are cultivating the emotions appropriate to such a policy. This is mere sentimentalism, for it is feeling and very ill feeling, deliberately cherished, and prolonged for no national purpose, however evil.

WE'LL agree that it ought not to be done. We will go further, and say that it ought not to be done, even when it is as well assured as anything can be that if Germany was on top we would be cultivating a bumper crop of hate.

THE SECOND POST.

They Still Live, You See.  
(A. J. O. writes.)

"To save you the trouble of writing us when you receive the envelopes for the new catalog pamphlets, that said envelopes do not fit the pamphlets, this is to advise you that we know they do not fit. We were unable to pick up any that would fit and we did the very best we could. We trust you will get along as best you can with them."

NOBODY knows everything, so we shall have to ask how Dean Inge pronounces his name.

They Can't Pull This Stuff off Smart Folks.  
(From the Holton, Kan., Signal.)

He would like to pay nine hundred and sixty dollars for a bottle of whisky? Nobody in Holton would pay that price, but that is what a fellow who said his name was John Custer tried to get for it here last week. The fellow put up at the Sutherland hotel and at once began to look around for customers to whom he proposed to sell the old reliable brand of "Tabor" whisky at six dollars a gallon, but the men who were familiar with the brand, which in time gone by had purchased at four dollars a gallon, were shocked at the price asked, and word was passed to the sheriff that there was a profligate in town and he was placed under arrest. After the arrest of Custer his room at the Sutherland hotel was searched by the police, who found a two-gallon jug under his bed. When the whisky was poured out it was discovered that instead of being two gallons, there was only a pint and repeated shakings failed to produce any more. When the bottom was broken it was found that the jug had been filled only to the top and layers of sawdust had been put in the bottom to give weight, and on top of this was a layer of waterproof cement, leaving enough space in the top to hold a pint of whisky.

NOT a bad definition of philosophy, from a high school exam paper: "Philosophy is a saying which is true but is expressed in an indirect way, such as, 'A rolling stone gathers no moss.' It is generally about lifeless objects or dumb creatures, but is deftly applied to human beings."

POOR OLD FATHER!  
Sir: Dad was late for supper. Mother said "Maybe he's held up." Young son said, "Well, he ought to be here now anyhow; that won't take long." F. A. S.

SIGN in the rooms of an Iowa hotel: "Any one committing a nuisance will be charged fifty cents extra." We call that fair.

FROST.

The leopard comes softly down at night from the northland; Oh, golden grainfields, take heed, he is almost upon you!

The great white leopard whose step is as light as a snowflake,

His icy breath has robbed the trees of their splendor;

Naked, afraid, and alone they stand before him. His eyes are as green as the frozen seas of the northland.

Ab, rich and fruitful autumn, beware, of the leopard!

BERTHA TEN EYCK JAMES.

A LIBRARIAN (M. M. M.) interested in eternal fitness has noted that Samuel Partridge married Mehitable Crow in 1668, and the "Poetical Essay on Physick, Inscribed to Dr. Pellet," was published in 1745.

EXCELLENTLY CONTRIVED.

(Bulletin Kewanee Methodist Church.) Mrs. Heeter will entertain Circle No. 4, Thursday afternoon, Nov. 18, at the home of Mrs. Snow, 207 South Tremont street.

WANTED—Experienced boiled ham-bone.

Morris & Co.

Hard-boiled, or four-minute men?

IT HURTS LESS ELSEWHERE.

(From the Rockville, Ind., Tribune.)

Our board sidewalkers are flying up and hitting pedestrians in the face and elsewhere.

SNOW-PLOWS in mid-November is coming it a bit thick even if the fur-bearing animals are growing a thing pelt this season.

B. L. T.

Saying It.

Karl Kinnickinnic—What do you think of the election?

Mike Menomonee—I think the republicans said it with an ax.—Milwaukee Journal.

## How to Keep Well

By DR. W. A. EVANS

Questions concerning hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease, submitted to Dr. Evans by readers of The Bee, will be answered personally, subject to proper limitation, where a stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed. Dr. Evans will not make diagnosis or prescribe for individual diseases. Address letters in care of The Bee.

Copyright, 1920, by Dr. W. A. Evans.

REPLY.

1. Your child will be 8 months old by the time rigorous weather arrives. If he is vigorous it is permissible to have him sleep in the sun deck outside. He should sleep in a well ventilated cold room. It is well to have a sleeping bag for him, or to button down his cover. Paper blankets placed between other covers above and underneath add much to the warmth and but little to the weight.