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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.

NEBRASKA'S "BLUE SKY" LAW.

Suggestions for amendment to the law governing the sale of shares of corporation stock in Nebraska will revive many of the arguments indulged when the "blue sky" statute first came up for consideration. That state oversight of stock issues is a proper exercise of governmental authority is admitted. Yet this should not be interpreted to mean that the state is to become guarantor for the integrity of all schemes put forward or for the character of the socilitors who go about selling the shares. The law should have "teeth," and the stock salesman who is overtaken in peddling doubtful or worthless issues should be made to feel them.

The last three years have been a period of reckless financing. It has not been confined to the wildcat ventures, but some really legitimate undertakings have been floated on an ocean of "water," and serious trouble has been encountered by some already, and may yet be by others. This is not the fault of the law, nor is it apparent that a law can be devised that will reach the spot. Courts can be, and have been, appealed to in the process of making some of the promoters disgorge their rakeoff, but that is a slow and uncertain process. This finally throws the whole matter back to individual judgment of the investor, who will very likely be more wary and make closer inquiry if he is warned in advance that the state will not step in to help him recover in case he repent of his bar-

A business enterprise of any sort must rest

on its character, and this at the outset depends on that of the men who are promoting it. In the case of a stock issue flotation, prospective subscribers can not be expected to have sufficient acquaintance with its nature and the character of the men who are behind it to form a sound judgment as to its value as an investment. But every farmer, merchant, business man, or other citizen with money has access to certain sources of reliable information. Let the prospective investor consult his banker, his attorney, or other business advisor, in whom he has confidence and who is worthy to be trusted, and be guided by his opinion with regard to the merits of the enterprise seeking his money. It is foolish to trust the glib-tongued stranger, who comes along with his well prepared argument, his special training, and his undoubted powers of persuasion. Here him out, but get the advice of somebody, you know before taking hold. A few promoters do sell dependable stocks, but the bulk of the worth while investment paper is marketed through agencies of established probity.

More often promotion schemes are paraded as "sure things," thus attracting a larger range of purchasers. The natural relationship of high profits to high risks is not taken into account as often as it should be, and "blue sky" laws are utterly powerless to instill discretion into purchasers. A dispatch from Lincoln lately reported that the legislature may conclude that the present "blue sky" law does as much damage as good through the fact that many assume that any company able to pass the scrutiny of the state is in some way guaranteed to be profitable. Instead of investigating for himself, the small investor will accept the license to sell stock as evidence of a successful future for any concernhaving it.

'If one would pause but for a moment and realize that no one can be certain of the fate of any business venture, less harm would fall, and the benefit of blue sky laws would be indubitable. Certain evils such as excessive promotion charges, payment of dividends out of capital when there are no earnings, and like pieces of dishonesty can be prevented, but no law can make a privately conducted business a success or guarantee the acumen of its managers.

Putting Puccini in Blackface.

A fondness for popular music no longer can be regarded as an indication of lack of taste, and critics who have lamented the lack of appreciation for classical music and have scorned the tunes of the ballroom and the theater are at a loss. For many of those lively airs are laid under suspicion of having been filched from grand opera and the works of famous composers.

A suit brought in New York City charges that Al Jolson, blackface jazz comedian who has been tickling the ears of the public with his song, "Avalon," has in reality merely been popularizing the theme that recurs throughout the tenor aria of the last act of the opera, "La Tosca." In asking an injunction, the holder of the copyright on the grand opera contends that the chorus of the dance tune has been taken note for note from Puccini's song, "When the Stars Are Shining." A comparison of the scores shows at least a remarkable coincidence,

The cruel disillusionment of those who scorned grand opera and prided themselves on their love of jazz and ragtime and of those who were equally vain of their appreciation for the classics does not stop here. It is now declared that composers of popular songs have frequently made use of themes from the famous composers. That song, "I Am Always, Chasing Rainbows," has been found to be based on the same theme as Chopin's "Impromptu Fantasie." "Goodbye Dollie, I Must Leave You," also ought to be familiar to every musician who knows Spohr's "Violin Concerto." That ancient favorite, "Where Did You Get That Hat." ies the same succession of notes that introduces the Mastersingers in the last act of Wagner's

opera, and even the musical comedy "Irene," is said to include a Chopin waltz.

The state of the s

In its essence, this revelation is highly comdimentary to classical music, since masking its real nature by new titles and words has found it widespread popularity. Such vindication or art has seldom been recorded, and the difficulty of becoming a musical lowbrow has suddenly een enhanced.

HITCHCOCK AND THE FARMERS.

After eloquently urging through the columns of his paper some form of assistance for the farmers, with his own plan always in the spotlight, the democratic senator from Nebraska nimbly jumps into the ring to oppose the first practical measure of relief brought forward. Of course, it is a republican measure, and therefore heretical, from a democratic point of view; yet it does not seem too much to expect that even a democrat might be induced at a time like this to give his consent to anything in reason that would tend to help those for whose welfare he seems so solicitous.

Senator Hitchcock, however, does not look at it that way. With all his power, he denounces, delays and seeks to sidetrack the bill which proposes to levy a tariff on wheat, as a means to check the importations of Canadian grain by market operators who are pounding down the price of that product.

In this, the Nebraska senator poses still as a friend of the farmer! What other friends of the farmer are lined up with him in his valiant battle? The aftack is led, we read, by Senators Hitchcock, Harrison and Gerry-Harrison of Mississippi, whose state raises slightly over one per cent as men wheat as Nebraska; Gerry of Rhode Island, which state raised so little wheat that it is not even listed in the statistical summaries. And on the other side, favoring a tariff on wheat, is Senator McCumber of North Dakota, whose state runs a race with Kansas each year for the honor of first place among the wheat-producing states of the union.

Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska stands alone among the representatives of the great wheatproducing states in leading the battle against this bill. It is a sham, he cries. What the farmers need, he tells the senate, is credit, not a tariff. The Bee is not disposed to dispute the statement that the farmers have need of credit, too. But the federal reserve banking system which controls credit unfortunately was created and is being administered by a democratic administration which steadfastly has refused to heed the pleas and even prayers of farmers who have cried aloud to it for help in their time of disappointment and distress.

Senator Hitchcock would prefer, it appears, that the farmers go unaided in their difficulties rather than they should get help through a republican measure. In choosing between his party creed and the agricultural industry of his state, he lines up with the party. We apprehend, however, that in this instance he will not find his party so strongly back of him. The tariff bill, although threatened with a veto at the White House, will probably go through the senate, but this will not lessen the amazement of the home folks at the attitude of the senator, who pleads for the farmer through his newspaper and opposes him on the floor of the senate.

Taft, Ford and the Jews.

Least of all in America where the races of the world have fused into a single great nation, every one contributing its part to progress and culture, is there room for bigotry and defamation. Here, if anywhere, should there be hope of a broad tolerance, a spirit of co-operation and an absence of petty or unwise bickering or accusation. Such is the American temperament as found in our former president, William Howard Taft, who in his calm, judicial manner, lately rebuked Henry Ford for the campaign of anti-Semitism now being conducted in the Bearborn Independent.

"One of the chief causes of suffering and evil in the world today is race hatred," says Mr. Taft, "and any man who stimulates that hatred has much to answer for. When he does this by the circulation of unfounded and unjust charges and the arousing of mean and groundless fears, his fault is more to be condemned."

By exploitation of the mythical protocols of "The Wise Men of Zion," Mr. Ford's magazine has been endeavoring to link up the entire Iewish race in a plan to rule the world, joining international bankers with the persecuted and starving Jews of eastern Europe in an imaginary and ridiculous compact. Mr. Taft, finding no evidence of any such conspiracy asks why, if Jewish capitalists sway nations and even wield a world power, more than half of the 13,000,000 Jews in the world are now suffering bitter oppression and starvation. Against this rock the whole of Mr. Ford's propaganda is wrecked. One has but to read the thin-spun arguments of the anti-Semites, who are active not only here, but in England and throughout Europe, to realize the flimsiness of the allegations.

It cannot be forgotten that Mr. Ford a few years ago sent forth a peace ship, designed to proclaim the brotherhood of men. The world then said that he went too far in a visionary but ideal direction, and now, in his attack on the same principle of brotherhood, he has also allowed his imagination to lead him far afield, in the opposite direction.

Higher taxes on tobacco, if they are reflected in the prices, will make smoking easier to stop and harder to begin, which ought to be a comfort to Lucy Page Gaston and the smoke prevention society.

The Begum of Bhopal, who has purchased several thousand watches in the hope of teaching her subjects punctuality, might have ordered alarm clocks but for fear of revolution.

The Oregon scientist who is undertaking a study of the life and habits of the sardine must not overlook the possibilities to be found in most any street car at the rush hour.

Once in a while a man is found who does not believe in deflation, such as the dealer in New York City who sold Christmas trees at

If that cruel war at Fiume keeps on, the magazines will have to start printing serials, short stories and poems by D'Annunzio.

If some people feared judges as much as others fear bandits, this would not be such a bad old world.

Once in awhile the police catch a burglar, and it takes twelve men to turn him loose.

A French cucumber weighing 130 pounds represents the triumph of indigestion.

A Line O'Type or Two

Hew to the Line, let the guipe fall where they a

HOT STUFF.

(Martial, VII., 25.) Those sweetish verses that you write Are pallid as a powdered nose; They have no kick, they have no bite, Think you they are the kind that goes? For infants they are good enough, So feed them to them. But the thing I care for is the peppery stuff

That carries in its tail a sting "THE lunatic, the lover, and the poet are of magination all compact," is a well known line in Bartlett's Familiar Mouthfuls. It applies, rather patly, to d'Annunzio, who has distinguished himself in lunacy, love and song. Him, too, Hazlitt hit off well in an essay. Speaking of poets, "Their flights and fancies," he said, "are delightful to themselves and everybody else, but they make strange work of matter of fact, and if they were allowed to act in public affairs would soon turn allowed to act in public affairs would soon turn the world wrong side out." That part of the world known as Fiume is turned wrong side out, and the problem is to turn it back again,

ONE GARMENT MAKER TO ANOTHER. (From the New York Trade Record.) "How's business?

"Picking up a little. One of my men got 5,000 order yesterday.
"Go away. I don't believe that."
"Honest he did. I'll show you the

WHEN Princess Anastasia is mentioned as "nee Mrs. William B. Leeds" the error is understandable; the writer thinks that "nee" is French for "formerly." But we can only conjecture what is meant by the phrase which appears frequently in advertisements, "experience essential but not necessary." We conjecture that the ad-vertiser thinks "essential" is the equivalent of

The Toonerville Fire Department.

(From the Clearbrook, Minn., Leader.) At about five o'clock 'Saturday evening the fire alarm called out our citizens to the home of O. J. Hansen, where a chimney was fiercely burning out. Although the brick chimney was at a high heat from the flames, an examination found there was no danger of igniting the house, and the blaze was watched until it died out before all left the

ARTHUR SHATTUCK sued for appreciation in Fond du Lac the other evening, playing, according to the Reporter, "a plaintiff melody with great tenderness." The jury returned a verdict in his favor without leaving their seats. THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH ON

IMMIGRATION. O Liberty, white Goddess! is it well To leave the gates unguarded? On thy breast Fold Sorrow's children, soothe the hurts of Lift the down-trodden, but with hands of steel

Stay those who to thy sacred portals come To waste the gifts of Freedom. MOST of the trouble in this world is caused by people who do not know when they are well off. The Germans did not know when they were well off. Your cook, who left last week, as little apprehended her good fortune. Nor will the

Filipinos be happy till they get it. "SAY it with handkerchiefs," advertises a merchant in Goshen, Ind. That is, if the idea you wish to convey is that you have a cold in your head.

EVERY LITTLE VIVE HELPS. Sir: A gentlewoman "who spoke with an American accent" had a little altercation with a London bobby, which resulted in her being presented at Court (Bow Street Police) the follow-ing day. No doubt her "American accent" betrayed her when voicing her American senti-ments, as she did when she told the bobby: "If it had not been for me and my friends, you and - country would not be here, you

overgrown bully!" Now that the war is over, it is disconcerting to John Bull to be reminded, no matter how courteous and dignified the language, that once upon a time he had his back to the wall, and that America won the war. Vive l'entente! BALLYBUNNION.

Chinese people were to file one by one past a what other cause would there be for given point the procession would never come to shortness of breath?" an end. Before the last man of those living today had gone by another generation would have "GRATITUDE," SAID DR. JOHNSON, "IS A FRUIT OF GREAT CULTIVATION."

Sir: "When our boys come back from the war," everyone said, "nothing will be good enough for them." And nothing, apparently, is.

A CHICAGO undertaker issues a "co-operative memorial certificate" which knocks \$25 off his bill. Better slip one in your pocket on your way to the river. Or, if you are in New York, "in case of death call Columbus 800." CRUCIAL.

Sir: If the Politeness Reporter wants to find real courtesy, let him pose as a bond salesman for a few hours. MOST writers of children's books, thinks an English reviewer, seem to work on the principle that children are mentally deficient adults; and

ne quotes from one book: "When down we come again, Papa Is jolly as can be, And sits and puffs a big cigar With mother on his knee."

THE SECOND MRS. STEVENSON. (From Mrs. Sanchez' "Life of Mrs. Robert Louis Stevenson.") To the Scotch servants in her mother-in-

law's house she was something of an enigma. One of them told her that she "spoke English very well for a foreigner." One day she heard two of them talking about a Mr. McCullop who had just returned from Africa. "He's merrit a black woman," said one, and in a mirror the other was seen to point to Mrs. Stevenson's back and put her finger to her lips as though to say: "Don't mention black wives before her!"

IF we do not yawn over the reminders that J. C. Piety is the new president of the Garfield Park Country Club it is because yawning and hiccoughs are symptoms of necephalitis lethar-gica. The remedy proposed by French physicians for hiccoughs is to hold your breath for 17 seconds. This should be as effective in stifling a yawn.

B. L. T.

Japanese Advertising.

Judging from some specimens quoted not long ago in the "Journal des Debats," the Japanese employ a wealth of metaphor when advertising their wares. A Tokio stationer announces that "the paper I sell is as solid as the hide of an elephant." A fishmonger promises to deliver all orders at customers' houses "with the rapidity of a shot fired from a rifle." "My extra special vinegar," a grocer declares "is as sour as the tongue of the most shrewish mother-in-law." A large multiple shop begs the public to "Come into our stores. You will meet with an overwhelming welcome. Our assistants are as amiable as a father who is endeavoring to marry off his daughters without giving them any dowry. You will always be greeted as cordially as a spell of sunshine coming towards the close of a pouring wet day."—Manchester Guardian.

Where Spools Come From.

Maine has nearly a monopoly in the manufacture of wooden spools on which thread is wound for sale, the annual output being about 800,000,000 spools each year. Improved machinery and skilled workmen turn out the spools at the rate of one a second.—Ohio State Journal.

Greenland on Its Way.

Norwegian scientists claim to have learned the island of Greenland is moving slowly to the west at the rate of about 10 yards a year. They say it was once connected with Norway and has moved 875 miles in the last 100,000 years and is still moving.—Ohio State Journal.

To Say Nothing of Other Hardware In closing she asked that the hinges of their friendship never grow rusty but always be links n the golden chain of fellowship, Houghton

Questions concerning hygiene, sanita-tion and prevention of disease, sub-mitted to Dr. Evans by readers of The Boe, will be answered personally, sub-ject to proper limitation, where a stamped, addressed envelope is en-closed. 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.

She has had eczema on her face for several months. She has two teeth. Should the cow's milk be diluted and, if so, how much? Is it good for a baby to chew fat bacon slightly

Your baby is practically twice as heavy as at birth. She is doing well enough, except for the eczema. Most cases of eczema on the face are due to too much fat. Give her less cream. there is no objection to permitting a baby to suck fat meat, but your baby the other hand, give your baby some orange juice, tomato juice, or fresh apple cider. Thin cereal is in order. Start with cercal water, pass to gruel and finally to cercal. Use a mixture of two parts milk and one part water.

Fruit for Diabetes Patients.

mas time, because of their seeming so green that I suspect the juice these men fail as beggars the British has too much acid. lemonade as a morning drink?
"3. In eating freely of our home

distressing. Should apples be 'cut not to mention a few billion dollars, out' entirely by those having kidney trouble?

to the great republic which has served as a model for the small retrouble?

"4 This is my diet: One quart public. Can any American, can any milk daily, 2 oranges, 2 pears. liberal in the world, take a milder

REPLY. 1. Oranges, grapefruit, and pears always are wholesome for Bright's rather than the muscles and valves. disease patients. If you eat your rather than the muscles and valves. By organic heart disease we mean by organic heart disease we mean an expecially disease of the valves.

salts needed."

fermentation in the large intestine when they eat many apples. On fermentation in the large intestine is one reason that eating apples is a remedy for constipation in many cases. There is no objection to apples in the diet of either Bright's or diabetes patients unless the fernentation induced is objectionable. 4. You do not say what your trouble is and you may even have both albuminuria and diabetes, but the diet proper for the one is as much different from that for the other as night from day. The diet given is not fitted for either. If that is all you are eating you are

it up you will become a cropper. You May Be Too Fat. C. J. E. writes: "1. Does only or-ganic heart disease cause sudden

death?

"2. Woul the excessive use of to-REPORTS of famine in China have recalled remark about its excessive population. If the hinese people were tested, REPLY.

1. There are many causes of sudden death. Among them are apoplexy, embolus, angina pectoris, nervous disturbance of the heart.

2. No. Tobacco poisoning of the heart affects the nervous machinery



We use Refinite perfect soft water

Your clothes wear longer-look better. Each bundle laundered separately.

We call for and deliver your wash.



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J. M. Hansen Cadillac Co. Service Department

Guy Wheaton, Service Mgr. Harry Reid, Shop Manager

How to Keep Well The Bee's Letter Box COA

nation striving to recover from the effects of war, yet being turned away from our door when it comes, humming for years.
While textile workers are tramp-

ing the streets jobless and textile mills are closed down, Russia is begging for the chance to give us gold in exchange for clothing for her children.

While the cotton growers of the south are unable to sell the bales of cotton they have piled up after months of hard labor, Russia would be glad of the chance to buy tomorrow a quarter of a million bales. Russia is in need of everything from cups and saucers to plows and locomotives. She is not asking us to have tag days and donate A baby 7½ months old should not things. The people of Russia, take undiluted milk. Ordinarily through their government, wish to The people of Russia, buy these things and pay for them. depreciated marks rubles, but with gold.

Yet we send their representatives from our door. Who's crazy?
TOM MATTHEWS, 2915 Michigan Avenue.

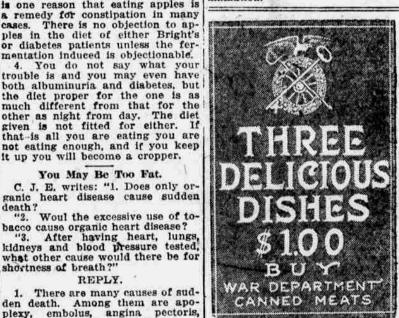
England's Rich.

Omaha, Dec. 25 .- To the Editor of The Bee: This morning's Bee tells of Christmas in London, of the W. G. W. writes: "1. For those af- rich Westsider's dining in their oldflicted with diabetes or Bright's time splendor, of the poor Eastsiders disease are granges, grapefruit, and shivering and hungry, of a million time splendor, of the poor Eastsiders pears considered the best fruit? I Englishmen unemployed, and of am using them but do not com-mence on grapefruit until Christ-ocracy begging in the streets, their faces masked to save their pride. If s too much acid.

"2. Is there too much acid in Ireland at a pound a day. What a spectacle is thus presented of ar empire starving its own heroes in grown fall apples I was troubled order to oppress a small republic. with gas and a bloat that was very And the empire owes its very life, milk daily, 2 oranges, 2 pears. liberal in the world, take a milder Later in place of pears, prunes or view of the situation than that taken pineapple sauce. Good results. No by the British General Smuts, who said that the British empire should go the way of the other European empires and that the Irish problem

2. No.

3. Shortness of breath may be due to obesity, anemia, soft, flabby muscles, lack of exercise. It may indicate heart disease of a type that the other hand, this promotion of is easily overlooked by ordinary ex-



Omaha, Dec. 24.—To the Editor problem was solved?

The Beat The man who recently But the lords and dukes of Eng-Omaha, Dec. 24.—To the Editor of The Bee: The man who recently refueed to accept a legacy of a million dollars cannot be considered much sillier than the nation has proved itself to be in its attitude to-shall have become anarchists. And shall have become anarchists. And will be but tomorrow when the Here we have the spectacle of a that will be but tomorrow when the ation striving to recover from the mob will comprehend that bolshevist Russia has triumphed. The Germans and the Irish are the na-Mrs. C. L. F. writes. "My baby is not asking for tag days and relief drives, but actually offering us gold milk since birth. She weighed eight pounds and now only weighs 14½, she has had eczone on box force. The many first our door when it comes, tural and the Irish are the natural and the ancient foes of antives, but actually offering us gold driven into anarchy. To America our product to keep our factories another failure of liberalism means, but the least of the lea clothed and fed. Speak out, Americans, the world must heed your counsel. THOMAS LYNCH. Bee

Radiant All Sizes. The Cream of Franklin

County, Illinois. \$14.00 PER TON PROMPT DELIVERY Consumers Coal & Supply Co "Dealers in Good Coal" Doug. 0530. Doug. 0530

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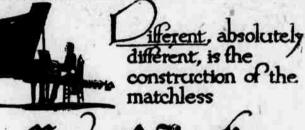
SEVERAL THOUSAND CITIZENS

will receive dividends from The Conservative January 1st. Are you among the number? If not, why not begin investing at once and by July 1st, the next dividend date, you will participate in the earn-

There is no worry in this sort of investment, YOU TAKE NO CHANCES. Your money is at work all of the time, helping Omaha citizens buy and build homes through The Conservative, the old established institution, founded thirty years ago.

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Highest praised

The Art and Music Store

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We have been accused of whistling to keep up our courage.

Well, "Why not whistle?"

The boy whistles in going past a gravevard at midnight, not because he believes the ghost stories but to aid in closing his mind to the whispering fear which is inherent in all of us.

Drums beat—flags fly and bands play during "war time"—not because we are craven or cowardly at heart, but to help us close our minds to anything but thoughts of victory.

We have never denied that conditions were not trying; that money was not tight, or that the farmer is getting less for his grain than actual cost of produc-

But what we do contend is, that it is up to us as intelligent citizens to recognize that present conditions must be met and to us as intelligent citizens to recognize it is better to face them with courage and whistle while we overcome them, than it is to play the part of pessimistic

Intelligent Optimism is a builder. Old Pessimism is a wrecker par excellence. Start Whistling!

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