HE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING) - EVENING-SUNDAY

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY, NELSON B. UPDIKE, Publisher

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The Bee's Platform

- 1. New Union Passenger Station.
- 2. Continued improvement of the Nebraska Highways, including the pave-ment 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.

High Cost of Government.

Nebraskans undoubtedly gasped when they read the details of the state budget, with its total of \$26,845,206 for the biennium, just sent to the legislature by the governor. It is an indication of how rapidly the cost of government has advanced within a comparatively short time. Fifteen years ago an expenditure of \$4,000,000 for state purposes for the biennium. excited comment.

It is well in this connection to consider what is involved in this budget. Omitting certain items as yet indefinitely fixed, because they may varish for want of legislative vitalization, there will remain a total around \$21,000,000, required for the running expenses of the state. Out of this sum will be sustained, the government at Lincoln; the University of Nebraska, with all its important ramifications and activities; the normal schools, the penitentiary and reformatories, the several asylums and hospitals, the homes for the soldiers, and other charitable and corrective institutions, whose existence is considered wital to the well being of the commonwealth. Under the government is included the numerous agencies for the proper administration of the laws, each contributing to the total its proper charge for the cost of its operation. To these items must be added the sums needed for construction that is imperatively required, The people have authorized the erection of a new capitol, and have devoted themselves to the good roads program.

It may be fairly said, then, that the budget contains only that which is needed to carry on the general government of the state according to the plans approved by the people, Some part of the great increase in cost is incidental to the mounting expenses of life everywhere. On several occasions last summer The Bee pointed had for a number of years—the power to build out that the salary roll, the price of supplies, a competing electric light plant at any time that and everything else needed or used by the state, the voters authorize the necessary bond issue. had gone up in private enterprises. Public business can not be carried on at a lower cost than

For years we have been adding to the machinery of our government a little at a time, a board here, a commission there, until we have built up a great, complicated and in some regards an unwieldy structure. The adoption of the "code" law was a step in direction of simplification, for it enabled the consolidation of dunlicating and overlapping services, the elimination of-some, and the better co-ordination of all. Part of this work was held up by the adoption of constitutional amendments last summer; which added to the cost of government, not only by the proper increase of salaries paid to state officials, but by provisions for further additions to the general machinery of the government. All these things were put before the people, and were adopted by a decisive majority

If, therefore, the government of Nebraska is over-elaborated, it is because the citizens have so willed it. Additions to the machinery for regulating the affairs of the people in their downsittings and uprisings cost money, and to produce that money taxes must be levied. The budget submitted by the governor is but a reflection of the extent to which the business of governing the state has been expanded with the consent and generally at the behest of the people.

Bergdoll Can Be Spared.

From Karlsruhe comes the news that Grover Cleveland Bergdoll has applied for citizenship in Germany. The attempted abduction by detectives, said to be operating under the direction of military authorities, of the young man, who is a fugitive from America, promises to stir up a little dispute, and may serve to remind the world that peace is not yet made between the United States and Germany. However, it would be deplorable if such a case as that of Bergdoll's sould interies with the progress of restoration of friendly relations between the two peoples. He was a slacker; he flouted the law and the government while the war was on, and showed how facile it is at times to slip through the clutches of the army. It does not matter that he violated his word and showed himself to be without honor or any sense of responsibility; the sorrow is that he was able to impose on army officers as well as his attorneys, and that he could have the assistance of men who elaim to be American citizens. As for Bergdoll himself, he has deliberately preferred to forieit his fair name, the things that might have been his as a citizen of the United States, and having made his choice should be allowed to stay where ne is. Neither he nor his kind add anything to the citizenship or importance of the United

Back of the Boy Scouts.

It is particularly fitting that the Boy Scouts of Omaha should be sponsored again by the Rotary'club. Team work is the greatest lesson inculcated by the scout movement, and team work is the motive force of all Rotarians. Like the rest of urban America, our city has grown too rapidly to be altogether natural or orderly. In pioneer days, mea were more dependent on their individual resources. The spirit of independence, of going it alone, does not fit into the changed world as communities grow larger and larger, Men have become more dependent | ment.

on each other and depend also on their com-

This increasing dependency of the individual upon his neighbors furnishes the reason for organization of men and of men-to-be into cooperative associations. Rev. Jake Perkins, who spoke at the Rotary club dinner, at which it was decided to continue support of the Boy Scouts and their summer camp, drove the truth home when he said that children should be taught heir relationship to their fellow men.

But more than a mere willingness to work in harmony with the rest of the world is required. In its teaching of truth, honor and selfdiscipline, the scout movement is building a firm foundation for right living and for helpful relationships between individual and individual, and between them all and the state.

Omaha's Electric Light Service.

Supporters of House Roll No. 1, the bill by which the Omaha Water Board seeks to change the method of achieving municipal ownership of an electric light plant, should not bolster up their case by half-truths which, by plain implication, become untruths. The legislators and the people whom they represent are entitled to better treatment than that.

Yet the issue involved in this bill has been so distorted that even our usually intelligent contemporary, the World-Herald, is deceived. In an editorial statement of the case, it says:

It is true that Omaha now has the power, on the initiative of its city government, to ac-quire the existing light and power plant and to entrust that plant, when acquired, to the management of the water board, which is already operating the municipal water, gas and

But it is also true that most of the active supporters of municipal electric light and power for Omaha do not want the city to acquire the existing plant. They believe it would cost the city too much money, just as they hold that the gas plant cost too much. They want to proceed by establishing a new plant, building gradually on the very small nucleus of that now operated in connection with the water plant. And they believe that House Roll No. 1 will enable them to do that, more certainly and expeditiously, than if they pro-ceeded under any law that may now be in

The World-Herald is neither for nor against the bill, preferring to straddle. It purports merely to state "a few expository observations." Yet the plain implication of the paragraphs quoted is that Omaha now has the right to buy the plant of the Nebraska Power company, but has no power to build a competing plant. That is the impression which is being fostered by supporters of House Roll No. 1 and when one so versed in affairs as the editor of a metropolitan newspaper fails to discern the truth, the ganger of the sophistry is indicated.

The fact is made clear by this paragraph from the city charter:

The mayor and council shall have power to erect, construct, purchase, maintain and operate subways or conduits, water works, gas works and electric light plants and power

That is the authority under which, the World-Herald says, the city may buy the electric light plant. The same sentence which gives the city the power to purchase gives it also the power "to erect" and to "construct." It has-and has good as that masterpiece-

of the voters of Omaha. It simply adds to the power of the water board, a body which has aroused high public indignation by its increase of gas rates at a time when the city commission, to the pre-war figures.

Losing Our Fear of Russia.

It is beside the point to argue whether or not the movement for resumption of trade with Russia is entirely in good faith, The plain fact is that business and industry can never expect to function with maximum efficiency as long as this wast territory is fenced off from the rest of the world. The old Russian empire comprised onesixth of the land surface of the globe and onefourteenth of the inhabitants. Most of this immense land has been shut off from free intercourse with other nations since the revolution that put Lenine in the place of the czar,

If reports are to be believed, Russian industry is disorganized. Mills and factories are not producing the profusion of goods that the radicals had anticipated from a system of communism. But no alteration in the economic or political system can disturb the great natural resources which make Russia the storehouse of the world. Mines of great value still contain their gold, copper, iron, silver, platinum, rock salt, marble and china clay. Oil beds still bear their rich supplies, and the timber that furnished one of its chief exports continues to grow. These are things that could be exchanged to mutual advantage for the things the rest of the world is ready to supply. Before the war, imports into Russia consisted mainly of machinery, iron, wool, cotton, tea, fruits, vegetables, wine and oil. With the exception of wine, this list would probably remain much the same once commerce was resumed.

It is not alone labor that is urging resumption of trade relations with Russia, in order to decrease unemployment, but business concerns that would find a market there also are beginning to regard this move with favorable eye. This is more true, perhaps in England, where Lloyd George has recently made a trade agreement with the Russian government. As the war hysteria passes, people are inclined to feel their old-time confidence in the firm foundation of modern government and industry, and see less and less reason to fear contagion from the soviet system. Senator Colt, who advised Anthony Camminetti, commissioner general of immigration, to "come down to earth" when he revived the old scare about dangerous radicals from Russia entering the United States, voiced the general boredom at such continued alarms. If Americans have faith in their own institutions, there is no need to fear re-opening the gates of trade to Russia.

One trust that has no friends is that fun by the billboard interests. Did you ever stop to think how much better your town would look without these ugly signs?

No doubt every one who bought a silk shirt had a reason for it, but so far no defense has been made public.

Mr. Harding, who is reported to have refused many dates at Palm Beach, perhaps prefers grapeiruit.

All aboard for the Eat-a-bite-of-mush move-

A Line O' Type or Two

GEORGE MOORE and other critics take the gloomy view that art is all, in the Milwaukee sense of "all," and assuredly art is in a bad way; for the exhibition of cubism, futurism, dada-ism and other isms, including abysm, which has opened in Paris, represents only 21 names.

AN American naval captain having kissed a Japanese admiral on the cheek, a colleague wishes to know whether Secretary Daniels requires this. While the matter is being investigated we should like to know, also. Why does a Japanese admiral close his eyes when he is

Resignation of Premier Dato's Cabinet.

(From the Trib.) THE CABINET OF PREMIER
DATO RESIGNED YESTERDAY

Madrid, Jan. 24.—The cabinet of Premier MR. BYFIELD has studied so-called human nature from the vantage point of the College Inn for several years, and when he remarks

that "there aren't many people who want to stay downtown till 2 a. m. without something to drink," he touches, we believe, a profound truth: EVERYTHING CONSIDERED, THE COMMA IS THE MOST USEFUL MARK OF PUNCTUATION.

(From the El Paso Journal.)

Prof. Bone, head of the rural school department of the Normal University, gave an address to the parents and teachers of Eureka

THE Electrical World, for one, does not expect too much from Mr. Harding. "The new administration," it announces, "will have taken office, and it will behoove business men to strike an optimistic note at that time."

We Will Supply the Punctuation. Sir: Last night f. w. was running through the index to first lines in the Oxford Book of Verse. She was reading aloud and I was startled to hear the following rather connected narra-

"It is not Beauty I demand, It is the miller's daughter. It was many and many a year ago; It was not in the winter; It was the calm and silent night— Jenny Kissed me when we met."

This bught to furnish a new field of research. MR. COLLIER is advertised as "the fellow who put the 'gin' in original." And a reader who is somewhat ongweed by that line of pub-licity languidly wonders who put the "lie" in

THIS TOWN HAS THE LOUDEST FIRE ALARM IN THE COUNTRY. (From the Kent, O., Courier.)

In the midst of the bedlam an attempt was made to give the fire alarm, but no freman could distinguish the difference between the noisy New Year welcome and the real alarm, hence the house was destroyed.

"DRUG store for sale; Jewish neighborhood; not much cash needed."—Classified ads. "2,000 Women to Take Cash for Starving Children."-The valued Post.

He who reads while running must stop frequently for a second glance. POEMS OF SENTIMENT AND REFLECTION.

Sioux Falls. (From the Sioux Falls Press.) What if we don't have palaces, With damp and musty walls? We have the great Sioux River. And greater yet, Sloux Falls. We don't have to go abroad, God's beauties just to see, But stay at home And take a trip Around Sloux Falls with me.

WE confess a fondness for verse like the foregoing, and hope some day to find a poem as "I've traveled east, I've traveled west, I've been to the great Montana;

But the finest place I've ever seen is Attica, Indiana." BUT OUGHT YOU TO LAUGH AT SUCH THINGS?

Sir: In my town where church is our only diversion we laugh at such things as this: The Christian minister preached a sermon on "How to Become a Christian." The Methodist pastor, not to be outdone or undone, immediately folby regulatory power, has held electric light rates lowed with one on "How to Become a Metho-

OUR contrib, E. C. W., recently demonstrated that a hot water bottle marked \$1.98 is not worth \$3, although the advertisement says, "\$3 hot water bottles, \$1.98." No such claim is made for a bust of the Prince of Wales in a store window in Windsor, Ont. The price ticket merely announces, "Was \$3, how \$1.98."

The Delirious Real Estate Agent. (Or why they had to call the wagon.) The new Lake Front Improvement-now assured-will be the weird dream of the whole world-no foot, or eye, will ever falter, until their owners have drank at this delight; it will be the famous gateway to Chicago beautiwill be the ramous gateway to Chicago beautiful—familiar to every one upon the face of the globe—no mortal, to the end of time, will ever ask about it—every soul upon earth will know all about this enchanting water front; social life; art, music, promenades, entertainments, pleasure boats, yachts, gala swirls, fairyland, sparkling shops and founting the state of the tains, flowers, bushes, vines, trees, wild bird houses; mothers will journey far that babes be bern and childhood spent amid these happy sceres, which heaven will be patterned after, to cheer in the life beyond.

THE secretary of the Chicago Parlor of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance is Jone Ark. EXAMPLE OF POETIC CLIMAX.

(From the Washburn Leader.) Next comes February with its occasional day to remind us that winter is passing; then March either like a lion or a lamb with the superstition about its closing days—and soon. very soon, April and budding trees, the sweet fragrance of plum trees in blossom and soaked with warm spring rains, your neighbor's

WHAT has become of the old-fashioned bar berd A shop on Van Buren street displays the sign, "Hair Cutting Our Specialty."

WAS IT SO LONG AGO? Sir: This suspense is awful. I have been lamping the Line for the last eight years, and still I do not know what became of the Pink Shirt. An immediate reply will be deeply appre-

Domestic Complexes. Sir: Mine dreamed the other night that I had sassed her, and I had to apologize at the breakfast table. Can anyone beat that?

L. M. S.

IT SAVES YOU THE TROUBLE. Sir: A sign in a drugstore here (Indian apolis) reads, "Big cut in razor strops." W buy them that way? JAY SEE:

"ADULTS ONLY." (From the Quincy Herald.) Urban's will give away free, \$50,000 Cork Screws, call and get yours while they last. Children must not call.

THE danger of retiring from business and allowing the human machine to grow rusty is again exemplified by the death of John Reading, of Joliet, at the age of 103. Three years ago he gave up painting and paper-hanging, and his decline was rapid. B. L. T.

Quite An Island.

The island of New Guinea, the greatest island in the world, if we classify Australia as a continent, was, before the war, divided between the British, Dutch and Germans. The British have now taken over, in the name of Australia, the German claims.

We think of New Guinea as a considerable patch of dry land in the expanse of the Southern ocean, but have difficulty realizing that if it could be laid down on the United States one end would be at Portland, Me., the other near Omaha, and that it would blot out an area about twice the size of the German empire and including something like a quarter of the population of these United States. It contains vastly greater re-sources than Germany, also about a thousand white people and 500,000 aborigines, largely cannibals. Half of it yet remains Dutch, but its predestination to be essentially British is quite obvious.—Judson C. Welliver in Country Maga-

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, 1927, by Dr. W. A. Evans

TEETH AS HEALTH HAZARDS. Prof. L. F. Barker of Johns Hopkins university, recently president of the Southern Medical association, catalogued diseases due to infections around the teeth. The list included some trouble with near-ly every organ in the hody.

Have you anemia? If so, it is well formed physicians to send all their severe cases of anomia to the dentist to have the teeth and gums put in order. While Dr. Barker reports no cases of pernicious anemia cured by cleaning up the teeth and gums, he says he has seen many cases that were greatly improved and doubtless lived for several years longer than they would otherwise have lived.

He tells of a person who had a

ery much enlarged liver and at the same time a very bad case of pyorrhea. The teeth were bathed in pus. When all the teeth were removed and the flow of pus stopped the liver went back to the normal size. Any one who knows that the chief work of the liver is the destruction of poisons would expect just that result to follow extraction of the teeth in a bad case of pyorrhea. Some cases of diabetes improve when the accompanying pyorrhea is cured. In some cases absorption from around the teeth is responsible for excessive thyroid activity and that gland has returned to normal when the teeth were put in order. He reports one case of irregular heart beat. In this case the ven-tricle seemed to contact twice in quick succession, and the patient said he felt as though his heart was turning over. This symptom dis-appeared after the pyorrhea infected eth were drawn.

Dr. Barker has seen two cases of mbolic pneumonia due to infection from the teeth.

Infections around the teeth manifest themselves at two locations. First, there is the infection of the gums, which we all know as pyoriea or Rigg's disease; and infection of the tip of the root of the tooth

hich dentists call apical abscess. The inflammation of the lining of he heart which develops in the middle-aged is very frequently due to apical abscess. The bacterium found in these cases is the green streptococcus. The endocarditis of children and youths is generally due to absorption from the tonsils and

to absorption from the tonsis and adenoids.

Of the various rheumatic infections, entering somewhere in the head. In persons under 20 years of age most of these infections take place in the tonsis, adenoids, and sinuses near the nose. In middle and later life few of them are due to tonsis and nose infections. Infections around the teeth take first place. Acute articular rheumatism place. Acute articular rheumatism is generally due to absorption from the tonsils. The teeth are more important, sources of infection in arthritis deformans.

Dr. Ralph Pemberton, who ha recently revived the importance of with Dr. Barker that infections of the teeth and tonsils lead all other

When Air is Too Dry. Mrs. S. M. B. writes: "I am tempt ed to ask your assistance as to what is the best method of counteracting the dryness in the atmosphere of a I feel convinced that the throats of my family are so af-fected that they are made very sus-ceptible to catching colds. They have the colds, whether that is the

ADVERTISEMENT

Together

"People tell me sometimes that the Puritans' plan is becoming old-fashioned, the plan by which people, who did not choose to tie themselves by any creed, simply agreed to "walk together" in their effort to abate temptation and to keep passion down. And I often hear moral voluptuaries, who expect to please themselves and to escape from temptation at the same moment, who tell me indeed that public worship, the united worship of the church, does not "attract them." They say they prefer to commune with God alone, perhaps by a babbling brook, perhaps in the comforts of a library. I do not see what your preference has to do with it. I never heard that anybody asked what you preferred. I do not know that anyone cares. That is not the question. "What does the world need?" That is the question. To that question the answer is that the world needs more union and less sep-aration. It needs more of the "together" and less of the "alone." It needs the unity of the spirit instead of diversity of form. And so the world needs that, like a man, you bear your brother's burdens, instead of posturing, like a fool, under your own. Let each man apply that rule by giving his countenance and help in some religious society."—Edward Everett Hale.

Unitarian Church of Omaha

THE PRESIDENT

MORNINGSIDE COLLEGE SPEAKS TO

MEN **SUNDAY, 3:30**

F. E. MOSSMAN WILL MAKE YOU

Y. M. C. A.

omaha, Jan. 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: I observed an interview in the paper yesterday given by Mr. F. D. Wead concerning House Roll No. 1, in the Nebraska legislature, the bill which would give the Water board the right to go into the electrons.

basins of water over the register. This seems to help, but after the children have stepped in them or tripped them over by mistake a cer tain number of times and articles of clothing have dropped into them to think of the condition of your my enthusiasm for the method teeth. Since Hunter wrote about wanes. Is there any device by which foul teeth as a cause of anemia, it through the principle of capillary attraction a process of active evaporashould the humidity of a room with temperature at 66 degrees be? I have interviewed the furnace man, but he has no helpful suggestions

The relative humidity should not go below 40. It is not practical to have it go above \$0. Very much have it go above \$0. the best way to humidify a heated by hot air is to build an evaporating pan with an automatic water feed in the hot air chamber. If this cannot be done you will have to rely on evaporating devices placed in the rooms. Fountains throwing a very fine spray into the air near the inlets have been employed. There are many wick or towel evaporating devices on the market. The objection to the wick and the fountain devices is that they clog up. Most of them are dirt catchers and unsuch that they continue the statement of th

Friendly Greeting.

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carefully ignores the well known fact that municipal plants are exempt from all taxation. The local electric light and power plant, as I electric light and power plant, as I am advised, pays annually almost \$300,000 in taxes. This difference in expense alone would allow a reduction of at least 3 cents per K. W. H. in the local residential rate. But, of course, the people in Winnipeg, or any other city with a municipal light plant, would be paying the other 3 cents per K. W. H. in added taxes. There is no complaint either taxes. There is no complaint either of the service or the rates of the local electric light and power company. And as we invited this com-pany to come in and expend mil-lions of dollars in building up its plant, what justification would there be to wreck the plant by municipal

board the right to go into the electric light and power business. Mr. tric light and power from coal transtrates in the city of Winnipeg. Canrates in the city of Winnipeg. Cancause or not. I have tried placing the register.

Cause or not. I have tried placing cause or not. I have tried placi

Desk Sets

Brief Cases

Omaha Stationery Co. 307:309 South 17th Street

competition? In any event, our experience with municipal gas rates and service does not make us very confident as to what might happen with municipal electric light rates.

FRANK B. JOHNSON.

GOING TO THE THEATER?

IF SO, READ THE ANNOUNCE-MENTS PREPARED BY THE THEATERS AND SELECT THE DESIRED ENTERTAINMENT.



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