THE BEE: OMAHA, SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1921

HE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING) - EVENING-SUNDAY

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#### The Bee's Platform

1. New Union Passenger Station.

2. Continued improvement of the Ne-braska lighways, 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.

Looking for the Way Out. One of the interesting developments in the leadlock between the railroad managers and emitoyes is the request from the latter that the president call a conference at which all points uvolved may be considered. Chief of these subfects of disagreement appears to be the nationwide arrangement made during the war. - For convenience of management Director McAdoo was required to consider all roads as one, and rule made by bim applied to all. Emerging from the war and returning to private management. the roads found themselves bound by certain agreements, particularly as to wages, that were standardized as far as such things can be. Against this condition protest is made.

If General Atterbury speaks with any authority, the roads desire an immediate return to the system prevailing before the experiment of goverument control, when each line dealt with :ts own employes, regardless of what others did, This was only partly true, for certain wage schedules were jointly negotiated in a broad way covering defined districts for operating purposes. Abrogation of the general agreement for handling labor matters on a war-time basis is sought. The men oppose this, as a sacrifice of some advantage. The principle of collective bargaining is involved, they hold, and so they cling tenaciously to existing arrangements.

While there may be some question as to the propriety of continuing the emergency machinery set up hastily for the handling of the transportation industry during a time of great national stress, something is to be said on the side of the men. The rates and many other details of the traffic relations of the railroads are strictly regulated by the government, and on a nationwide basis. This implies, at least, the power to similarly regulate wages. In fact, the Adamson law, upheld by the high court of the land, recog- are made to be enforced, not broken. nizes and undertakes to apply this power. The wisdom of its enactment has nothing to do with the case; it is the law. Therefore the Atterbury proposal, that the roads go back to the unit system in dealing with employes, meets a stubborn obstacle at the outset. The plight of the railroads is serious, yet a conference such as is proposed may show the way out. Mr. Harding has consulted with Chairman Clark of the Interstate Commerce commission with regard to the situation. He knows that no amount of rate raising or wage reduction" will produce a pound of freight or a mile of passenger travel. The general condition of industry in the United States must undergo a change before any branch can be materially benefited. Until this comes about, business must wait. One great step toward the end sought will be made when the owners and the workers agree on something they can stand by.

out of personal friendship for any candidate, but with the determination to give the community the benefit of one's best judgment, the citizea reaches his full stature. The business of government is a serious one, and its responsibility rests upon each voter. It would be better if all would give more continuous attention to political affairs, but it is good that interest should be evoked at least on the eve of the polling, and the more lively the present campaign becomes, the better, for thus is it shown that the citizens are on the job.

Smith Bread Bill a Law.

Governor McKelvie having given his approval o the Smith bread bill, it now becomes a law. and under the constitutional rule will be operaive on June 30. Under it bakers are required to urnish loaves of a standard weight, in halfound multiples, with a two-ounce leeway. This is designed primarily to protect the purchaser, ensuring him that he gets proper value for the price he pays. Bakers offered what to them seemed good reasons for asking to be permitted to go ahead on the basis on which they have operated for so long, but did not convince the legislature they were not proper subjects for regulation. Bread loaves now being furnished vary in weight, the most popular size being the 21-ounce, but the range has been wide, although the price has been standard. What adjustments will be necessary, if any, to meet conditions arising under the new law will be made known in time. It seems reasonable, though, that a standard weight be adopted for the loaf, even in these times when most purchases are made in packages and little account is taken of the contents, even though weight or measure is stamped or printed on the wrapper or container. An allowance of two ounces is liberal, it seems, for it amounts to 25 per cent on a half-pound loaf, 121/2 per cent on a pound loaf, and 614 per cent on a twopound losf. Within this range, the purchaser is assured that his loaf is what it purports to be, and the honest baker will suffer nothing by adjusting his output to meet requirements.

## Sent to the Gallows By Women.

With bowed heads and tears streaming down four women in Des Moines voted "Guilty" while serving as jurors in a murder trial. Their verdict will result in the hanging of a youth who was charged with wantonly slaying an aged man in the presence of his young daughter and then firing a shot at the girl.

For twenty hours the four women and seven men were closeted in deliberation. The struggles of emotion that took place in that time will probably never be known. The result, however. upsets the charges repeatedly made that women placed in a position of this kind would be swayed by sentiment rather than the cold array of facts upon which the evidence was based.

With a sneering smile on his face the youthful murderer coolly stared at the eleven men and women who held his life in their hands.

In direct contrast were four women with tear-streaked faces, one of whom was so overcome by emotion that she could only whisper, "yes" when called upon to answer if she agreed to the verdict.

Women have met the test fearlessly. Fighting down the mother love that they always have for the unfortunate they took the stand that laws

Writing to the Paper.

## West Indian Piracy

Days When the Jolly Roger Flew Free In Caribbean Sea.

(From the New York Sanday Times.) There is a song of the bad old times which has it that

He sang to them of Pyracy, of Wrecks and Death and Rum.

When Douglas G. Browne puts these dissointe lines at the head of an article entitled "The Jolly Roger" in the March Blackwood's Magazine it is not because he has any fellow-feeling for the Kidds and Teaches of his story, or views their exploits through the lenses of romance. On the contrary, he thinks them all unspeakable ruffians, and says that "the genuine pirate of the early eighteenth century"-the period with which he deals-"had few redeeming qualities." For the buccancers of the seventeenth century he has a certain tolerance, because the chronicle inludes "some arresting figures like Drake or Morgan, some enterprises that were not wholly predatory in design nor brutal in execution, and some startling military exploits."

There were ferocious brutes among the buccaneers, like Francois L'Olonnois, who used to play executioner to his prisoners until his blood was satisfied; like Montbars, who was proud of his renown as the exterminator; like Henry Morgan, whose sacking of Porto Bello sickens with its abominable cruelties. The buccancers did not practice the honor among thieves that was supposed to hold them together in bonds of evil fraternity. They plundered one another and betrayed by stealth. Not one of them could be trusted if another's share of loot was greater than his own. Lussan, the fascinating rogue who wrote as well as he buccancered and gambled, survived the retreat of his band across the Isthmus of Darien only by dividing his gold and jewels into small parcels and paying, or bribing, improvident comrades to be his porters. Word had been brought to Lussan that twenty of the buccaneers were conspiring to make away with him. The truth is that with a few exceptions, like eminent gentlemen adventurers and such men as Francois Groguiet, Edward Davis and William Dampier, they were deplorable lot. But they were brave to a fault and no more cruel and vindictive than the Spaniards, whom they detested and upon whom they made war in America and Asia, often with the sanction of their own governments.

After great wars great license. The lawlessness of the present period, the robberies, outrages and murders by armed ruffians in all countries, has many parallels. Mr. Browne points out that "the heyday of genuine piracy" followed the peace of Utrecht in 1713. For a generation warfare had been the occupation of the scum of society, the riff-raff of England, France, Spain, Portugal, Holland. It was more attractive than crime and less dangerous. Even a rogue may love adventure and hazard. When peace came the men who had lived by privatering and predatory methods of all kinds drifted to the West Indics, where the best was like the worst. In the waters of the far-stretching archipelago, and among their keys and reets, seamanship under the black flag could be made to pay. Land and sea combined to welcome the lawless. There was plenty to eat for him who could take, the climate was genial, and, as England and France maintained no regular naval stations, ireebooters had to reckon only with the Spaniards.

So "a great horde of predatory undesirables" swarmed the West Indies. "During this long peace," wrote Capt. Charles Johnson in the pre face to his "General History of the Pyrates," have not so much as heard of a Dutch Pyrate. The United Provinces in their extensive fisheries found employment for everybody who wanted The "pyrates" were British and French, work. chiefly British, but they often served together under a masterful navigator and arch-villain. Sometimes he had sterling qualities of leadership and maintained a rude sort of discipline. Such a pirate chief was Bartholomew Roberts, and Howel Davis was another.

The Peace of Utrecht was not a year old when the Spanish Plate fleet was wrecked in the Gulf of Mexico. Almost fabulous treasures had

# The Bee's Letter Box How to Keep Well By DR. W. A. EVANS Questions concerning hygiane, sanita-tion and prevention of disease, sub-mitted to Dr. Evans by readers of The Bee, will be answered personally, aubject 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 Bes. Copyright, 1921, by Dr. W. A. Evans.

Athletic Hole in the Ground." Idon of Labor. Success in breaking Omaha, March 30 .- To the Editor down that barrier would mean of the Bee: I notice that City Com- radicals of both capital and labor conflict sooner or later between the missioner Towl makes a statement that this country could much better in all of the city papers in regard to do without. And why should there be any dethe hole in the ground that he calls

an athletic park. I see that he men- mand to disrupt labor unions? When tions a number of people who favor you find a "skillfal" workman outside the proposed park, but I will bet Mr. of a union, ask him why, and if he Towl & horse that I can find 20 or answers you truthfully he will give 25 people who are opposed to the you one of three reasons-either he park, where he can find one who has at some time betrayed his fel-

favors it. low workmen, is incomptent and A leading business man who pays feels he cannot compete with union

as much taxes as almost any three of workmen, or the union of his craft fit as the day I went down and with the fit as the day I went down and with the people Commissioner Towl just as much pep, energy and am- named, said to me this week that it is not run according to his ideas; he Towl believes in "one big union"--in other vill cost the taxpayers much over words, he believes the only way to What is more, he accumulated a \$1,000,000 to fix up that proposed noice collection of opinions as to athletic park as proposed by Towl make headway is to become bolshe-

vistic, and that is what the radicals how to live in the semi-tropics. Many and that he is in favor of giving it in the business world claim they are of these opinions are at variance back or selling it back to the owners. trying to suppress in their fight on of these opinions are at variance back or selling it back to the owners. with the prevailing notions. In weighorganized labor. The workman wh > is not a meming the value of Dr. Colby's views our natural parks for all athletic

we must bear in mind that he came sports necessary and they are much away full of pep and that he had an more appropriate than any manu-opportunity to judge the effects of factured parks. Commissioner Towl that "the union gets nowhere," is no exaggeration to assume that is apt to figure out how the people the labor union as at present constiof the South Side stand on his pro-posed athletic park about next Tues- unionist, and yet the open shop adday evening after the votes for city vocates would rather commissioner are counted out of the places of business to that sort of per-SOUTH SIDER. sons than to our present day labo unions.

Good Word for Mr. Martin.

ganized labor shall have accomp Omaha, March 30 .- To the Editor The Bee: I want to do the best can to give Omaha a commission that will carry on constructive policies begun and will feel that in supporting the candidacy of Mr. B. Martin, manager of Wells-Abbott-Neiman Co., I am working to that average up with other classes.

This position I take after having observed his position on many matters of serious import. A. L. IRELAND. 4104 North Twenty-third Street.

**Organized Labor and Politics** 

#### Omaha, March 31 .- To the Editor

of The Bee: Having been aligned Nonpartisan Plan Fails. with the conservative and progres-Omaha, March 30 .--- To the Editor sive element of organized labor in Omaha for more than 25 years, and of The Bee: This nonpartisan poli-feeling that organized labor as a tics in city affairs is a delusion and class stands for the best in human a snare. It sounds good but in pracendeavor, I am asking space from tice it is a failure. The standard of you to give briefly as possible my candidates under the old partisan views of the unwise and unreason- plan were 100 per cent better men able attack of the radical business than we get under the pew. element on organized labor under privilege of drafting the right man the guise of the "American plan" for for the right place if necessary, is establishing the "open shop." done First, let me say that there can law. done away with under the present

never be such an institution as the The purpose of the nonpartisan "open shop," principally for the rea- law was that every man should stand on that no one is going to pay dues on his own fitness for the office of working with a non-unionist. There and has been practiced ever since the are but two good reasons for a union law went into effect, "Slate Making" man to work in an "open shop" and and "groups" of voters arraying ness drinking whisky. Most of them one is that he hopes eventually to themselves in favor of selected can-understand that. Many understand bring about a unionization of the didates cannot be stopped, this fact shop, or, second, because he feels destroys the nonpartisan aspect of that he will want to seek employ- the law. Groups of voters are not ment where the union membership the only ones in the slate-making will be necessary. business, the newspapers get out

All that stands between the radical their slates a day or two before the elements of organized capital and primaries and election, whose slates what is called bolshevism and I. W. have been successful in the past and V.-ism today is the labor union as will continue to be in the future. I

matter how popular and competent candidate is if he does not get or ne of the newspapers' slates he will One be in it at the primaries. only has to look back as far as three years ago to prove this assertion. If I remember right, every man on the newspaper slates were nominat ed, the election was a battle royal ed, the electron was a battle royal between the newspaper slates backed up by a number of groups of men. Under the nonpartisan plan, nothing is said even by the newspapers about is said even by the newspapers about a candidate's fitness for the office. Under the old partisan plan if a candidate was not competent and fit to fill the high office of councilman. the opposing party saw to it that his record was made plain to the vote-and he could vote with some degree

of intelligence. With this nonpartisan law a failure by reason of the present plan of slate making, why would it not be better to go back to the old parti-san plan? One thing sure we got in the business world claim they are a far better standard of men to vote for than under our present law. I am heartily in favor of going back to The workman who is not a mem-ber of a union gives as his reason and would favor a straight-out partisan ticket in this election. A partisan slate is just as excusable as this as this "group" slate making and "newspa-VOTER. per slate making.

The Odd Fellows' Home.

entrust their Omaha, March 20 .- To the Editor or The Bee: Your issue of this date carries news item under reading. Personally I shall rejoice when or "Odd Fellows' Home Sends Cattle to

lished its mission, but to my mind Omaha Market. It is indeed gratifying to read that Odd Fellowship is progressing, and the labor union is needed more today than at any time in its history if the radicals ary to be saved from them. has such signal success along practieral lines. However it is not a chari-I don't mean to infer that labor table institution, for in 42 states states an Odd Fellows home, each unions are always right--I only wish

they were-nevertheless they will of them built and maintained by tax upon the membership. Each The main need at this critical member has an equal share in the period is a determined effort to supthe agitators of both capital any may avail themselves of its privi-abor and a getting together of leges if circumstances in their deand labor and a getting together of those who are interested in the welclining years make it advisable to do so. It is really their home that they I. J. C.

have helped to pay for. The home and what it means to humanity is but one part of the great work surrounding the goal fixed when the standard of the I. O. O. F. war first raised in America 102 years W. O. TORREY. ago.

The AYER A Thospe Qo. 1513 Douglas Street The Art and Music Store



fare of our country as a whole.

The children in the Canal Zone play in the sun just as actively as any children elsewhere. Why do they not become sallow and "pepless," and Dr. Colby assures us they The soldiers who are forced to drill

regularly, who take long hikes, and who carry out their full military duty have shown ability to march 39 niles in heavy marching order in a forenoon, to follow with games of base ball and tennis. Those soldiers who get assigned to white collar jobs become as helpless as civili-

climate.

do not.

By DR. W. A. EVANS

KEEPING PEP IN PANAMA.

Dr. R. E. Colby spent several years ith his regiment in the Canal Zone.

When his regiment was returned to the states, he said,"I came away as

choice collection of opinions as to

The civilian women stay in the house until late in the afternoon, and then walk out for a little exercise. They lose their complexions because they do not get out in the sunlight enough to preserve them. The civilian men are slaves to the

fallacious theory that they must stay quietly in the house during the mid-dle of the day. They do not get enough exercise to keep them healthy. The afternoon nap comes in for a

lot of blame. Dr. Colby noticed that the men who regularly took "bunk fatigue" in the afternoon were the night owls. The afternoon nap upsets the regularity and wholesome ness of the night sleep.

The people generally dring too much. Of course, they have no busithat they have no business drinking fermented beverages. But few appreclate the harm from drinking ginger ale, pop, and other carbonated waters. To drink water in excess causes excessive perspiration, and this in turn results in excessive

thirst. Under the stimulus of this grea thirst ginger ale, pop, and other fabricated waters may be taken in quantities capable of disturbing the digestion and upsetting the stomach. He says the proper rules for the

maintenance of physical fitness in the Canal Zone and in all other semiropical districts do not vary radically from those for other colder places. are: To cat in moderation. They sleep in proper amounts and at proper hours, avoid beverages of all kinds, drink water in moderation, and, above all, get plenty of outdoor exercise.

The greatest drawback to the maintenance of physical vigor is the mental hazard. If everyone would quit talking climate and exercise and themselves to the sunlight as

imate on the men in his regiment. He does not think the climate of Panama takes the "pep from sol-diers" or thins their blood. He readily admits that some soldiers and more civilians do become demoralballot boxes. but he attributes this to beliefs, habits and customs and not to

#### Taft, Tariff and Taxation.

While it is not at all likely that Mr. Tait will write any part of President Harding's message to congress, when it convenes on Monday week, he has made some suggestions that will find an echo in the Capitol. One is that a revenue law must be devised along lines that will encourage rather than depress business. We may philosophize and speculate to the end of time, and we can not do away with the fact that millions of dollars that should be active in the business world are frozen in tax-free securities, whither they fled for refuge from the excess profits and surtax levies. This capital will come back to the service of the world only as it is uncongealed by the slow process of liquidation. What is needed is some form of raising revenue that will not frighten money into hiding. Mr. Taft says on this point:

We must find a source of taxation to be substituted for that of the excess profits and sur-taxes. The tariff will not do it. The sales tax could be made to do it. The need for relieving the business of the country from the paralyzing effects of excess profits and the heavy surtaxes is felt by every business man in the community. The republican party can not afford to ignore this universal demand.

If it is to be the sales tax, in any one of the several forms that have been outlined, well and good. If it is to appear as any one or all of a number of special devices proposed by members of the ways and means committee, all right. The government must have money to carry on its necessary functions, and this money can only be had by taking it from private owners and putting it to public use. Viewed from any angle, the job before the incoming congress is the biggest to face by any in peace time in the nation's history.

#### Citizens Back on the Job.

An election is something more than a dog fight or a contest between rival sets of politically ambitious men. Aside from the fact that under democratic government the people themselves choose their officers, there is the advantage that for the period of the campaign the people as a whole undergo a rebirth of public spirit.

In the more or less mechanical routine of private occupations, individual attention is centered pretty largely on self alone. Municipal and state affairs, and even matters of national importance fade into comparative neglect. It takes an election to make men and women realize that their interests are not separate from those of all others, but closely connected.

It is interesting to read the letter column of The Bee. It is like a cross section of life, displaying the opinions and comments of people, of all sorts. Public opinion there is seen in the making, with two extremes, conservative and radical, which in the course of time will be fused into general compromise and agreement. People with pretty definite opinions write to the newspapers, and it is good that they do, for their very air of certainty is stimulating to thought in others. Their briefness adds to their ability to attract thought and attention.

Bernard Shaw is said to have carved above his fireplace the words. "They say-what care 1 what they say? Let them say." Contempt for public opinion may be very well for a genius, but newspapers are operated on a very different. theory, striving to serve as the mirror of the public mind. And nowhere do they more truly perform this function than in publishing the letters from correspondents.

#### Community Center Activities.

Closing programs for the year are announced by community center clubs, which have been carrying on enthusiastically during the winter season. This should not be so. The community center ought to be an all-year 'round affair, with no vacation and no postponements. To be sure, all members would not be expected to be present every time, but enough of interest should be felt to keep the spirit of communion alive perpetually. Any good that comes from the community center must flow from the contact of neighbor with neighbor, the interchange of experience, idea, even gossip, which always leads to a better understanding of problems that are mutual and are more readily solved when shared. The use of the school houses for these gatherings during the winter months has been a concession, but it well can be extended. Some expense may attach to the service, but that may be minimized, for not much light, heat or janitor service will be required for meetings between now and next fall. That the community center is of use has been well demonstrated, and so good a thing ought not to be abruptly dropped.

No doubt women like to have their names in the paper more than men do, for no matter if she kills someone, forges a check, makes a speech at her club, clopes, gets a divorce, refuses to return a ring, takes a ride in an airplanc, is injured in an automobile accident or frightens a burglar, she is bound to be described either as pretty or beautiful, but no doubt some of . them are thankful not to have their picture appear alongside.

Madame Curie, the discoverer of radium, asn't a gram of it to her name, but there are. also carpenters who haven't a house, automobile workers who haven't a car. farmers who don't own an acre, and loafers without a loaf, so there is nothing really remarkable about her position.

Over in England manufacturers have announced that they must cut wages in order "to compete with cheap American labor," which illustrates the truth that it is a poor excuse that won't work both ways.

A number of the resort hotels in Southern California have cut their rates in half, but even at that the altitude is such as to make the aver-By interesting one's self in the campaign, not | age purse lock flat as the boundless prairie.

The Spanish government salvaged been sunk. a large part of it. Pieces-of-eight estimated to have a value of £3,500,000 were stored on the isthmus for trans-shipment back to Havana. The secret could not be kept. With three sloops Capt. Henry Jennings of Jamaica and Charles Vane set sail for the mainland, surprised a weak Spanish guard and, with the treasure, scized a Spanish ship.' Jennings doubtless had to dis-gorge much of his plunder in Jamaica, where addition. division and silence saved him from prosecution. After this great coup the guild of pirates made a base of the Bahamas, selecting New Providence as their headquarters, release the proprietors, the earls of Craven and Bath and Lords Berkeley, Ashley, Carteret, had long neglected their 700 islands. The fort at Nassau was crumbling, the guns long ago spiked by French and Spaniards. Only twelve families remained on New Providence, which, as it commanded the trade route through the Florida channel, was an ideal pirate rendezvous. "And now," we are told, "from the ends of the At-lantic and the Caribbean, from Campeachy, from Honduras, from all the islands of the Antilles and the swamps and rivers of the main, a great fleet of ships under the Jolly Roger came crowding into the harbor of Nassau."

But there was a nemesis for the pirates, among them Edward Teach, Bellamy, Fife, Martel, England, Roberts, Rackam and Oliver de la Bouche, who caroused and diced in the intervals of their sea raids. Capt. Woodes Rogers was sent out from England with two ships to recover New Providence for the proprietors. His coming to Nassau was heralded. To strengthen his authority the government offered amnesty. Many of the pirates scuttled, others sought pardon. Teach and Vane and about 2,000 followers were still at Nassau when Rogers sailed in. A great decamping ensued. But there was plenty of work for Rogers to do in the Bahamas. Once he resigned for lack of support at home. He returned to make a clean sweep of the pirates. By 1729 all their leaders were dead: some in fight; others hanged on West Indian beaches; others at Execution Dock, London, as an example, Kidd, more notorious than able, among them. After the War of 1812 piracy lifted its head again in the West Indies, but the American navy made short work of it.

#### "For Ways That Are Dark."

Connecticut as the land of steady habits, keeps up her fame. She will tolerate nothing but standard time; no daylight saving for her. Trade in wooden nutmegs, like the beauty of over-maturity, demands half-light in no encertain tones.—Brooklyn Eagle.

#### Some Truth in This.

Mr. Harling says he hasn't time to bother th patronage. He had better find the time. with patronage. Otherwise the drift toward the democratic party will begin sooner than was expected.-Charleston News and Courier.

#### The Mud of Ages.

A returned war observer tells of a column of troops that was halted by mud on the slopes of Mount Ararat. We supposed the mud had dried out there centuries ago.—Arthur H. Folwell in

But Victim Gets Same Finish. The "didn't know it was loaded" maniac seems to have given way to the fellow who hadn't any idea his car could go better than forty miles an hour.—New York Telegraph.

Save a Lot of Us From It. Another sure cure for sea sickness has been discovered. Current steamship rates are an ex-cellent preventative.-Pittsburgh Dispatch.

#### When Is So Definite.

Possibly the enforcement of the Volstead act will become easier when the government finally fuds out just what the act really means -Detroit Free Press.

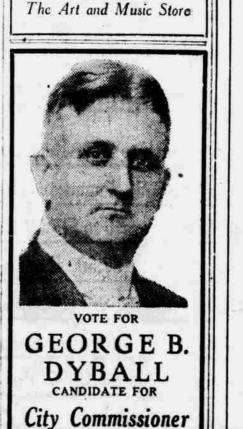
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